

Jefferson cheer team wins trophy...

THE JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL cheerleaders (right) competed at Jackson Middle School's JMS Cheer BLOWOUT on Feb. 1. A total of seven schools participated in the event. Each squad performed a 3-minute routine featuring cheers, stunts, tumbling and dance. The teams from both Villa Park schools that took part in the competition (Jefferson and Jackson) received honorary mention trophies. Jackson Middle School teachers Lauryn Humphris and Christine Fulmer have organized the JMS Cheer Blowout competition during each of the last three years. Members of the Jefferson Wildcats team (pictured left to right) are: (front row) Andrea Villafuerte, Iyana Shields, Ashanti Jones, Taylor Scheelk, Marketta Mitchell, Lizeth Saucedo, Jennyfer Rico, and Marisol Magana; (back row) Heather Cuthbertson, Coach Barbara Smith, Ashlei Mayweather, Zulema Villegas, Taylor Balsitis, Emily Cunningham, Taylor Bacharach, Megan Schmid, Claire Hosman, Alexis Simmons, Maria Almaraz, Nice Jenkins, Luz Alala, Alexia McComb, and Coach Kathy Ivey.

Photo by Jon Morgan



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VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

Vol. 55 No. 7

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

Price 60¢

Willowbrook presents Neil Simon's 'Fools' this week

Willowbrook High School's theater department presents Neil Simon's "Fools" on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the school auditorium. Each performance of the romantic comedy, which is suitable for audience members of all ages, will begin at 7 p.m.

Junior Alex Lapinski portrays Leon Tolchinsky, a young teacher who lands a job in an idyllic Russian village in the late 19th century. Tolchinsky soon discovers the village has been cursed with chronic stupidity for the last 200 years. Tolchinsky meets and immediately falls in love with one of the town's residents—Sophia Zubritsky—who is played by junior Olivia Baumann. He suddenly finds that if he cannot educate her within 24 hours, he will lose his own intelligence and fall

victim to the curse.

Senior Carrington Breckenridge and junior Erin Sulla portray Sophia's parents. The entire family is afflicted with the curse that has beset the village for two centuries. The village's other residents include a shepherd (senior Tiffany Brinkman), a butcher (junior Jack Corkery), a magistrate (sophomore Julius Mendiola), a vendor (junior Allison Mahal) and a postman (sophomore Mathew Tantilla).

Tickets for each performance cost \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets are \$3 for students with an activity pass. Admission is free for residents with a District 88 Senior Gold Card.

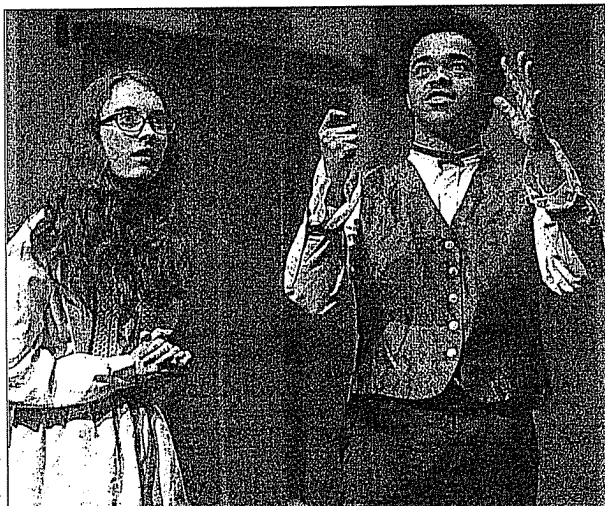
To purchase tickets, or for more information, call 630-782-2855.



In love, and in a hurry...

Photos by Chris Fox

JUNIOR ALEX LAPINSKI (above, left) portrays Leon Tolchinsky, a schoolteacher who falls in love with a resident of a cursed village in Willowbrook High School's presentation of "Fools." Tolchinsky is lovestruck by Sophia Zubritsky, who is played by junior Olivia Baumann (above, right). He must hurry in order to marry Sophia, break the curse and keep his own intelligence. The lower photo shows (left to right) junior Jack Corkery and Heidi Hurula. Corkery plays the town's butcher, while Hurula portrays the baker's wife. The romantic comedy, which is appropriate for audiences of all ages, will be presented at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.



Playing the fools...

JUNIOR ERIN SULLA (above, left) and senior Carrington Breckenridge (right) portray Lenya and Dr. Nikolai Zubritsky in Willowbrook High School's production of Neil Simon's romantic comedy—"Fools." The school's theater department will present the play on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the Doris E. White Auditorium. Each presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Call 630-782-2855 for more information.



Two residential burglaries under investigation by VP detectives

by Bonnie MacKay

Two recent residential burglaries in Villa Park have similarities to Villa Park burglaries a couple of months ago and police are turning to the community for assistance.

"We are asking residents to be vigilant and report suspicious vehicles or people on their street," said Villa Park Police Detective Sgt. Dan McCann.

The detective related that the burglaries have occurred off of Villa Avenue during the daytime when not a lot of people are home.

On Monday, Feb. 3, burglars struck homes in the 400 block of East Wildwood and the 300 block of East Washington.

As in past burglaries, McCann said jewelry was taken from both residences.

However, he did say money and a safe also were taken from one of the homes.

Entry to the residences was gained by prying open the front doors, police reports show. Drawers and cabinets were opened and the items were removed. The latest two burglaries occurred between 8:45 a.m. and 5 p.m.

McCann said investigators are also looking at burglaries in other area towns, which have similarities to the Villa Park burglaries.

"We don't know if they're connected," McCann said.

Anyone who sees a suspicious person or vehicle in their neighborhood is asked to call 9-1-1 to report it. Anyone with information on the recent burglaries is asked to contact Villa Park police at 630-834-7447.

Villa Park police make heroin arrest

by Bonnie MacKay

A drug investigation by Villa Park police ended with the arrest of a Bellwood man on a Class X felony.

According to Villa Park Police Detective Sgt. Dan McCann, officers received information about a subject who reportedly was going to make a heroin delivery to someone in a parking lot in Villa Park.

Shortly before 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 5, officers stopped an older Chevy mini-van without incident in the parking lot of Walmart, 900 S. Route 83.

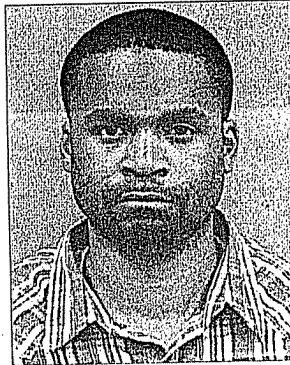
McCann said the driver, Maurice Gentry, 35, was allegedly going to make a heroin delivery. He reportedly drove to the Villa Park location with a revoked driver's license.

The sergeant said that detectives located two packages inside the vehicle, which contained 98 baggies of suspected heroin. The substance tested positive for heroin, according to McCann.

The total weight of the heroin was approximately 41 grams, which has a street value of close to \$1,000, according to McCann.

According to McCann, a second male subject was in the vehicle at the time of Gentry's arrest, but investigators "determined he was not involved."

Gentry, who was on parole at the time of his arrest, was charged with possession of a



MAURICE GENTRY

controlled substance with intent to deliver, a Class X felony; aggravated driving while license revoked; and unlawful possession of cannabis.

He was transported to the DuPage County Jail in Wheaton, where as of press time he was being held in lieu of \$300,000 bond. If released on bond, Gentry will be transferred to the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections.

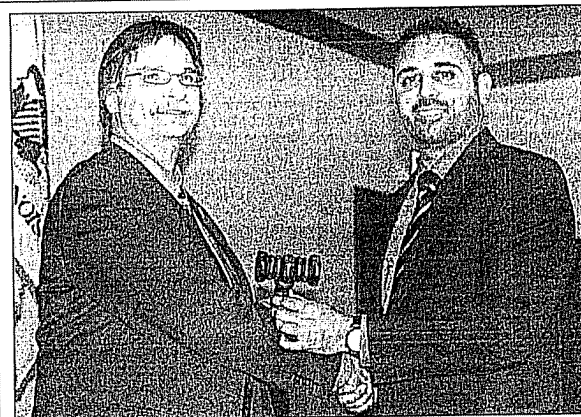
Village manager provides update of Villa Park's supply of road salt

Villa Park Village Manager Rich Keckner gave an update of the village's salt supply during Monday night's village board meeting.

"So far we've used 715 tons of road salt at a cost of about \$37,000," said Keckner in referring to the village's salt usage during the harsh winter of 2013-14. "We have 450 tons of salt stockpiled for the rest of the season. Hopefully that's enough."

Keckner stated that the village had received over 60 inches of snowfall this winter, and that village crews had responded to 39 snow events since Nov. 25.

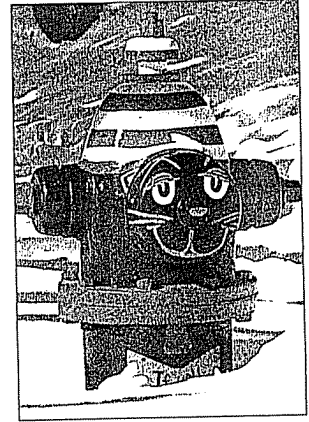
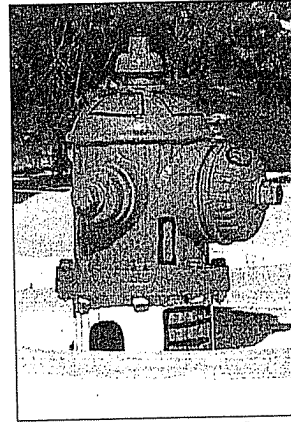
Keckner added that the village traditionally stockpiles at least one year's supply of salt. He said there will be a significant salt purchase earmarked in the upcoming 2014-15 fiscal year budget to build up Villa Park's salt supply.



New chamber president...

Photo by Steve Spoden

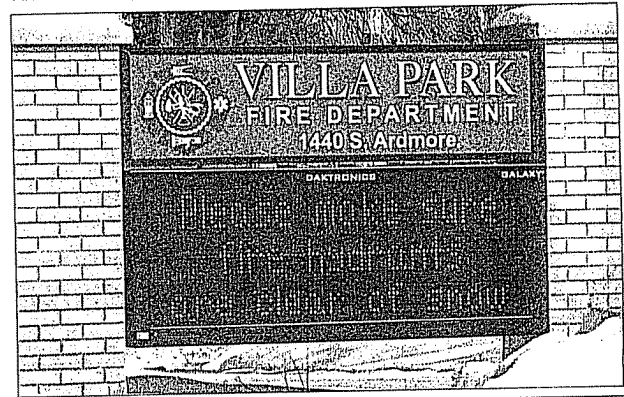
THE VILLA PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE held its annual installation and member recognition dinner on Thursday at the Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Hall, located at 39 E. St. Charles Road. The above photo shows the chamber's incoming 2014 president—Jon Zaley (left) of the Odeum Expo Center receiving the gavel from outgoing 2013 president Phil Patel (right) of Inland Bank. The chamber presented its Business of the Year Award to State Farm-Bob Goldin.



Photos by Chris Fox

Clear those hydrants...

THE VILLA PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT asks residents to clear snow from around the village's fire hydrants. The above photos show two of Villa Park's many colorfully decorated hydrants. The photo on the left shows a hydrant near Ardmore Avenue and Monroe Street, while the photo on the right shows a hydrant near Michigan Avenue and School Street. The photo below shows the reminder to residents on the electronic message board outside of Fire Station No. 3, located at 1440 S. Ardmore Ave.



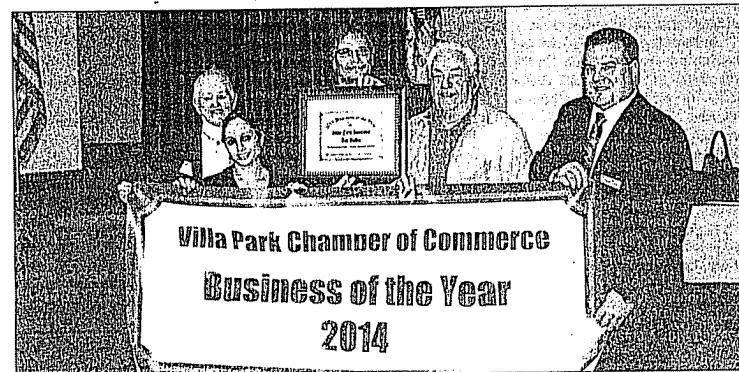
Questions? Comments?

E-MAIL THE VILLA PARK REVIEW AT
vpreview@lbvpr.com



Villa Park brothers are Eagle Scouts...

TWIN BROTHERS (above, left to right) Gene and Andy Ciesla of Villa Park both recently earned Eagle Scout status, which is the highest rank attainable in Boy Scouts of America. The Cieslas are both sophomores at Willowbrook High School. The brothers started out as Cub Scouts in Pack 33 at St. Alexander School in Villa Park and joined Troop 199 after earning the Arrow of Light award as fifth-graders. To achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, scouts must earn at least 21 merit badges, as well as plan and complete an extensive service project in the community. Gene coordinated and executed a flag retirement ceremony, and Andy fixed and cleaned out a storage closet at St. Alexander Church in Villa Park. Gene's project resulted in the collection of over 70 American flags, which were collected and retired during a small ceremony by the Rugar Gazebo near the Illinois Prairie Path. Andy's project required cleaning, painting and organizing a commonly used storage room in St. Alexander Church. The two brothers both earned Eagle Scout status on Dec. 30, 2013.



Photos by Steve Spoden

Villa Park Chamber installs officers, directors

THE VILLA PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE installed its 2014 officers and directors during its annual installation and recognition dinner on Feb. 6 at Villa Park VFW Post 2801. After a home-cooked meal served by the post, events included the installation of officers and directors, the recognition of member anniversaries and the presentation of the Business of the Year Award. Past President Raymond "Doc" Hensley (top photo, l.) is pictured installing 2014 officers and directors (l. to r.) President Jon Zaley, Odeum Expo Center; Vice President Rae Rupp Srch, Villa Park Kiwanis; and directors Jeff Stulgin, Park Blvd. Tavern; Danl Brink, School District 88; and Jean Hockensmith, School Dist. 45. In the middle photo, representatives of member anniversaries which were recognized included 35 years: Mike's Meat Market, VFW Post 2801, Villa Park Library, DuPage High School Dist. 88; 25 years: Easter Seals of DuPage; 15 years: Villa Park Kiwanis Club; 10 years: Coldwell Banker, Michael Anthony's; 5 years: Salvation Army, Standard Bank and Trust, Villa Park Lions Club; and new members CU Latte, BMO Harris Bank and Speedtex. After attending members were recognized, it was announced by chamber Executive Director Alesia Bailey that Bob Goldin State Farm Insurance was selected to receive the 2014 Business of the Year Award. Pictured in the bottom photo at the award presentation are (l. to r.) Rupp Srch, Brink, Zaley, Bob Goldin and Stulgin.

Quinn calls for Rethink Your Drink Month

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn has declared February 2014 as Rethink Your Drink Month, encouraging Illinoisans to limit their sugary beverage consumption and choose healthier options. With sugary beverages making up 46 percent of added sugars in the American diet, the American Heart Association is encouraging residents to rethink their drink and make an effort to consume healthier beverages.

The governor's proclamation amplifies the wide array of activities the American Heart Association and the Illinois Alliance to Prevent Obesity (IAPPO) are doing to educate the public on the effects of sugary beverage consumption and the benefits of healthier choices. Activities and events are being hosted by health departments, schools, nonprofits and after-school programs

across the state to help raise awareness about the important issue.

"Our bodies respond differently to the sugar we drink versus the sugar we eat," said Heather Gavrus, a registered dietitian and the senior director of community health at the American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate. "Sugar-sweetened beverages are the single largest source of added sugar and the top source of energy intake in the U.S. diet, a major risk factor for obesity and obesity-related diseases."

The Rethink Your Drink campaign is urging individuals to "go on green" by drinking plenty of beverages such as water, seltzer water and skim or 1-percent milk. Equally important, the campaign recommends people to "stop on red" by rarely drinking, if at all, beverages such as regular sodas, energy or sports drinks and sweetened

coffee or tea.

"The beverages and foods in schools have a significant impact on children's diets and weight as many students consume nearly half of their daily calories there," said Sandy Noel, co-chair of the Governor's Council on Health and Physical Fitness. "Many students drink at least one sugary beverage every day without realizing they are taking in 2.5 servings and 15-18 teaspoons of sugar through one bottle. We need to educate students and empower them to make healthy choices that will improve their health."

To learn more about the issue, visit the American Heart Association's page regarding Frequently Asked Questions about Sugar.

To learn more about the Rethink Your Drink campaign, visit www.preventobesityil.org.

Summer camp to offer fine arts activities

St. John's Lutheran Church and School, 505 S. Park Road, in La Grange is offering a quality Summer Fine Arts Camp for children ages 5 to 14.

Camp will be held June 23-27 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Under the theme, "Harmony & Contrast: God's Children Display His Splendor," children will engage in vocal music, drama, visual art, rhythm and movement sectionals which encourage and challenge artistic expression. Expert instructors provide a caring Christian environment.

In addition to daily sectionals, guest artists will visit camp each day to present an interactive demonstration of their artistic discipline. A theme-based snack will be served daily.

For information and registration, call 708-354-1690 or visit www.SJLagrange.com.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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COMING Event

GLENBARD SOUTH PRODUCTION OF 'RUMORS'
The Glenbard South High School production of "Rumors" will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 13 through 15 at Glenbard South, 23W200 Butterfield Road in Glen Ellyn. Tickets are \$7 and may be purchased at the door or reserved by e-mailing South_Theatre@glenbard.org or calling 630-469-6500, ext. 4725.

"Save Your Sight" Month \$50 OFF

March is "Save Your Sight" month and Clarity Eye Care, your caring community eye care clinic, is offering this great discount. Plus, for every complete pair of glasses sold from now through March 29, Dr. Hendrickson will provide a pair of glasses to a DuPage County senior citizen in need.

Most insurance is gladly accepted. Some restrictions apply to \$50 offer.



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June 23-27, 2014 • 9:00am- 12:30pm

For kids ages 5-14

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Early Registration by June 1: \$125.00 (\$100.00 each additional child per family)

After June 1: \$150.00 (\$125.00 each additional child per family)

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Sports

LOMBARDIAN VILLA PARK REVIEW

Several area wrestlers earn trips to sectionals

Seven members of the Glenbard East wrestling team advanced to the upcoming IHSA Class 3A individual sectional at Leyden with strong performances at Saturday's individual regional in Lombard.

Competing on their home mats in the opening event of the post-season, the Rams battled eight other teams at the regional. The top three finishers in each of the event's 14 weight classes qualified for the individual sectional.

Two Rams—senior Dayton Olson and junior D'Andre Johnson—won regional titles. Olson captured his championship with an exciting 15-12 victory over Wheaton North sophomore Dylan Thurston in the 126-pound final. Johnson claimed the 285-pound title after winning the last match of the day—his 5-1 decision over Oak Park/River Forest junior Adam Lempeke. Olson and Johnson each won three matches at the regional. Olson improved his overall season record to 35-3 with his three wins on Saturday. Johnson, who pinned his first two opponents at the regional, ended the day with an overall season record of 40-2.

Oak Park/River Forest decisively won the regional title by winning 11 individual championships and adding one second-place and two third-place finishes. The Huskies amassed 283 team points. Glenbard East finished second with 130 points, while Glenbard West claimed third with 123 points. Oak Park/River Forest's regional victory secured a trip to the Feb. 25 dual team sectional at Constant High School in Hoffman Estates.

The Rams' four second-place finishers at the regional included senior Carlos Fuentes (106 pounds), freshman Nick Donovan (113), junior Jake Drew (132) and senior Josh Martin (145). Senior Anfarnee Rodgers provided Glenbard East's

only third-place finish at the regional. Rodgers faced Addison Trail senior Erick DeLaCruz in the 120-pound weight division's third-place match. The regional's third-place bouts were some of the day's most competitive battles, as the winner earned a trip to the sectional, while the loser faced the end of the season. Rodgers edged DeLaCruz 11-8.

The top four finishers in each weight class at the sectional at Leyden, which takes place this Friday and Saturday, will qualify for the individual state meet in Champaign. Olson, Johnson, Fuentes, Drew, Martin and Rodgers all qualified for last year's individual state meet.

A pair of Willowbrook wrestlers advanced to the individual sectional at Leyden by earning second-place finishes at the Glenbard East Regional. Sophomore Matt Rowland won two of his three matches and claimed second in the 152-pound weight class. Rowland lost a 5-4 decision to Oak Park/River Forest junior Matthew Rundell in the regional final. Senior Jake Kroeger, who also won two of three matches at the sectional, placed second in the 182-pound division. Rowland will enter the sectional with a season record of 39-3. Kroeger, who dropped a 9-1 decision in the regional final, will head to the sectional with a season record of 18-4.

Two Warriors narrowly missed qualifying for the individual sectional with fourth-place showings at the regional. Sophomore Andrew Verr lost a 7-4 decision in the 113-pound level's third-place match. Sophomore Elijah Rochel suffered a 7-0 loss in the 170-pound division's third-place match.

Willowbrook placed sixth in the overall team results at the regional with 61 points.

Montini

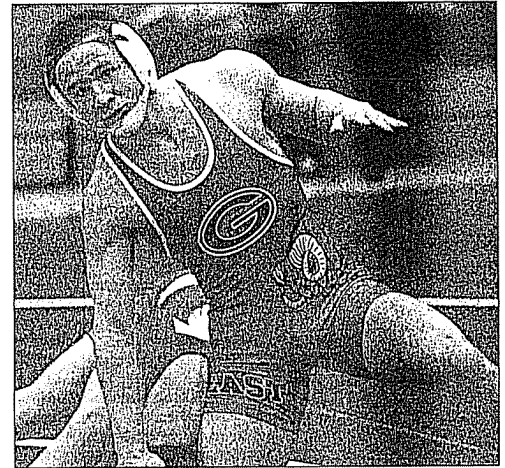
The Montini wrestling team dominated Saturday's IHSA Class 2A regional at Elmwood Park, winning titles in 11 of the meet's 14 weight classes on the way to winning the team title with a total of 286 points. Fenton placed second at the nine-team regional with 124.5 points.

The Broncos who won individual titles at the regional included: sophomore Jimmy Pawelski (106 pounds), sophomore Dylan Duncan (120), senior Kegan Calkins (126), junior Vincent Turk (138), senior Chris Garcia (145), junior Luke Fortuna (152), junior Xavier Montalvo (170), senior Derrick Curry (182), senior Anthony Ferraro (195), senior Edgar Ruano (220) and junior Michael Johnson (285).

Sophomore Caleb Fortuna (132 pounds) and senior Mitchell Navarro (160) also advanced to the individual sectional by earning second-place finishes in their respective weight classes.

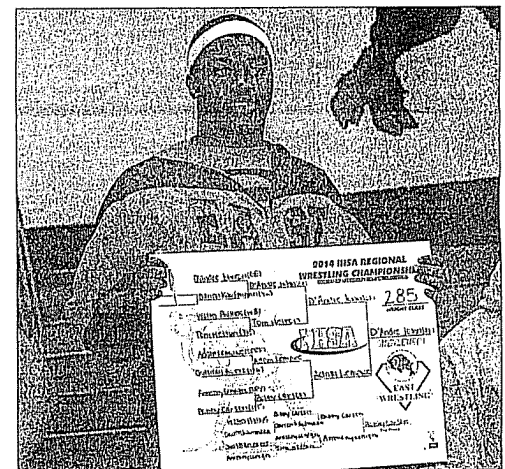
The 13 Broncos who qualified for the sectional round will compete in the Class 2A individual sectional at Lakes Community High School in Lake Villa, which takes place Friday and Saturday. The top four finishers in each weight class at the sectional will compete at the individual state meet in Champaign.

Winning the team title at the regional propelled the Broncos into the Class 2A dual team sectional in Antioch on Feb. 25. Two of the four teams (Harvard, Westinghouse and Lakes Community) will join Montini in Antioch at that sectional will advance to the dual team state meet in Bloomington on March 1. The Broncos are seeking their seventh straight IHSA dual team state title. Montini has won 11 state championships in the last 14 seasons.



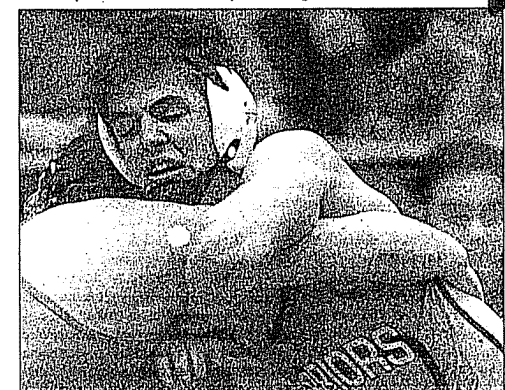
Regional champion... Photos by Chris Fox

GLENBARD EAST SENIOR Dayton Olson (above) won the title in the 126-pound division of Saturday's IHSA Class 3A individual wrestling regional in Lombard. The above photo shows Olson during his 15-12 victory over Wheaton North's Dylan Thurston in the championship match. Olson won all three of his matches at the regional to improve his overall season record to 35-3.



Heavyweight winner...

JUNIOR D'ANDRE JOHNSON (above) of the Glenbard East wrestling team stands atop the awards podium at the end of Saturday's IHSA Class 3A individual regional in Lombard. Johnson won the title in the 285-pound level with three straight wins at the event—two pins and a 5-1 decision in the championship match. Johnson, whose record stands at 40-2, is one of seven Rams who will compete in this week's individual sectional at Leyden. Willowbrook sophomore Matt Rowland (below) earned a trip to the same sectional with his second-place showing in the 152-pound weight class at the Glenbard East Regional. Senior Jake Kroeger, Willowbrook's other sectional qualifier, earned a second-place finish in the 182-pound weight class.



Playing at the next level...

GLENBARD EAST SENIOR Alex Ruffer (above) will continue her soccer career at Western Michigan University. Ruffer, a Lombard resident who attended Glenn Westlake Middle School, is pictured during last week's signing ceremony in Glenbard East's athletic office. A center midfielder who has been playing soccer since she was 10 years old, Ruffer will begin her fourth season with the Rams' varsity squad next month. She was named to the DuPage Valley Conference's all-conference team last season. Western Michigan University is a member of the Mid-American Conference. The Broncos' rivals in the NCAA Division I conference include Northern Illinois University. "It was always a goal of mine to play in college," said Ruffer, who played in the Lombard-based Firebirds Soccer Club. She considered other colleges before making her decision in October.

Warriors go 12-0 in WSGC

Willowbrook's girls basketball team completed a perfect West Suburban Gold Conference season with Monday's 64-40 victory at Morton. The Warriors, who finished the conference season with a 12-0 record, moved their overall record to 22-3.

Willowbrook locked up sole possession of the program's first conference title in 18 years with its 49-48 win at Downers Grove South on Feb. 4. Junior, Micala Giammarino, made seven free throws during the fourth quarter to help the Warriors hold off the Mustangs. Giammarino scored a team-leading 12 points. Sophomore Josie Zabran provided 10 points, while senior Molly Krawczykowski and junior Sam Schmidt each scored eight points.

The Warriors took a commanding 22-6 lead after one quarter of Monday's game against Morton. Krawczykowski and Zabran both finished the night with 11 points. Schmidt and senior Olivia Domin both contributed 10 points.

Willowbrook will complete its regular season with tonight's non-conference game at Downers Grove North. The Warriors will begin the IHSA playoffs with Tuesday's game against St. Charles East at the IHSA Class 4A Batavia Regional.

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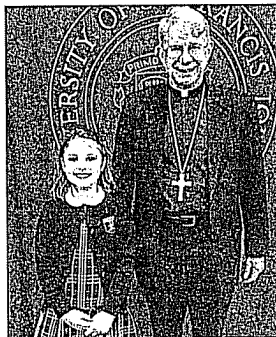


photo provided

Leah G. chosen for Breakfast with Bishop Conlon

One student from each of the 47 Diocesan elementary schools was selected to attend Breakfast With the Bishop on Friday, January 17 at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, to kick off Catholic Schools Week. This year, second grader Leah G. was chosen to represent St. Pius X Parish School in Lombard. "We were very proud of Leah," said Principal Daniel Flaherty. "She embodies what it means to be a Catholic school student, and we are honored to have her represent our school this year."



photo by Paul DelGuidice

A banner year...

The Villa Park Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors honored Bob Goldin (3rd from left) and his State Farm insurance agency as Business of the Year at the Chamber's annual recognition dinner held on Thursday, February 6 at the VFW Post #2801. Also pictured are (left to right): Chamber Vice President Rae Rupp Srch, and Board member Dani Brink, School District 88, Chamber President Jon Zaley of The Odeum (holding plaque), Goldin, and, Board member Jeff Stulgin of Park Blvd. Tavern. More photos of the event can be found inside this

WBS team gears up for competition

Will compete in engine tear-down challenge Feb. 22 and 23

By Paul DelGuidice
For The Villa Park Independent

WILLOWBROOK — Anyone who has worked on their car's engine knows how time consuming even the simplest repairs or maintenance tasks can be. Getting to those 'hidden' bolts, using the proper tools, and remembering where each part goes when you put it all back together can be quite a challenge. For some, however, disassembling an engine -- and putting it back together -- is fun and may even lead to college scholarships.

Five Willowbrook automotive students are in the latter category: Cody Panfil, Sean Knudtson, Tyler Gilhooly, Jake Bandaly and Rob Letson are all members of the Warriors first Hot Rodders of Tomorrow Engine Challenge team. Their first competition, which takes place at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 22-23, is a tough one.

The team must disassemble a Chevy 350 V-8 motor and reassemble it in the shortest amount of time. Seconds are added for dropped parts and inaccurate torquing of bolts, so organization and study is a key to success.

"We practice at school twice a week," said senior Cody Panfil. "I also work in my garage all the time. Memorization is important. There are more than 200 parts to the engine."

Those practice sessions are overseen by teacher Chris Dunk and volunteer master



photo by Paul DelGuidice

Pictured are (from left) Willowbrook seniors Tyler Gilhooly, Jake Bandaly, Cody Panfil, Sean Knudtson and junior Rob Letson working on a Chevy 350 engine. Those students, along with senior Gustavo Garcia, will compete in the Hot Rodders of Tomorrow competition Feb. 22 and 23 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles.

mechanic Bill Reeves, who is also a judge at the competition.

The team approach to the challenge focuses on thoroughness and organization. Panfil is responsible for the passenger-side top end. Tyler Gilhooly works on the front

of the engine. Sean Knudtson focuses on the driver-side top end. Rob Letson and 'Goose' Bandaly handle the bottom end.

The team began practicing for the competition at the beginning of the school year. They posted initial times in the one-hour range. With practice, they have shrunk that time to less than 40 minutes. To qualify for the next level and a shot at college scholarship money, Reeves estimates they need to be less than 35 minutes. Their teacher/coach Dunk, himself a Willowbrook graduate, thinks they have a good chance to beat that time.

"The team has come far since that first practice," Dunk said. "We are hoping to place at the competition. For the first year, we are looking at this as a good learning experience for the kids and myself."

For these students, the Engine Challenge presents opportunities to network in the automotive industry beyond the competition itself. Besides the nearly \$2 million in scholarship money the challenges will provide nationally, there are "Scouts" from companies like K&N, Royal Purple, Energy Suspension, Edelbrock, Hedman, Moroso and many other industry leaders who attend the challenge looking for up-and-coming mechanics.

The event, which began in 2008 with five teams, has grown to 95 with 665 students competing from across the country.

"I'm a hands-on person," said Panfil. "This challenge is all so much fun and the team is fun to be a part of. I can't wait to get started."

For information on the Race & Performance Expo, call 815-727-1208 or visit rpexpo.com.

Scenes from the Chamber of Commerce Member Recognition Dinner



all photos by Paul DelGuidice

Lots of history and a bright future...

Chamber members with milestone anniversaries were recognized on Thursday, February 6 at the annual Installation and Member Recognition Dinner held by the Villa Park Chamber of Commerce.

OBITUARIES

Raymond A. Fredrick, 89

Raymond A. Fredrick, of Villa Park, passed away in Downers Grove on February 5, 2014, at the age of 89. Beloved husband of Madelyn nee Dunne, loving father of Cynthia (Michael) Grimes, Kimberly (Brian) Breen, dear grandfather of Daniel, Stephanie Breen, Brian Sakwa, fond brother of the late Laura Ball, Lillian Schaetzlein and William Fredrick, uncle of many nieces and nephews. Cremation private. Arrangements provided by Steuerle Funeral Home. Call (630) 832-4161 or visit steuerlefh.com for more information.

Jane T. Minser, 98

Jane T. Minser, nee Williams, formerly of Villa Park, passed away at the DuPage Convalescent Center in Wheaton, on February 4, 2014, at the age of 98. Beloved wife of the late John B. Sr, loving mother of Richard (Donna), Thomas (MaryAnne), the late Jack (Nancy Ann), dear grandmother of 6, great grandmother of 10, great great grandmother of 2, fond sister of the late Lorraine (Edward) Walsh, Richard (Donna) Williams and Leslie Williams, aunt of many. Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, February 8, 2014, at St. Petronille Church, 420 Glenwood Ave., Glen Ellyn. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. The family would like to thank the staff at DuPage Convalescent Center for all their care and kindness to their mother. In lieu of flowers memorials to DuPage Convalescent Center. Arrangements provided by Steuerle Funeral Home. Call (630) 832-4161 or visit steuerlefh.com for more

information.

Robert V. Velasquez, 56

Robert V. Velasquez, of Villa Park, passed away at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital on February 1, 2014, at the age of 56. Beloved father of Justin and Danielle Velasquez. Loving stepfather of Kevin and Christopher Lynch. Cherished son of Robert S. and the late Dolly Velasquez. Spouse of Laura Velasquez. Dearest brother of Robin (Al) Huerta, Linda (Ismet) Sisen and Zita (Marty) Badrov. Dear uncle of many. Funeral Mass was held Wednesday, February 5, 2014, at St. Alexander Church in Villa Park. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Arrangements provided by Steuerle Funeral Home. Call (630) 832-4161 or visit steuerlefh.com for more information.

Helen M. Lavin, 77

Helen M. Lavin, of Villa Park, passed away at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital on February 6, 2014, at the age of 77. Beloved wife of Marshall for 56 years. Loving mother of Steven (Michelle) Lavin, dearest grandmother of Samuel and Frank Lavin, dear sister of Charlotte (late Joseph) Heckel, Bernadine (late Harold) Wendt, and the late Marilyn (surviving John) Siwak, fond aunt of many. Funeral services were held on Monday, February 10, 2014 at Steuerle Funeral Home 350 S. Ardmore Ave, Villa Park. Interment private. Memorials to American Cancer Society appreciated. Arrangements provided by Steuerle Funeral Home. Call (630) 832-4161 or visit steuerlefh.com for more information.



Where business meets education...

Jean Hockensmith of District 45 (left) and Dani Brink of District 88, both members of the Chamber's 2014 Board of Directors, talk shop during dinner at the Chamber's annual Installation and Membership Recognition banquet.



Fun, friends and GOOD FOOD!

Frank and Dana Sylvester of AAA Door were among the Chamber members who enjoyed an outstanding dinner of roast beef and fried chicken (not to mention some out-of-this-world mashed potatoes!) prepared by volunteers at the Villa Park VFW Post #2801, under the direction of Post Commander Dennis Guiseman, who will be retiring in June.

WBHS twins earn Eagle Scout status

Gene, Andy Ciesla together earn 58 merit badges since early days at St. Alexander

VILLA PARK — Willowbrook sophomore twin brothers Eugene (Gene) and Andy Ciesla recently earned Eagle Scout status, the highest rank attainable in Boy Scouts of America.

Those who achieve that rank earn at least 21 merit badges and demonstrate Scout Spirit through the Boy Scout Oath and Law, service and leadership, which includes organizing, planning and completing an extensive service project in the community. Gene and Andy earned Eagle Scout status on Dec. 30, 2013.

The brothers started out as Cub Scouts in Pack 33 at St. Alexander School in Villa Park and joined Troop 199 after earning the Arrow of Light award in fifth grade. They have had a variety of leadership positions and were elected to the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor Society.

Combined, they have earned 58 merit badges and have each completed a service project. Gene coordinated and executed a flag retirement ceremony, and Andy fixed and cleaned out a storage closet at St. Alexander Church in Villa Park.

"I was responsible for collecting tattered and worn American Flags from throughout the community," Gene said. "More than 70 U.S. flags were collected and then retired during a small ceremony at the Villa Park gazebo on the Prairie Path."

The ashes from the ceremony needed a reverent spot, so Gene used a fellow Scout's flower garden. The kindling used to retire the flags also was from another Scout's project.

"It was nice that I could work with other



courtesy photo

Pictured are (from left) Willowbrook sophomore twin brothers Eugene (Gene) and Andy Ciesla, who recently earned Eagle Scout status, the highest rank attainable in Boy Scouts of America.

Scouts and tie our projects together," Gene said. Andy's project required cleaning, painting and organizing a commonly used storage room in St. Alexander Church.

"From start to finish, the project took about 200 hours," Andy said. "Ten others and I worked during the course of two weekends to complete the project. It was tough, but everything went as planned."

The brothers said they are uncertain of their future plans, but there is one thing they are sure of — staying active in Boy Scouts of America.

"Gene and I plan to continue working with our troop," Andy said. "The current troop is pretty young. We want to stick around and help guide them. The higher training one learns through this program is invaluable."

WBHS speech team hosts Regional Showcase

VILLA PARK — On Feb. 4, the Willowbrook Speech Team hosted its annual Regional Showcase.

During the showcase, students presented their speeches for parents, peers, teammates and Willowbrook staff members and administrators before competing in the Regional competition on Feb. 8 at Hinsdale Central. To see the program from the showcase, go to dupage88.net/site/public/files/?item=1375

"This year's Regional team is our strongest individuals for each of their 14 representative events," said Team Coach Brett Blair. "Our very young team has held its own at all seven competitions this season."

The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) requires each school to select its top 14 events for the Regional competition. The top four speakers in each event at Regionals will move on to Sectionals. From there, the top three speakers in each event will qualify for the State competition.

The Willowbrook Speech



courtesy photo

Pictured are members of the Willowbrook Speech Team who will compete in the Regional competition on Feb. 8 at Hinsdale Central. They are (back row, from left): senior Colleen Shelton, sophomore Galen Bergsten, freshman Rachel Bonarek, (middle row, from left) junior Jack Corkery, senior Santhanam Kumar, junior Alex Lapinski, (front row, from left) sophomore Mariana Martens, senior Margaux Ziss, junior Laura Smith and junior Olivia Baumann. The students performed their pieces during a Regional Showcase on Feb. 4.

Team has won 35 individual medals during the invitational season and also took home a team trophy.

"With a smaller and younger team, these accomplishments are truly remarkable," Blair

said. "We're looking forward to an even stronger, more focused team next season."

For more information, Blair can be reached at bblair@dupage88.net or 630-782-2838.

Kiwanis Club welcomes Lou Manfredini March 8

Public is invited to presentation by 'Mr. Fix It'

VILLA PARK — Lou Manfredini, WGN's "Mr. Fix It" and co-owner of Villa Park Ace Hardware, will be guest speaker at the Kiwanis Club Eliminate Project Fundraiser on Saturday, March 8 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon at the Villa Park VFW Post 2801, 29 East St. Charles Road.

The public will have an opportunity to hear "Mr. Fix It" and to get answers to personal home repair questions. Updated information will also be presented on the Eliminate Project and work being done by Kiwanis and UNICEF to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus in poverty areas around the world.

Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 each and include



LOU MANFREDINI

lunch. For more information, call 630-247-9064 or visit kiwanisclubofvillapark.org.

VILLA PARK COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, February 13

• VPRD Birthday Bunch and Lunch

From 12-2:30 p.m., seniors are invited to Birthday Bunch and Lunch at the Community Recreation Building, 320 E. Wildwood Ave. Enjoy pizza and salad for lunch, sweet treats, Bingo with gift prizes (non-monetary). Sing "Happy Birthday" to those celebrating birthdays. Fee: \$5, payable at the door. Residents and non-residents welcome. Call 630-834-8525 to R.S.V.P. Sponsored in-part by G.M. Smith & Son Realtors.

• VPRD: Magic Class

From 6:45-7:45 p.m. at the Iowa Community Center, kids ages 5-12 will learn lots of tricks from a professional magician to amaze family and friends. They will learn tricks that involve cards, ropes, coins, mind-reading and more. All materials are provided and each participant gets a magic kit to take home. Fee: \$20. Info: call (630) 834-8970 or visit vprd.org

• Elmhurst College welcomes author Reza Aslan

At 7 p.m., Elmhurst College presents author Reza Aslan, who will discuss his bestseller, *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus Christ*, in the Founders Lounge of the Frick Center on the campus. Fee: \$10/general public; students, faculty, staff, alumni/free. Info: (630) 617-3390.

Saturday, February 15 Warriors Youth Football, Cheer registration

From 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave., early registration for Warriors Youth Football and Cheer will take place. New for 2014 will be flag football for 5- and 6-year-olds. Players must be present at registration. New registrants need two

copies of their birth certificate. Fee: registration is \$200 (\$100 for flag football); \$25 secures a spot on the team with discounts for siblings. Info: visit vprd.org or call Jim Taylor at (630) 542-8452.

Monday, February 17 3 on 3 basketball tournament

Starting at 9 a.m. at the Iowa Community Center, kids in grades 3-8 are invited to a President's Day 3-on-3 basketball tourney. Teams of 4 will compete with other teams in their age group with prizes awarded to the winning teams in each age group. Fee: \$9 per team. Info: call (630) 834-8970 or visit vprd.org

Thursday, February 20 Elmhurst Hospital Foundation's Chef Fest

The Elmhurst Memorial Hospital Foundation will hold its 14th annual Chef Fest at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. A cash bar reception will be held from 5:30-6:30 p.m. followed by food tasting until 9 p.m. Tickets: \$65 each; tables of ten available. For tickets and information, visit elmhurstfoundation.org/events/chef-fest/cfm or call (311) 221-0388.

Thursday-Sunday, February 20-23 47th annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival

The Elmhurst College Jazz Festival will celebrate its 47th year at Hammer-schmidt Chapel. Featured performers include The Legendary Count Basie Orchestra; Ryan Truesdell and the Gil Evans Project; and Andy Martin, Bobby Shew and Gary Smulyan with the Elmhurst College Jazz Band. Tickets range from \$10-\$35. Weekend package tickets available. Info: (630) 617-5534 or visit elmhurst.edu/jazzfeste

Friday, February 21 • FUN-DAYS at Iowa Community Center

From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Center, kids ages 4-6 are invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy an afternoon of themed-based fun with activities such as crafts, music, and pretend play. Weather permitting the kids will venture outside to enjoy the new playground and Iowa Community Center grounds. Fee: \$13. Info: call (630) 834-8970 or visit vprd.org

• VPRD Princess Ball

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! From 6:30-8:30 p.m., young ladies and their favorite dad-dates are invited to the Princess Ball at the "Iowa Center Castle," 338 N. Iowa. Be treated like royalty, enjoy dancing, get your nails polished, enjoy pizza and pasta. A very special guest Princess will stop by. Receive a keepsake photo taken in an old-fashioned photo booth. Tickets: \$33 per couple, \$11 each additional daughter. Wrist corsages can be ordered at time of registration; available for pick up at the Ball.

Saturday, February 22 St. Alexander's "Knight in Paradise" dinner dance

From 6 p.m.-midnight, St. Alexander School will host its annual dinner dance and auction at the Diplomat West to honor former Attorney General Jim Ryan, a St. Alexander alumnus. Tickets: \$75 includes dinner, dancing, open bar. Tickets and info: 630-834-3787 or stasecretary@gmail.com

Ongoing events...

Clothing drive for homeless vets

Until the end of February, a collection is being taken for more than 1,000 homeless veterans and for the Proffitt

Apartments for veterans' transitions housing in the Chicago area. Items can be dropped off at Pure Ambiance Salor 5 W. Park Blvd, #3, Villa Park, until the end of February. Info: (630) 935-5482.

Early childhood classes

Now through March, Parks & Rec offers classes for toddlers and preschoolers at the Iowa Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave. Toddlers ages 18-36 months with a parent can choose from these classes: Exploring Toddler, Color Wheel, Alphabet Art, Little Chefs and Little Scientists. Fees vary class-to-class. Info: (630) 834-8525 or vprd.org.

Your Place for Seniors

Area seniors are invited to "Your Place" at the Community Rec Bldg., 32 E. Wildwood, to play Pinochle, bridge, canasta, a board game or whatever game is being played. Hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; and, Tuesday from 1-2:30 p.m. (NOTE: "Your Place" does not meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month.) Info: (630) 834-8525.

VPRD's Reader's Theater Group

Would you like to perform without having to memorize scripts or lyrics? Join the Readers' Theatre Group each Monday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Community Rec. Building, 320 E. Wildwood. Free; no registration needed. Info: Jenny Casale at 630-834-8525.

VFW Bingo

The Villa Park VFW hosts Bingo every Tuesday from 5:30-10 p.m.

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

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E-mail:

Advertising Department:
Questpublishing@sbcglobal.net
News Department:
Questpublishing@aol.com

Administration:

Dee Longfellow
News Coordinator

Debra Hamilton
Advertising Director

Lynn Hill
Special Sections Coordinator

Pete Cruger
Publisher

Advertising:

Brenda Garcia

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ATHS alumna to appear on next season of 'Survivor' Alexis Maxwell, class of 2010 and former Miss Addison, to join 'Beauty Tribe'

ADDISON — When this season of the TV show "Survivor" premieres at 7 p.m. Feb. 26 on CBS, one of the cast members might look familiar to Addison residents and Addison Trail alumni, especially those who follow the Miss Addison competition.



photo provided courtesy of the Village of Addison
Pictured is Addison Trail alumna Alexis Maxwell, class of 2010, who will compete in the upcoming season of the television show "Survivor." Maxwell is shown receiving her crown after being named Miss Addison in 2009. She will join the Beauty Tribe on "Survivor," which premieres at 7 p.m. Feb. 26 on CBS.

Addison Trail alumna Alexis Maxwell, class of 2010, will join the Beauty Tribe on the show this season, called "Survivor Cagayan: Brawn vs. Brains vs. Beauty." This season, the castaways will be broken up into three tribes based on brawn, beauty and brains. While Alexis said she never expected her audition tape to be selected, she's thrilled at the opportunity to compete on "Survivor."

"I have always been aware of my role in a group and know how to lead in a sneaky way," she said on her cast biography. "I will use my education and flirty personality to assure I'm always in a good position."

See SURVIVOR, Page 11



cassey photo

Addison Trail honors "AT's Best"

Pictured are Addison Trail students who were recognized as AT's Best on February 7. They are (back row, from left): freshman Max Dziabis, freshman Keara Schmitt, freshman Jacob McAloon, junior Nia Westerkamp, senior Kacper Mierzejewski, (front row, from left) senior Amanda Flores, freshman Vianny Ortiz, senior Brianna Murray and senior Julia Rowley. Recognized for service, Blazer Pride, cooperation, dependability, initiative, leadership, humanitarian spirit or unique contributions, each student received a pin or a T-shirt at a breakfast held in their honor.

Village issues parking ban until further notice

Measure extended due to recent snowfalls, low temperatures

ADDISON — Last week on Thursday, February 6, the Village of Addison issued a parking ban for snow removal until further notice. The Village Ordinance, Chapter 17, reads as follows:

Article V. Snow Removal. Sec. 17-25. No Parking after Snowfall; Designated Snow Routes and Other Arterial Streets.

It shall be unlawful for any vehicle to be parked along any arterial street or designated snow route of the Village at any time when the snowfall shall reach a depth of two inches (2"). The designated snow routes shall be those streets as are determined by resolution of the board. These streets will be posted with the proper signing as snow routes. This prohibition against parking shall remain in effect until snow removal procedures are completed. (Ord. 79-74)

Sec. 17-26. No Parking after Four Inches of Snowfall; Emergency Snow Removal Plan.

It shall be unlawful for any vehicle to be parked along and upon any street within the Village at any time when the snowfall shall reach a depth of four inches. This prohibition against parking shall remain in effect until the snow removal procedures are completed. (Ord. 79-74)

Sec. 17-27. Determination by Director of Public Works; Duties.

The Director of Public Works shall determine when the snowfall has reached the two-inch depth for the prohibition of parking on snow routes and the four-inch depth for the implementation of the emergency snow removal plan, which prohibits all vehicles from being parked on any street. The Director, or his representative, shall immediately notify the Police Department and media when he determines the snowfall has reached the depth to require the implementation of snow removal procedures.

The Director shall make or cause to be made a record of each time, date, and snow depth when any determination

is made in accordance with this Section. (Ord. 79-74)

Residents encouraged to keep fire hydrants clear

The Village of Addison Public Works provides ice control, and snow plowing/removal for the Village's 110 centerline miles of streets, 163 cul-de-sacs, 29 dead-ends, and specified buildings and parking lots.

Due to extreme winter weather and snow accumulation some of our 2,300+ fire hydrants are slowly becoming buried under the mountains of snow.

The Addison Public Works is asking our residents to please help us keep fire hydrants free from obstruction of snow during the winter season. As you shovel or push snow off your driveways and sidewalks, PLEASE take the time to clear the snow from around fire hydrants (three-foot radius).

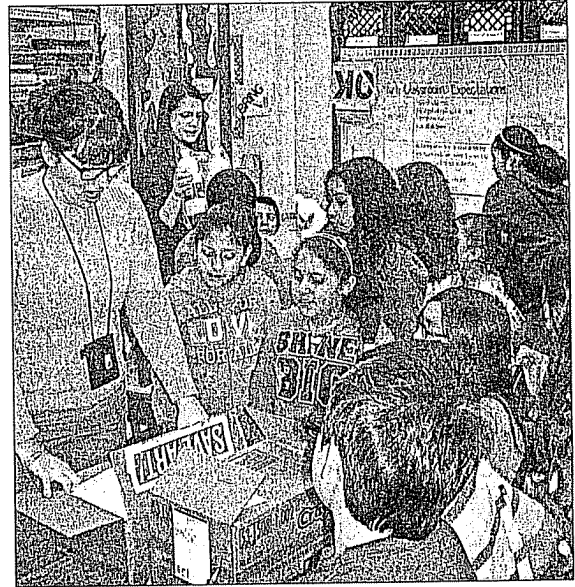
During a fire, every second counts. The extra minutes you spend removing snow from around fire hydrants may save your or your neighbor's home in an emergency.

Also, keep your house numbers visible from the street. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Lincoln, SpringHill Suites join efforts to 'Save Art!'

In October and November, 2013, SpringHill Suites in Elmhurst participated in Marriott's Save Art! fundraising campaign, an initiative to provide under-resourced schools with much needed classroom art supplies. Hotel guests and community members visiting the hotel during that time were invited to make a donation to "Keep color and creativity alive in our local public schools." In partnership with Fresh Artists, a non-profit organization that brings quality art supplies and innovative art programs to teachers in need, SpringHill Suites selected Lincoln School in Addison as the beneficiary of their fundraising efforts.

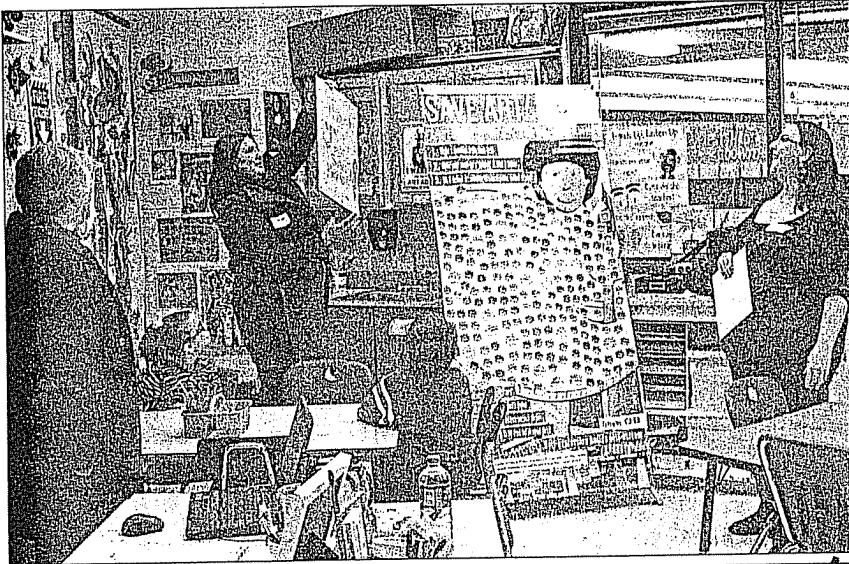
On Wednesday, February 5, SpringHill Suites general manager, assistant manager, and sales manager presented \$1,391.50 worth of art supplies to Lincoln School.



(Above left) Lincoln School Principal Lina Guio (left) read the list of supplies as SpringHill Suites Sales Manager Amanda Georges looked on (right). The list including classpacks of Crayola markers, Cray-pas, and colored pencils; gallons of tempera paints; dozens of packets of art paper; and hundreds of sets of watercolors for Lincoln's Art Club.

(Above right) Students crowd around 2nd grade teacher Rhea Heggaton (left, opening box) and art teacher Demi Sakoff (by door, holding paints) who opened the boxes to see the new supplies.

(Left) Students presented a thank you card to their special benefactors. "This is such a wonderful gift," said Lincoln principal Lina Guio. "Our students will love having the chance to use these materials. We are very grateful to everyone at SpringHill Suites!"



District 88, local organizations to host heroin awareness events

ADDISON/VILLA PARK — At District 88, the safety of students and staff is the No. 1 priority.

As part of that commitment to safety, District 88 has partnered with DuPage County to educate students and parents/guardians about the heroin epidemic in the county and state and the dangers of that illegal drug.

In partnership with the DuPage County Regional Office of Education, local police officials and high schools throughout DuPage County, District 88 will host a Student Leadership Symposium on Feb. 28 at Willowbrook. The symposium will bring student leaders from throughout the county together to create awareness and understanding of the rise of drug use in the county, especially heroin.

On March 18 at 7 p.m., Addison Trail and the Addison Police Department will host a Heroin Awareness presentation for parents/guardians and students. The event will be held at Addison Trail and will focus on the dangers of heroin and how to support those who might be struggling with addiction. This meeting is meant for students in grades 6-12 along with their parents or guardians.

Willowbrook will host a similar event on March 11, starting at 7 p.m.

On Feb. 20, starting at 6:30 p.m., Good Samaritan United Methodist Church in Addison will host a Heroin Awareness Prevention Panel. The goal of that event is to have a discussion panel with a multifaceted perspective on the effects of heroin use in the community. The LTM Heroin Awareness and Support Foundation will be a featured speaker on the panel and will provide a resource table with heroin awareness handouts.

District 88 will continue to support the county in this effort to ensure the safety of students.

• SURVIVOR

Continued from page 4

She added her dad inspired her to try out for the show.

"He loves the show so much ...," Alexis said, who was crowned Miss Addison in 2009. "I'm playing for both of us."

A student at Northwestern University, Alexis is studying organizational change and psychology.

"My strongest asset is my background in psychology," she said. "I have studied and experimented with group dynamics and understand how to play a specific role in a group. I would consider myself a brain, [as I work hard] at Northwestern and consider this an accomplishment that defines me."

Six AHS staffers plan to take the Polar Plunge

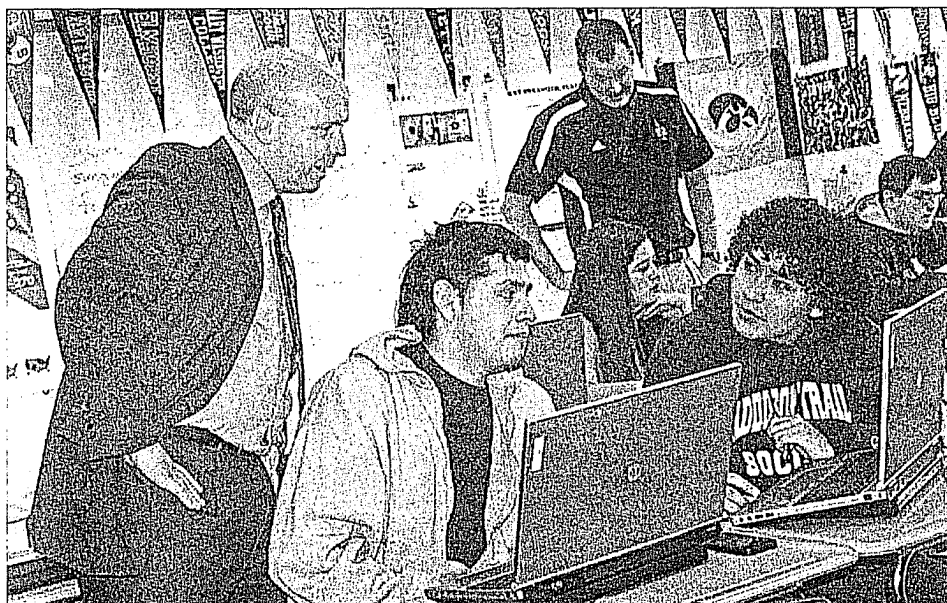
ADDISON — It might be snowing and windy outside, but that's not going to stop Addison Trail staff members from raising money for a cause.

On Saturday, February 22, six Addison Trail staff members will jump into the chilly waters at Northwestern University Beach in Evanston. Jessica Sokolowski, Melissa Morales, Lisa Bollow, Julie Johnson, Anna Grice and Brittany Wolski will participate in the 16th annual Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) Polar Plunge to raise money for Special Olympics Illinois. This is the first time Addison Trail will participate in this event. To donate to the Addison Trail team, visit firstgiving.com/team/2530009.

From a single site in 1999 to 20 places throughout Illinois in 2014, the Polar Plunge has raised nearly \$10 million for the state's largest organization devoted to year-round sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

"We are trying to raise more awareness and educate students and staff on how to better involve all of our students in activities and sports, especially students with special needs," Sokolowski said. "This is one of the many Project Unify activities Addison Trail is doing as a school to accomplish that goal."

Senator Tom Cullerton visits Addison Trail



courtesy photo

State Senator speaks with Addison Trail students

State Sen. Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) (left) speaks with Addison Trail seniors Jose Cobos (center) and Leonardo Flores about an online simulation program called The Stock Market Game. At Addison Trail, about 70 students in teacher Tom Hubner's economics classes are participating in the game, which is meant to help students learn more about financial literacy.

Introduces online game that promotes financial literacy

ADDISON — On Feb. 7, State Sen. Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) met with Addison Trail economics students to speak about an online simulation program called The Stock Market Game, a program of the SIFMA Foundation that's administered by Econ Illinois.

The game is meant to help students learn more about financial literacy. Through the game, students manage a hypothetical \$100,000 online portfolio and invest in stocks, bonds and mutual funds, learning about global markets, long-term saving and investing. They compete on a local level in The Stock Market Game competition or on a national level in the Capitol Hill Challenge. At Addison Trail, about 70 students in teacher Tom Hubner's economics classes have been participating in the program since Feb. 3, and the competition lasts about 15 weeks. There are 28 Addison Trail teams competing in the local competition and about seven teams competing in the national competition. A few staff members are competing as well. The top 10 teams in the Capitol Hill Challenge will win a trip to Washington, D.C., where they will be recognized.

Debbie Kerman, Program Director with Econ Illinois, said The Stock Market Game is used by about 30,000 students in Illinois in fourth through twelfth grades. She added the program is proven to increase math scores and provides teachers with a curriculum tied to the new Common Core State Standards.

"The Stock Market Game integrates math and current events in a fun way," Kerman said. "Students are learning critical skills without even realizing it."

ADDISON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, February 13

• College welcomes author Reza Aslan

At 7 p.m., Elmhurst College presents author Reza Aslan, who will discuss his bestseller, *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus Christ*, in the Founders Lounge of the Frick Center on the campus. Fee: \$10/ general public; students, faculty, staff, alumni/free. Info: (630) 617-3390.

• Artist peers' critique

At 7:30 p.m., the Addison Art Guild will meet in Room 1301 in the Addison Village Hall, One Friendship Plaza. Members are invited to bring a work of art to be critiqued by other members, offering expressions, feelings about the art, good points, ways to improve. Info: call (630) 543-4100.

Saturday, February 15

• Addison VFW Post 7446 Valentine's Dinner

From 4-8 p.m. at the Addison VFW Post 7446, 446 W. Lake St., the post will be hosting a Valentine's Dinner, consisting of pork tenderloin, cheese raviolis, salad, roll, dessert and coffee. Info: (630) 628-9804.

• Hand-built pottery workshop

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the location of the artist's studio (given out when registered), the Addison Art Guild is hosting a hand-built pottery workshop with Addison resident Wendy Rizza. Fee: \$40 for A.A.G. members; \$50 for nonmembers. Info: Call (630) 250-9407

Wednesday, February 19

Ladies Night at Links & Tees Golf Dome

From 7-9 p.m., ladies are invited to network with other female golfers at the Park District golf dome. Tickets: \$25 includes two hours of ball-hitting, instruction, light appetizers and refreshments. Fee: \$25; RSVPs requested. Info: (630) 233-7275, option 4; or addisonparks.org

Thursday-Sunday, February 20-23

47th annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival

The Elmhurst College Jazz Festival will celebrate its 47th year at Hammerschmidt Chapel. Featured performers include The Legendary Count Basie Orchestra; Ryan Truesdell and the Gil Evans Project; and Andy Martin, Bobby Shew and Gary Smulyan with the Elmhurst College Jazz Band. Tickets range from \$10-\$35. Weekend package tickets available. Info: (630) 617-5534 or visit elmhurst.edu/jazzfest

Monday, February 24

Movie in the Gym

Starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Centennial Rec Center, 1776 W. Centennial Place, bring a blanket or a lawn chair for the family and enjoy watching a movie on the big screen. Concessions such as popcorn and drinks will be available for purchase. Children must remain seated and quiet at all times. Cost: Free. Info: Call (630) 233-7275, option 3 or visit addisonparks.org

Thursday, February 27

Multi-chamber luncheon

Starting with registration at 11 a.m., a multi-chamber luncheon will be held at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 1685 W. Lake St. in Addison. Participating Chambers include Addison, Bensenville, Glendale Heights and Villa Park. Lunch served at 11:30. Program will feature Dan Gartlan, president of Stevens & Tate Marketing in Lombard. Tickets: \$25/Chamber members, \$30/ non-members. Pre-registration required by Wed., Feb. 19. Info: (630) 543-4355 or addisonchamber.org

Friday, February 28

Five Star Business and Health Expo

From 10 a.m.-4 p.m., the Five Star Business and Health Expo, a multi-Chamber event, will take place at the Medinah Shrine Center, 550 Shriners Drive, Addison. Participating Chambers include Addison, Bartlett, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream and Glendale Heights. Info or to register: carolstreamchamber.com for a registration form. Food vendors, call (630) 539-8399. Info: (630) 543-4300.

Sunday, March 2

Mid-Winter Festival of Artists

From 10 a.m.-2 p.m. the Mid-Winter Festival of Artists will be held at the Addison Village Hall, One

Friendship Plaza. The festival includes well-known artists presenting demonstrations in their chosen medium such as, watercolor, pastel, oil, and acrylic. Hosted by Dillman's Creative Arts Foundation. Free admission. Info: (630) 543-4100.

Saturday, March 22

Congregation Etz Chaim gala

Starting at 7:30 p.m. Congregation Etz Chaim of Du Page County, located at 1710 S. Highland Ave., Lombard, will present "Let the Good Times Roll," a gala evening of gaming, music, dancing, auctions and raffles. All are welcome. Tickets: \$25 per person; premium tickets: \$50 per person. Info: (630) 627-3912.

Sunday, March 30

Wedding & Special Event Expo

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Alta Villa Banquets, the second annual Wedding & Special Event Expo, hosted by the Addison Chamber of Commerce, will be held. NOTE: The event has been moved to this date from Jan. 19 due to the inclement weather in January. The Expo will highlight all aspects of services related to weddings and special events such as anniversaries, showers, birthdays, christenings, prom, quinciniera. Admission: Free. Info: (630) 543-4300 or email: addisonchamber@sbglobal.net

Ongoing events...

Active Adults Senior Club

Adults, ages 55 or better, are invited to 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 Grodsky at (630) 233-7275.

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

SPORTS

FEBRUARY 13, 2014 • 19

Addison Trail girls gymnastics team places second at regional

Blazers also
earn share of
West Suburban
Conference
Gold titleBy Mike Miazga
Correspondent

It's been quite a successful recent run for the Addison Trail girls gymnastics team.

The Blazers recently earned a share of the West Suburban Conference Gold Division title and then followed that up by placing second at the recent Glenbard North regional.

Addison Trail scored a 135.750 at Glenbard North. The host school won the regional title with a 137.525.

Addison Trail freshman Kennedy O'Neill won the all-around competition with a 36.525. She also won the vault title with a 9.35, the beam title with a 9.225 and the floor exercise crown with a 9.15.

Junior Tamara Mendez won the bars title with an 8.975. She was fifth on vault with an 8.825 and also qualified for the sectional in the all-around competition with a 34.05.

Terra Garcia earned a sectional trip after finishing fourth on beam with an 8.3. Junior Casey Boksha also qualified for sectionals after taking fourth in the floor exercise with an 8.85.

At the WSC Gold meet, Addison Trail finished second to Downers Grove South. That second-place showing coupled with the team's 5-0 regular-season record earned it a share of the title with Downers South.

"This is the first time I've been on a team that has won something like this," said Addison Trail senior captain Brianna Chesney. "It's a big deal to win



Courtesy photo

Blazers gymnasts conference co-champs

The Addison Trail girls gymnastics team recently won a share of the West Suburban Conference Gold Division title and also took second at the Glenbard North regional.

the conference title. We're starting to turn heads. People are starting to know us and support us. It's a big lift off our shoulders. All the hard work paid off and we won the conference title. There is a lot of excitement going around."

Chesney said the team's bond has made a major difference.

"All of the girls connect and get along and support each other and cheer for each other," she said. "Everybody makes sure everybody on the team has the support they need and the confidence they need to make all their tricks."

Chesney had an idea at the beginning

of the season that success was possible. "At the beginning of the season I thought we had a strong team. It's a different year for us," said Chesney. "We worked hard. Once we started winning I thought something like this was a possibility and we started seeing that toward the end of the season. We stayed strong and stayed confident and kept pushing each other. This is a great memory."

At the conference meet, O'Neill took sixth on vault, eighth on bars, fourth on beam, second on floor and ended in second place in the all-around competition.

Boksha placed fourth on vault, sixth on beam, seventh on floor and 10th on bars. She took fifth in the all-around competition.

Garcia was ninth on bars, eighth on beam and eighth in the all-around.

Mendez won the bars title, took third on floor and was seventh in the all-around.

Jessica Rosal was 10th on the beam for the Blazers.

"It's a great accomplishment and an awesome way to represent our school," said Addison Trail coach Brandi Kisse. "Winning the conference title gave the team the boost they needed in order to start the next phase of the season. We have a young team with half the girls being first-year high-school gymnasts. They are now starting to get to the really fun part of high-school gymnastics—seeing how far they can take themselves as a team and individually."

Kisse said heading into the regional that the floor exercise was the team's strongest event.

"We have a lot of powerhouse gymnasts and girls that can really perform," she said earlier last week. "We are working on putting some finishing touches on routines to help boost their scores. I'm excited to see what the rest of the season brings us and already can't wait for next season."

Addison Trail boys cagers strong in first half of conference schedule

Blazers score
recent wins over
Morton and
WillowbrookBy Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Addison Trail boys basketball team finished the first half of its West Suburban Conference Gold Division schedule with a 4-2 mark.

The Blazers scored recent conference wins over Morton and Willowbrook (79-57). Addison Trail also lost a recent 65-51 decision to Downers Grove South.

"We had a couple nice conference wins," said Addison Trail coach Brendan Lyons. "That was the first time we beat Morton in 10 or 12 years. We scored with six seconds left to put us up by two and we got a stop to win the game."

Taylor White scored the game-winning basket in the Morton game on a layup with 6.4 seconds left. He had intercepted a previous Morton pass. White led the Blazers with 18 points in the game.

"Taylor had a great game," said Lyons.

White also had 18 points in

the win over Willowbrook and scored 17 points to pace the team against Downers Grove South.

"One, Taylor is staying out of foul trouble," said Lyons. "Secondly, he's letting the game come to him instead of trying to assert himself. When he's open from the 3-point line, he's hitting shots. He's letting the game come to him. He's putting the ball on the floor and going to the basket. He's putting everything together and we're hoping that continues. He's playing well."

The Blazers were 9-12 over-

all after the Downers Grove South game.

"It's nice to have gone through the conference the first time 4-2," said Lyons. "It hasn't been like that in awhile. We know night in and night out that it is tough to get wins in our conference. It's an accomplishment. As much as we would like to pat ourselves on the back, we know there is a lot of basketball to be played. It doesn't get any easier for us. We have to focus on the next game and focus on the task at hand. We've had some big wins the last couple of weeks,

but we still have work to do."

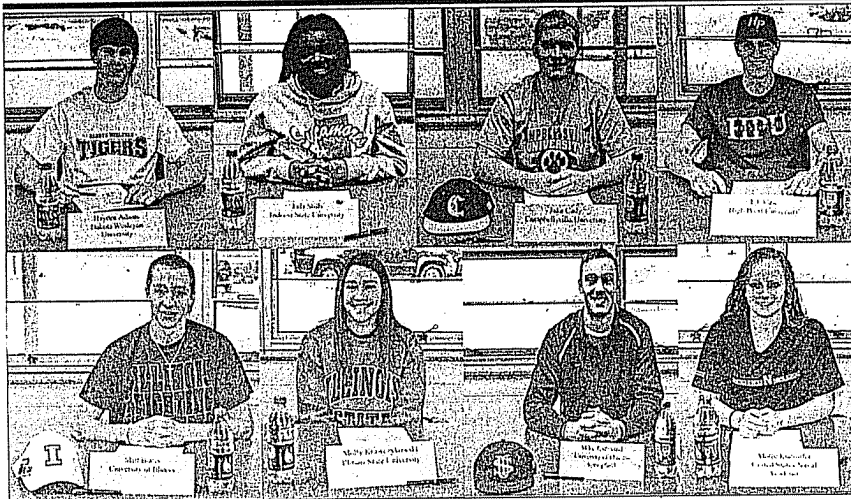
Lyons has been pleased with the team's progress on the defensive side of the ball.

"We're getting better on defense," he said. "We're not great yet, but compared to where we were at Christmas, we're more focused and we're rebounding with more consistency and getting our transition offense started."

Lyons said team play on the offensive end has helped as well.

"When we are at our best we

See CAGERS, Page 27



all photos provided

Willowbrook hosts signing day for eight student-athletes

On Feb. 5, Willowbrook hosted a signing day for eight student-athletes who will continue to compete in their respective sport at the collegiate level. Pictured are (top row, from left) Willowbrook seniors Hayden Adams, Jada Stills, Jake Cady, T.J. Case, (bottom row, from left) Matt Burns, Molly Krawczykowski, Mike Rothmund and Molly Kuenstler.

WBHS student athletes sign letters of intent

VILLA PARK — On Feb. 5, Willowbrook hosted a signing day for eight student-athletes who will continue to compete in their respective sport at the collegiate level. The students signed National Letters of Intent and celebrated with classmates, staff members, administrators and family members.

The eight students who signed National Letters of Intent are: Matt Burns: track and field, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Molly Kuenstler: swimming, United States Naval Academy

Molly Krawczykowski: track and field, Illinois State University

Mike Rothmund: baseball, University of Illinois Springfield

T.J. Case: baseball, High Point University

Jake Cady: baseball, Campbellsville University

Hayden Adams: football, Dakota Wesleyan University

Jada Stills: track and field, Indiana State University

WB alum named Defensive Player of the Week at Lewis

VILLA PARK — Lewis University redshirt freshman middle blocker Jacob Schmiegelt was selected as the Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association (MIVA) Men's Volleyball Defensive Player of the Week on Jan. 28. Schmiegelt is a Willowbrook alumnus, class of 2012.

Schmiegelt tallied 11 total blocks (1 solo, 10 block assists) in the Flyers victories over then-ranked No. 13 Harvard and Sacred Heart. He also hit .333 with five kills and two errors in nine attempts in seven sets.

In the Flyers sweep of Sacred Heart, Schmiegelt posted a career-high nine total blocks (1 solo, 8 block assists), helping him move up the ranks to third in the MIVA and 20th nationally with 29 total blocks (3 solo, 19 block assists).

"(Schmiegelt) had a great night against Sacred Heart," said Dan Friend, Lewis head men's volleyball coach. "It is nice to see him get recognized,

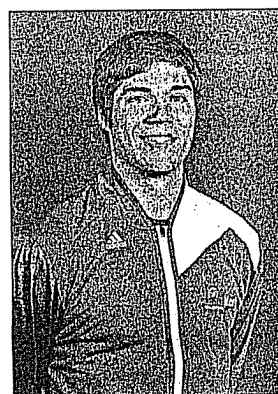


photo provided by Lewis University
Pictured is Willowbrook alumnus Jacob Schmiegelt, class of 2012. Schmiegelt was selected as the Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association (MIVA) Men's Volleyball Defensive Player of the Week on Jan. 28.

as he has acclimated quickly to a starting role after redshirting last year."

Clothing, items drive for homeless vets being conducted

VILLA PARK — A collection is being taken for over 1,000 homeless veterans and for the Proffitt Apartments for veterans' transitional housing in the Chicago area.

Used men's clothing, coats, sweaters, hoodies, hats, socks, flannel shirts, shoes, hats, gloves, scarfs, blankets, small shampoo, disposable shavers, lotions, twin sheets, pillows, used laptops, microwaves, etc., are being collected. To date, over three pickup trucks are full, yet so much is needed during this extreme cold weather.

For more information, contact Jenny at Pure Ambiance Salon, 5 W. Park Blvd., #3, Villa Park, 60181 at (630) 935-5482. The salon has been kind enough to be a drop-off site in Villa Park until the end of February.

In Chicago, approximately 1,000 veterans are homeless on any given night. Over 25 percent of soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are showing acute symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder—a significant factor in the high rate of homelessness for Veterans. Approximately 90 percent of homeless Veterans were honorably discharged from military service and more than 1/3 of them specifically served in a combat zone during their military service.

Right now, the number of homeless Vietnam era veterans is greater than the number of service persons who died during that war. Already, veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are appearing in the homeless population.

Registration for youth spring soccer starts Feb. 26

VILLA PARK—Parks and Recreation is holding in-person registration for the spring soccer season from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, and from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, March 1 at the Iowa Community Center.

In-person registration gives you a discount on registration fees and allows for practice/friend requests. You can also purchase jerseys, volunteer to coach and meet other kids, parents and coaches. The fee during in-person registration is \$47; \$57 starting March 3.

Spring soccer features a seven game season, with games on Saturdays beginning April 5. Teams practice one day per week, are co-rec and determined on a random basis. The U 12 and U 14 divisions practice two days per week and are part of the Mid Suburban Soccer League which includes teams from Addison, Glendale Heights, Itasca, Medinah, Roselle and Wood Dale.

For more information, call (630) 834-8970, Ext. 110 or email jvargas@inwillpark.com.

Garden Club presents Annuals in the Garden with Pat Kosmach

VILLA PARK — The January meeting of the Villa Park Men's (and Women's) Garden Club was called off due to extreme weather, however presenter Pat Kosmach has agreed to return for her presentation at the February meeting. The public is invited to attend and consider membership, as dues for 2014 will be collected at the meeting.

The February meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Villa Park Recreation Center, 320 E. Wildwood.

Ever asked yourself: "Why only marigolds?" This program highlights many varieties of annuals which can be added to a garden. Not only will Kosmach cover old favorites, she will include some of the newer introductions to appeal to all types of gardeners.

Pat Kosmach received the Outstanding Master Gardener Award and the Sustained Excellence Master Gardener Award in 2008. Her areas of expertise include water gardening, vegetables, annuals, and perennials. She currently has one water garden in her yard and is building another much larger one. She has one in her basement as well.

For more information, visit homegardening.org.

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Fenton wrestlers finish second at regional

Addison Trail qualifies nine wrestlers for sectional action

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Fenton wrestling team advanced nine wrestlers to sectional competition this weekend.

The Bison finished second overall at the Class 2A Elmwood Park regional.

Fenton junior Oscar Ledezma led the group of qualifiers. He won the 132-pound title with a 3-1 victory in the championship match.

Freshman Ryan Mencini placed second at 113. Junior Antoine Bess was second at 120. Junior Alex Cowan was second at 126. Junior Juan Alfaro was second at 182. Sophomore Marshawn Bunch was third at 285. Senior Raul Garcia was third at 145. Freshman Arturo Alfaro was fourth at 152. Junior Joseph Oweina was fourth at 170.

Addison Trail wrestling

The Addison Trail wrestling team placed fourth at the Glenbard East regional with 112 points. The Blazers qualified nine wrestlers for sectional competition this weekend.

Senior Niko Rocha-Gomez finished second at 170 pounds. Junior Michael Huynh was third at 113. Junior Anthony Metallo was third at 145. Senior Stephen Hayden was third at 182, while senior

Bobby Carson was third at 285.

Senior Kris Santiago placed fourth at 106. Senior Erick DeLaCruz was fourth at 120, while senior Ernesto Ramirez was fourth at 160. Senior Daniel Tomasello was fourth at 195.

Willowbrook wrestling

The Willowbrook wrestling team placed sixth at the Glenbard East regional with 61 points.

Sophomore Matt Rowland was one of five Warrior wrestlers to qualify for this weekend's sectional competition. He placed second at 152 pounds. Senior Jake Kroeger also was second at 182 pounds.

Sophomore Andrew Verr was fourth at 113. Sophomore Elijah Rochelle was fourth at 170, while junior Christian Chavez was fourth at 220.

Willowbrook girls bowling

The Willowbrook girls bowling team placed fifth at the recent Hinsdale South regional. The top four teams at the regional level advanced to the sectional.

Willowbrook did qualify two individuals for the Leyden sectional. Senior Tina Nowak finished with a 1,075 series, while senior Becky Anton finished with a 959.

Earlier, the Warriors placed eighth at the West Suburban Conference head pin tournament.

Anton and Nowak earned all-WSC honors, finishing among the top 15 bowlers in

the conference.

Nowak and fellow seniors Rebecca Cisneros, Sarah Kottke and Jill Liebe were named to the all-WSC academic team.

"This is truly a testament to their hard work as student-athletes," said Willowbrook coach Bill Eufrazio.

The Warriors also recorded a recent 2,960-2,793 WSC win over district neighbor Addison Trail.

Addison Trail girls bowling

The Addison Trail girls bowling team placed sixth at the recent Hinsdale South regional and qualified two individuals for Saturday's Leyden sectional.

Senior Megan Schmelter finished with a 1,138 total pinfall, while junior Amanda

Jastrzebski rolled a 1,124 to advance as well.

Fenton girls bowling

The Fenton girls bowling team placed 10th at the recent Hinsdale South regional with a 4,651 total pin count.

Willowbrook girls gymnastics

The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team placed third at the Glenbard North regional.

Cassidy McFarlane was the Warriors' lone sectional automatic qualifier. She placed second on bars with an 8.8. She was fourth in the all-around competition with a 34.375 and took fifth on beam with an 8.275.

Willowbrook finished with a team score of 127.875. The Warriors could have addition-

al at-large sectional qualifiers. Those names were announced Monday by the IHSA.

Fenton girls gymnastics

The Fenton girls gymnastics team placed fourth at the York regional with a 122.0 score. Fenton's Carmel Parker won the vault competition with a 9.5. Taylor Patton was fourth on vault with a 9.375.

Patton also placed fourth on bars with an 8.65 and fifth on floor with a 9.3. She finished fifth in the all-around with a 35.950 score. Parker will compete at the sectional level on vault, while Patton will compete on vault, bars, floor and in the all-around competition. Fenton could have additional at-large qualifiers. Those names were announced by the IHSA Monday.

• CAGERS

Continued from page 19

are sharing the ball and different guys are scoring," he said. "We have a nice balance. Sometimes we're better shooting from the perimeter. Against Morton, we had 19 assists and we had 17 against Willowbrook. It's not about who is scoring. When guys have the ball in open space they are knocking down shots when they get the chance."

James Pupillo continues to be a key force for the team.

James has been great all

year," said Lyons. "He's had some big games for us. He scored 30 points against Hinsdale South. Lately he's putting the ball in the basket and doing a great job of setting other guys up for open looks. He has a great ability to distribute the basketball."

Lyons also cited strong play from Ronald Duling and Joe Kurucar.

"Ronald has been steady all year," he said. "He can score, defend and handle the bas-

ketball. He plays a 32-minute game. Joe has come off the bench and has improved on the defensive end. Plus, he's still shooting the ball well."

Addison Trail enjoyed a treat this past Saturday as it played Maine South in a non-conference game at the BMO Harris Bradley Center in Milwaukee, home of the NBA's Bucks.

"It will be cool for the kids to play on an NBA floor," said Lyons' earlier last week. "It will be a neat experience."

'Over 40 and Hired' seminar takes place Feb. 22

ELMHURST—Professionals who are between jobs or considering a "next chapter" in their career are invited to attend an "Over 40 and Hired" informational workshop, "Networking in Today's Job Market," on Saturday, Feb. 22, at Elmhurst College.

Hosted by Elmhurst College's School for Professional Studies and the Career Transitions Center of Chicago, Networking in Today's Job Market will be held from 8:30-11 a.m. in the Founders Lounge of the Frick Center on the Elmhurst College campus. This event is open to the public; admission is \$10 per person and includes a full breakfast.

Networking is considered one of the most successful and essential tools to career success, yet is one of the least understood and most feared parts of a job search or ongoing career management. Networking in Today's Job Market will help participants build and utilize a valuable professional network. Career Transitions Center coach and Executive Director Anita Jenke will discuss how to create and use a values statement (elevator pitch) that will help attendees better brand and position themselves on a résumé and LinkedIn profile, and how to develop meaningful professional relationships for greater distinction.

To RSVP, contact the School for Professional Studies at (630) 617-3300 or sps@elmhurst.edu, or register online at: elmhurst.edu/gethired.

Over 40 & Hired: Networking in Today's Job Market

HOSTED BY THE CAREER TRANSITIONS CENTER OF CHICAGO AND THE SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES AT ELMHURST COLLEGE

Take charge and discover how to build and utilize a valuable professional network. For seasoned professionals navigating the challenges of career change in today's job market, CTC coach Anita Jenke will provide tips and strategies to capitalize on networking in job search.

Anita will share insights on how to create and use a values statement that will help all better brand and position themselves on a resume and LinkedIn profile, and how to develop meaningful professional relationships for greater distinction. This event is open to the public and admission is \$10 per person, and includes full breakfast.

Meeting you where you are.
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Over 40 & Hired: Networking in Today's Job Market
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SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Blazers' best



Photo provided

Addison Trail High School students earn recognition Feb. 7 as "AT's Best." The students honored were (front row, from left) freshman Viany Ortiz, senior Brianna Murray, senior Julia Rowley, (back) freshman Max Dzlabis, freshman Keara Schmitt, freshman Jacob McAloon, junior Nia Westerkamp, senior Kacper Mierzejewski and senior Amanda Flores.

» NEWS BRIEFS

Tioga addition features artifacts from Chippewa

BENSENVILLE – An addition at Tioga School is almost complete, but it's not completely new.

As a way of honoring history, one of the walls in the new cafeteria features an arch and bricks from Chippewa School, which was located on the same block and recently demolished, according to a District 2 news release.

The entire addition, which includes a classroom wing and bridge connecting it to the existing structure, will be ready for students next school year. The old Tioga School at 313 W. Memorial Board in Bensenville, will be vacated at the end of the school year.

Artifacts from the old Tioga School will also be preserved and

installed on the school grounds.

AT staff raise money for Special Olympics

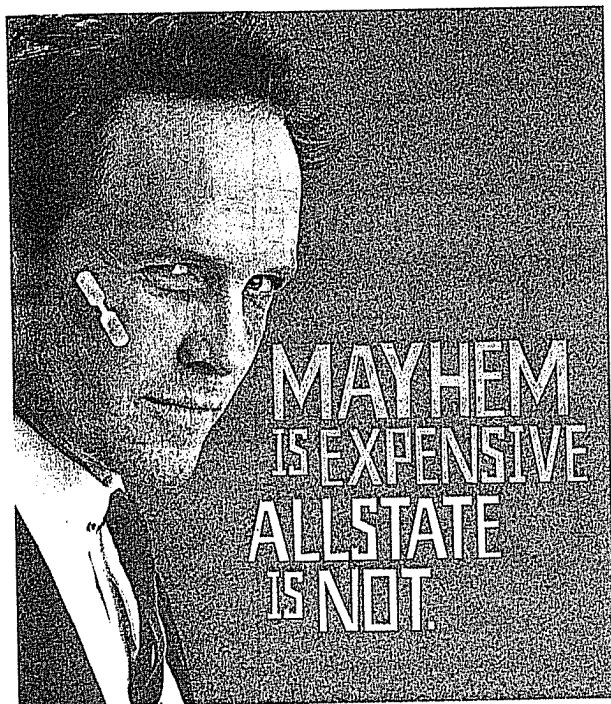
ADDISON – Addison Trail staff members aren't going to let the cold weather stop them from raising money for Special Olympics Illinois.

On Feb. 22, six Addison Trail staff members will jump into the chilly waters at Northwestern University Beach in Evanston.

Jessica Sokolowski, Melissa Morales, Lisa Bollow, Julie Johnson, Anna Grice and Brittany Wolski will participate in the 16th annual Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) Polar Plunge to raise money for Special Olympics Illinois.

To donate to the Addison Trail team, go to www.firstgiving.com/team/253009.

—Suburban Life Media

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Sen. Cullerton visits AT economic students

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - State Sen. Tom Cullerton, D - Villa Park, met with Addison Trail economics students Feb. 7 to talk about The Stock Market Game.

A Securities Industry and Financial Markets program administered by Econ Illinois, The Stock Market Game aims to help students learn financial literacy. Through the game, students manage a hypothetical \$100,000 online portfolio and invest in stocks, bonds and mutual funds, learning about global markets, long-term saving and investing, according to a District 88 news release.

Students compete on a local level in The Stock Market Game competition or on a national level in the Capitol Hill Challenge. At Addison Trail, about 70 students in teach-



Photo provided

State Sen. Tom Cullerton (left), D-Villa Park, speaks with Addison Trail seniors Jose Cobos (center) and Leonardo Flores about an online simulation program called The Stock Market Game.

er Tom Hubner's economics classes have been participating in the program since Feb. 3, and the competition lasts about 15 weeks. There are 28 Addison Trail teams competing in the local competition and about seven teams com-

peting in the national competition. A few staff members are competing as well.

The top 10 teams in the Capitol Hill Challenge will win a trip to Washington, D.C., where they will be recognized, the release stated.

7 men indicted in cellphone store armed robberies

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

Seven defendants were indicted on federal charges for their roles in a series of six cellphone store armed robberies last year that extended from suburban Chicago, including Addison and Woodridge, to Indiana and downstate Illinois.

Eric Rogers, 39, of Hazel Crest and Eric Curtis, 29, of Park Forest were charged in December after a cellphone store in Woodridge was robbed, according to a news release from the United States Attorney's Office Northern District of Illinois. The pair allegedly directed a robbery conspiracy by selecting the stores that were robbed, recruiting their co-defendants to participate in the robberies, providing them with firearms and other equipment and paying them to commit armed robbery at their direction.

Rogers and Curtis were each charged with one count of robbery conspiracy, three

counts of robbery and two counts of brandishing firearms. Curtis was also charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm, which carries a maximum 10-year sentence. Both are being held in federal custody without bond.

A federal grand jury indicted the other five defendants Feb. 6. Marcus Harris, 20, of Chicago, Daniel Wright, 28, of Chicago, Tony Johnson, 20 of Harvey, and Lavell Hughes, 41, of Gary were charged with one count each of robbery and brandishing a firearm. Andre Wadlington-Anthony, 27, of Harvey was charged with two counts of each of those charges, according to the release.

The Norridge robbery included about 100 phones and tablet computers valued about \$54,000.

The seven defendants, in various combinations, allegedly committed armed robberies

See ROBBERIES, page 9

friday night
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5^{to} 9pm

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www.specialkidsday.org

For questions email us at: info@specialkidsday.org

OPINIONS

■ **LAST WEEK'S WEB POLL QUESTION:** Should schools, offices close when temperatures drop below zero?

38 PERCENT: Keep both open, this is ridiculous

36 PERCENT: Both should close for safety

22 PERCENT: Only schools should close

4 PERCENT: I don't have an opinion

■ **THIS WEEK'S WEB POLL QUESTION:**

What time of day do you feel most productive? Vote online at mysurbanlife.com.

Joining forces to boost youth mentoring

The impact one person can have on another, especially that of a caring adult on the life of a vulnerable youth, can last a lifetime. As coordinator of the MetroMentors program at Metropolitan Family Services DuPage, my job is to match such mentors and mentees. Effective mentoring relationships can help increase children's self-esteem, social competence, academic achievement and positive life choices. And mentors often find they gain much by giving their time, attention and support.

Though many stories have been told about the benefits of mentoring, another story that should be shared is about the organizational partnerships that are helping programs such as MetroMentors survive and grow. In our case, joining forces with local school entities such as District 45 and organizations such as Parkview Community Church in Glen Ellyn has been a recipe for success.



COMMUNITY VOICE

Marsha Ndoko

MetroMentors provides weekly mentoring opportunities in schools by working with various DuPage school districts, including District 45. Through Kathy Gerber, the guidance counselor at Jefferson Middle School, we at MetroMentors discovered that Parkview was interested in deepening its mentoring outreach. Steve King, worship arts pastor at Parkview Community Church, said:

"As we considered the requirements of starting up a mentoring program with the District 45 schools, we knew there were areas of expertise we were not qualified to address, such as the administration, screening, oversight and coordination between the schools, students and mentors. MetroMentors has filled that role with Parkview and District 45. The result has been a partnership that maximizes our ability to focus on recruiting and engaging mentors with students at the schools."

As a result of the partnership, on average, students with mentors saw a 70 percent increase in academic performance, an 82 percent improvement in social or emotional challenges, an 85 percent improvement in learning, as well as performance increases in a number of other areas.

MetroMentors greatly appreciates the support of Parkview Community Church, District 45, other participating school districts and other partners who are helping to support mentoring services and benefit the greater DuPage community.

MetroMentors always has a demand for mentors, especially adult males and volunteers who can donate time during the school day. For information, please contact Marsha Ndoko at NdokoM@metrofamily.org or 630-784-4836.

Marsha Ndoko is the MetroMentors coordinator for Metropolitan Family Services DuPage.



Photo provided

Members of the Addison Trail Special Olympics basketball team show off their medals Jan. 12 at the 2014 Special Olympics District C Basketball Tournament.



Congratulations to the Addison Trail Special Olympics basketball team, which recently captured third-place honors in Division 4 at the 2014 Special Olympics District C Basketball Tournament. Keep up the good work.



A Bensenville family played a key role in the most exciting moment of this year's Super Bowl – the commercials. Microsoft's "Empowering Us All" Super Bowl commercial featured a clip of Greg Bacon, who was serving with the U.S. Army in Iraq at the time, watching his son being born in Elk Grove Village via Skype. What an incredible way to preserve such a special memory.

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@mysurbanlife.com. The deadline is 4 p.m. Thursday for the following week's paper.

SHAW
media

Laura Pass,
general manager
lpass@shawmedia.com
630-427-6213

Dave Lemery,
managing editor
dlemery@shawmedia.com
630-427-6250

David Good,
news editor
dgood@shawmedia.com
630-427-6270

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SPORTS

Comments?

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

Waiting to get back After tough weekend, AT boys end long layoff Tuesday vs. Willowbrook

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON – For all of the progress the Addison Trail boys basketball team has shown this season, the Blazers still had to swallow a harsh dose of reality last weekend.

AT lost two games to very good teams, the Blazers' first back-to-back losses since the start of the 2014 calendar year.

West Suburban Gold foe Proviso East, which sits at the top of the conference, employed its potent offense and frenetic defense as it throttled the Blazers 66-36 on Feb. 7. The next day, AT traveled to Milwaukee's Bradley Central, home of the Milwaukee Bucks, and lost to Maine South, 55-35.

Both Proviso East and Maine South are in first place in their respective conferences with undefeated records in league play.

This is an empty weekend on the schedule for the Blazers. AT's next game is Tuesday at District 88 rival Willowbrook, which will come 10 days after the Maine South game. The Blazers won the previous meeting against Willowbrook, 79-57, on Jan. 25.

The Blazers have a 10-14 overall record but carry a winning 5-4 mark in the West Suburban Gold. AT is tied for third in the league with Downers Grove South and Hinsdale South.

After facing Willowbrook, the Blazers will travel to Morton on Feb. 21 and close out conference play the next day against Hinsdale South. AT defeated both of those teams earlier this season.

In fact, the Blazers' wins over Hinsdale South and Morton came in consecutive games on Jan. 17 and 24, respectively. In the victory over the Mustangs, Taylor White came up with a late steal, drove to the rim and made a layup with 6.4 seconds left to lift AT to a 61-59 win over highly-regarded Morton.



Next game

Who: Addison Trail at Willowbrook	Where: 1250 Ardmore Ave.,
What: West Suburban Gold boys basketball	Villa Park
When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday	WSG records: AT 5-4, Willowbrook 0-8

Addison Trail forward Taylor White drives to the basket in a Jan. 31 game against Downers Grove South. The Blazers lost twice last weekend and will play District 88 rival Willowbrook on Tuesday.

Bill Ackerman • backerman@shawmedia.com

Postseason tipoff time for girls basketball

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SPORTS

NED • Friday, February 14, 2014 • mysuburbanlife.com • ADP Suburban Life

By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

The Class 3A and 4A girls basketball playoffs get underway next week, and while teams from the area will head separate directions at the start of the postseason, the end goal is the same – to reach Redbird Arena in Normal for the state finals March 7 and 8.

Addison Trail

Class: 4A
Regional: Batavia
Sectional: Addison Trail
Seed: No. 19
First game: 7 p.m. Monday vs. No. 14 Elk Grove
Outlook: The Blazers won just four games in the regular season. Connie Barkoullies and Katie Dziabis have been key players for an AT team which didn't have much varsity experience entering the season.
If AT can pull off a first round upset against Elk Grove, regional host Batavia would be up next on Tuesday.



Addison Trail's Stephanie Messina (left) brings the ball downcourt during a Jan. 11 game against Hinsdale South. The Blazers start the playoffs Monday against Elk Grove.

Playoff facts

1. Montini has five state trophies in the past six seasons, including four in a row.
2. Willowbrook is in search of its first regional title since 1996, which ended a run of four straight regional titles and also was the last time the Warriors won conference.
3. Glenbard East has four playoff victories in the past five seasons.
4. York had a losing record the last time the Dukes won a regional, which was 2009.
5. Timothy Christian, which now plays in Class 3A, won Class 2A regionals in both 2009 and 2011.
6. Addison Trail last won a regional title in 1985.

No. 16 Rauner College Prep or No. 18 Little Village
Outlook: Montini isn't defending a state title this year and maybe that will make it hungrier to avoid being upset like last season.

The Broncos were a heavy favorite to win Class 3A last year, but settled for third place. The senior trio of Kelly Karlis, Kateri Stone and Sara Ross lead a talented team that has shown its ability to play with anyone at state.

Head coach Jason Nichols has complained about his team's habit of coasting during games instead of playing hard for the duration. If Montini plays its best, it could win Class 3A.

"They just got to choose who

they want to be and what they want to be," Nichols said.

Timothy Christian

Class: 3A
Regional: Timothy Christian
Sectional: Glenbard South
Seed: No. 13
First game: 7 p.m. Monday vs. No. 20 Instituto Health Sciences Charter
Outlook: The Trojans faced a tough task this season with five new starters and a new coach. Of all the new faces, Kaitlyn Gehrke and Juliana Stremmer have been solid in the paint.
"It has been a tough season, but our girls have turned a corner and our last four games have been much better," coach Michele Strube said.
Timothy would face No.

4 seed Nazareth Tuesday if it wins Monday.

Willowbrook

Class: 4A
Regional: Batavia
Sectional: Addison Trail
Seed: No. 6
First game: 8 p.m. Tuesday vs. No. 11 St. Charles East
Outlook: Despite a West Suburban Gold title and a 22-4 record, the Warriors landed just the sixth seed in the sectional. Part of that is because of the quality at the top of the Addison Trail sectional.

Wheaton Warrenville South, Downers Grove North and Batavia also won conference titles and are seeded ahead of the Warriors. Batavia is in the Warriors' regional as the No. 3 seed.

The Warriors have endured four injuries late in the regular season, but will be healthier come the postseason. Starting forward Melissa Rader and top bench guard Danielle Velasquez are out with ACL injuries.

Molly Krawczykowski, who just signed to Illinois State for track and field, uses her speed to lead the Warriors on both ends of the floor. Sophomore forward Josie Zabran has been

a key post player since being called up to the varsity team midseason.

"I have a lot of confidence in the girls," coach Terry Harrell said. "It looks ugly sometimes, but they usually get it done."

Willowbrook opens against St. Charles East, which it defeated 67-54 at Wheaton North's holiday tournament. The regional title game is Feb. 20.

York

Class: 4A
Regional: York
Sectional: Addison Trail
Seed: No. 10

First game: 8 p.m. Wednesday vs. No. 7 Proviso West
Outlook: After a slow start the Dukes picked up their play in the second half of the season. York enters the playoffs with a 14-12 record, including an 11-4 record since Dec. 23.

In the opener, York will face Proviso West for the third time this season. West won both games, but the last meeting on Jan. 31 was just a two-point game when leading scorer Mikaela Boyd went down with an injury. A win against the Panthers likely means a third game against West Suburban Silver champ Downers Grove North in the Feb. 21 final.

Montini

Class: 3A
Regional: Little Village
Sectional: Glenbard South
Seed: No. 1
First game: 6 p.m. Tuesday vs.

Suburban Life

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



**FRANK
TOOHEY**

York
Senior | Basketball

Why Toohey was selected:

Toohey became the all-time wins leader in York boys basketball history after the Dukes' 51-38 win against Glenbard West on Feb. 7.

York senior forward Frank Toohey doesn't always put up the biggest numbers, but all he has done since joining the Dukes' varsity team is win. He scored 18 points in York's win at Glenbard West last Friday for his 84th win in a Duke uniform. Toohey, the Oak Trust Credit Union Athlete of the Week, talked with Suburban Life sports reporter Dan Santaromita about what the accomplishment says about his play and the state of the program.

How do you rate this accomplishment?

It's pretty cool. I've never been a big record guy, but really what it means is I've had the best teammates and coaches when I've been here. I'm not trying to get my numbers.

What does it say about the state of the program that York has had such a great run in recent years?

I think this season we've had fantastic chemistry. Everyone is willing to step up. No one is trying to steal the show. We don't care who does well or who does what. We just want to win.

Does it change your perspective at all to hear that York has been playing since 1920?

It's really cool. It's something that I'm proud of. I'm proud of all these teams that I've been on. We've definitely been on a good stretch since I've been here. I've been fortunate to play with many, many great players, a couple playing Division I in Will Sullivan and David Cohn.

This Athlete of the Week is brought to you by



» PREP ROUNDUP

AT wrestling quintet on to sectional

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

Five Addison Trail wrestlers advanced from the loaded Glenbard East regional to this weekend's Leyden sectional.

Niko Rocha was second at 170 pounds. Michael Huynh (113), Anthony Metallo (145), Stephen Hayden (182) and Bobby Carson (285) also advanced as third place finishers at the regional.

undefeated season in the West Suburban Gold by crushing Morton 64-40 on the road Monday. Molly Krawczykowski and Josie Zabran each scored 11 points in the victory. Olivia Domin and Samantha Schmidt added 10 points each.

Downers Grove North beat the Warriors 59-46 Wednesday in a battle of the two West Suburban Conference division champions. Krawczykowski scored 15 points in the loss.

ville South sectional in the all-around, uneven bars and beam, but was unable to secure an automatic spot to state.

BOYS SWIMMING

Addison Trail/Willowbrook co-op

R.L. Aldridge and Ethan Wallace earned all-conference honors at the West Suburban Gold meet on Saturday. Aldridge earned all-conference in the 200-yard freestyle relay and Wallace was all-conference in the 50 freestyle and the 200 freestyle relay.

GIRLS BOWLING

Willowbrook

Seniors Beckie Anton and Tina Nowak both advanced from the Hinsdale South regional. Anton had a 1,139 series, which was good for seventh best at the regional. Nowak totaled a 1,075. The Warriors were fifth overall, one spot short of advancing to sectionals as a team.

Addison Trail

Megan Schmetter and Amanda Jastrzebski advanced from the Hinsdale South regional to this weekend's sectional. AT was sixth at the regional.

Glenbard East

Seniors Karla Bowden and Hannah Mackie qualified as individual bowlers from the Hinsdale South regional for the Rams, which were seventh overall.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Montini

Matt Brachmann scored 28 points, but it wasn't enough in a 72-67 loss to IC Catholic. The Broncos followed that up with a 40-62 loss Tuesday at St. Edward.

Willowbrook

Barrington beat the Warriors 47-39 Saturday.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Montini

The Broncos had no trouble with visiting Hinsdale Central on Saturday. Montini won 75-48 behind 19 points from Kateri Stone and 12 each from Kelly Karlis and Rainey Kuykendall. The Broncos defeated Wheaton Academy 66-23 on Wednesday.

Glenbard East

The Rams hung with Wheaton North, but came up short 40-34 Tuesday. Allison Hansen scored 12 points in the loss.

Willowbrook

The Warriors completed an

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Glenbard East

Freshman Veronika Srey and senior Karen Seby were both all-around qualifiers in the Wheaton Warrenville South sectional, but neither could lock up an automatic berth for the state meet. Srey was 15th and Seby was 27th.

Addison Trail

Casey Boksha's 9.3 on floor exercise at the Wheaton Warrenville South sectional booked her an automatic place at the state meet.

Boksha was one of four Blazers who competed at the sectional individually. Freshman Kennedy O'Neill competed in the all-around and all four events after winning regional titles in the all-around, vault and balance beam. Tamara Mendez and Terra Garcia also made it to the sectional.

Willowbrook

Cassidy McFarlane qualified for the Wheaton Warren-

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