

Ardmore Avenue crossing to be closed through Aug. 22

The Village of Villa Park reminds residents that the railroad crossing at Ardmore Avenue will be closed to motorists and pedestrians through 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 22. The crossing closed at 9 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 11, for repairs and grading.

Board votes 4-3 in favor of employment agreement with Keehner

The Villa Park Village Board voted 4-3 at the end of Monday night's board meeting to approve a resolution approving the terms of employment of Villa Park Village Manager Rich Keehner pursuant to an employment agreement.

Trustees Chris Aiello, Albert Bulthuis, Donald Kase and Robert Wagner voted in favor of the resolution. Villa Park Village President Deborah Bullwinkel joined trustees John Davis and Robert Taglia in voting against the resolution. The vote took place following a closed session of board members that lasted approximately 45 minutes.

Multiple board members refused to comment at the end of the meeting. Trustee Bulthuis did speak briefly, stating, "I'm just glad we voted in favor of the manager's new agreement, and I look forward to more good things in Villa Park."

Bulthuis did say the employment agreement with Keehner covered the next two years, into 2016. Keehner has been Villa Park's village manager since April 2011.

"We've accomplished a lot, and I think

we'll accomplish more," added Bulthuis.

The vote was reportedly not a decision to retain Keehner as village manager, but a vote on the terms of his employment, including his compensation over the next two years. Keehner will reportedly receive 4 percent raises during each of the next two years.

Moments before the vote on the resolution, Trustee Taglia requested that the board reject the employment agreement.

"I would ask that the board consider rejecting this agreement and going back to the final offer that we received by e-mail from the village manager," stated Taglia, who did not elaborate on any contact from Keehner. None of the other board members spoke in favor of Taglia's proposal.

"It's difficult for me to participate in this discussion," Taglia added before the vote. "This happened without my knowledge. This is the first time I've been informed of what happened in the process, and I would ask the village board to reconsider this employment agreement."

The next village board meeting will take place on Aug. 25.



The chief gets wet...

Photos by Chris Fox

VILLA PARK POLICE CHIEF Robert Pavelchik (above) sat in a dunk tank during last week's National Night Out event outside of Jefferson Pool. The police department hosted the free event, which included food, beverages, activities and prizes. Several employees from the Villa Park Target store at 50 E. North Ave. also attended the pool party. Target is a national corporate sponsor of the National Night Out event. Pavelchik playfully taunted some of the children who threw softballs at the target, located in the lower right portion of the photo. The chief estimated that he plunged into the water about a dozen times. Villa Park Deputy Police Chief Mike Lay also spent time in the dunk tank during the Aug. 5 event.

Villa Park Junior Women's Club holds fundraiser on Saturday

The Villa Park Junior Women's Club (VPJWC) will hold its third annual Backyard BBQ Bash fundraiser on Saturday, Aug. 16, at DeMito's Double D Saloon, located at 335 E. Kenilworth Ave., Villa Park. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The money raised from the barbecue will be used for donations to local schools, charities and families in the Villa Park

community. The fundraiser will include a DJ and dancing, a bags tournament and door prizes, as well as a split-the-pot raffle.

Tickets are \$15 per person in advance and \$20 at the door. Food will be included with each ticket purchase.

Send an e-mail to vpjwc60181@gmail.com to purchase tickets for this weekend's VPJWC fundraiser.



Live music at the village picnic...

MEGHAN FOLEY of Villa Park (above) was one of the musicians who performed at Saturday's village picnic that celebrated Villa Park's 100th anniversary. Foley, who attends Willowbrook High School, performed during the afternoon of the picnic, which lasted until 11 p.m. at Cortosi Park. The live music that played throughout the event came to a brief pause at about 9:30 p.m. for a 15-minute fireworks presentation. The fireworks were set off in nearby Lions Park. Foley has performed at other Villa Park events, including last year's Oktoberfest celebration.

Centennial run...

ABOUT 60 PEOPLE participated in Saturday morning's Villa Park Centennial 5K run/walk, which began and ended near the Rugaard Gazebo, located near the Illinois Prairie Path just west of Ardmore Avenue. The photo on the right shows the female and male champions of the race under the gazebo. Pictured in the middle of the back row (wearing their medals) are Ashley Brehmer of Itasca and Patrick Niyork of Villa Park. Brehmer is a student at Illinois State University. Niyork, who graduated from Willowbrook High School in 2012, is now a member of the track and cross country teams at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Also pictured are members of the Willowbrook cheerleading squad, as well as (far left) Rae Rupp Srch, the chair of the Villa Park Centennial Committee. Pictured on the far right is Jan Fiola, the village's economic development director. Fiola coordinated the 5-kilometer (about 3.1-mile) run/walk, which also included a shorter race for young children.



Villa Park Grand Prix...

THE ABOVE PHOTO shows contestants in the women's pro-am race at Sunday's Villa Park Grand Prix. The event included several men's and women's bicycle races that all began and ended on Park Boulevard near Yale Avenue. The cyclists rode multiple laps on the course of slightly more than 1 mile.

Metro Suburban Conference

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Fenton football team will have a few new faces on the schedule this season.

The Bison are part of the expanded 14-team Metro Suburban Conference. In football, the conference is divided into two six-team divisions (Timothy Christian and Illiana Christian do not field football teams). Fenton is part of the MSC West Division along with Aurora Central Catholic, IC Catholic

Academy.

Fenton is the second-largest school in the West Division behind Riverside-Brookfield. Four of the six teams in the West Division made the playoffs in 2013, including Fenton and defending MSC champion Glenbard South.

In recent seasons, the MSC consisted of five teams playing a four-game conference schedule, which left teams with the tough task of scheduling five non-conference games.

"It's nice to have a full conference schedule and it's nice to have crossover games with the other division," said Fenton

some of the new teams, but it's nice to have (eight) of the nine games against teams in the conference. It's nice to return to normalcy and it's nice to be in a big conference. This gives more credibility to the Metro Suburban Conference. Before, when we had only four teams it was like being the asterisk conference. Glenbard South joining helped us and now adding all these other schools has made this a legitimate conference with two divisions.

This is good for the kids, the

Fenton kicks off the 2014 season on Friday, Aug. 29 at 7:15 p.m. at Grayslake Central (a member of the Fox Valley Conference).

The Bison then host Walther Christian on Sept. 5 at 7:15 p.m., before hitting the road to face Ridgewood on Sept. 12 at 7:15 p.m.

Fenton returns home Sept. 19 for a 7:15 p.m. game against Elmwood Park.

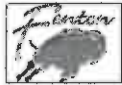
West Division play begins Sept. 26 at 7:15 p.m. at home against Glenbard South.

3 game against Aurora Central (7:15 p.m. start).

Fenton then goes on the road in weeks 7 and 8 against Riverside-Brookfield (Oct. 10, 7:15 p.m.) and Wheaton Academy (Oct. 17, 7 p.m. start).

Fenton wraps up the regular season on Oct. 24 with a home game against IC Catholic Prep (7:15 p.m. start).

Eight of Fenton's nine games this season will be against MSC-member teams.



2014 Fenton Football Schedule

Aug. 29	At Grayslake Central	7:15 p.m.
Sept. 5	Walther Christian	7:15 p.m.
Sept. 12	At Ridgewood	7:15 p.m.
Sept. 19	Elmwood Park	7:15 p.m.
Sept. 26	Glenbard South	7:15 p.m.
Oct. 3	Aurora Central	7:15 p.m.
Oct. 10	At Riverside-Brookfield	7:15 p.m.
Oct. 17	At Wheaton Academy	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 24	IC Catholic Prep	7:15 p.m.

Home-field happiness

Willowbrook football team starts season with three home games in a row

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Followers of the Willowbrook football team will have plenty of opportunities to see the team at home early in the 2014 season.

The Warriors will play four of their first five games at home and will host a total of five regular-season games this season.

"It's nice to be at home a little more," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth.

"We have some tough non-conference games and our league is much better than it has been."

Willowbrook opens the 2014 season against neighborhood foe Glenbard East on Friday, Aug. 29 at 7:30 p.m. Glenbard East was 2-7 last year.

The Warriors then host Lyons Township in a West Suburban Conference crossover game on Friday, Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Lyons went 5-5 and qualified for the state playoffs a year ago.

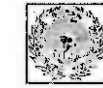
Willowbrook starts West Suburban Conference Gold Division action on Friday, Sept. 12 at home against Hinsdale South (7:30 p.m. start). Hinsdale South was 4-5 last year.

The Warriors' other traditional neighborhood game against York occurs on Friday, Sept. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Elmhurst. That contest also acts as Willowbrook's other WSC crossover. The Dukes finished 3-6 in 2013.

"Glenbard East continues to get better," said Hildreth, talking about the team's non-conference slate. "LT and York are our other non-conference games. We will have our hands full."

Willowbrook returns to conference play at home on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 1 p.m. against Morton (1-8 in 2013).

The Warriors then hit the road for an Oct. 3 6:30 p.m. contest in Maywood against Proviso East (0-9 last year) and an Oct. 10 meeting in



2014 Willowbrook Football Schedule

Aug. 29	Glenbard East	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 5	Lyons Township	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 12	Hinsdale South	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 19	At York	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 27	Morton	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 3	At Proviso East	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 10	At Downers South	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 17	Leyden	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 24	At Addison Trail	7:30 p.m.

Downers Grove against Downers Grove South (7:30 p.m. start). Downers Grove South went 6-4 in 2013; won the WSC Gold with a 6-0 record and qualified for the state playoffs.

Willowbrook's final home regular-season game is Friday, Oct. 17 against Leyden (7:30 p.m.). Leyden went 3-6 a year ago.

The Warriors close out the regular season with the annual District 88 game at Addison Trail (2-7 in 2013) on Friday, Oct. 24 (7:30 p.m. start).

Willowbrook is coming off a 2013 season where it went 7-3 overall and qualified for the state playoffs. The Warriors finished second in the WSC Gold Division with a 5-1 record.

This year, the Warriors will face only two teams on their schedule that qualified for the 2013 state playoffs (Downers Grove South and Lyons Township).

The combined 2013 record of Willowbrook's opponents this season was 26-57.

Team Elmhurst Soccer Club to hold skills academy

Sugar Creek hosting youth after-school golf classes

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Team Elmhurst Soccer Club is holding a skills academy for boys and girls in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first through fourth grades.

The skills academy starts Friday, Sept. 5 from 4:15-5:30

p.m. at Plunkett Park in Elmhurst. The skills academy runs eight weeks (eight sessions). The cost is \$90 per player.

The skills academy is an ideal way for recreational soccer players to improve their skill level. Each child receives instruction from TESC's professional coaching staff on skills such as dribbling, passing and shooting along with

playing various small-sided games throughout the session.

For more information, visit www.elmhurstsoccer.com.

Elmhurst Lacrosse fall skills training

Elmhurst Lacrosse is offering a once-a-week fall skills train-

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Information: Visit our website at <http://service.atty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - Pierce & Associates, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 North Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Tel. No. (312) 372-2060. Please refer to file #PA1106422. Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.

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Swim lessons offered

The outdoor pool season is almost over but children can still have fun taking swim lessons.

The Villa Park Parks and Recreation Department, in cooperation with the Addison Park District, offers indoor swim lessons. The next session runs September 13-27.

Classes are available on Saturdays and Tuesday and Thursday evenings for swimmers with all levels of swim experience.

Lessons are held at the Club Fitness Indoor Pool, 1776 W. Centennial Place in Addison. Swim lesson participants have the option to purchase a Club Fitness Junior Membership for \$55; the first session fee is the member rate and all other sessions taken within the one-year membership are paid at the member rate. If a membership is not purchased the class fee is the non-member rate. To see the full schedule of lessons and for fees visit www.vprd.org or call 630-834-8970.



Have a question or comment?

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



Shaw Media file photo

Members of Montini's girls basketball team, including Sara Ross (from left) and Kateri Stone, hoist the Class 3A championship trophy the Broncos won in March. Three of the four teams to make the Class 3A state finals last season were private schools, but a proposal being worked on would separate public and nonboundary schools in the postseason.

The dividing line

Planned proposal would separate public, private school sports

By **SCOTT SCHMID**
sschmid@shawmedia.com

In a first attempt to level the playing field between public and private schools, the Illinois High School Association

instituted the private school multiplier in 2005.

The rule multiplied private school enrollments by 1.65 to determine playoff class.

Now, nearly 10 years later, a much more drastic measure

could be in the works.

According to Addison Trail principal Adam Cibulka, the West Suburban Conference is preparing to submit a proposal to the IHSA this fall that would create separate divi-

sions in state tournaments for boundary and nonboundary schools.

A few other states, including Texas, already have such a policy in place (or at least in certain classes).

Hinsdale Central athletic director Dan Jones said the proposal comes on the heels of talk about instituting a success factor, which was originally set to debut this year before being delayed. The

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success factor would move private schools up in class based on previous postseason success, but complete separation would drastically alter the athletic landscape.

ADs weigh in

First-year Glenbard South athletic director Tim Carlson has a unique perspective on the issue, having spent 12 years working at private schools, including 10 as an AD at St. Viator and Guerin.

"We are certainly right at the beginning stages and we don't have any of the details," he said. "But in all honesty, do I think this is the answer to the problem? No. There is something to be said about playing everybody and challenging yourself and playing programs that are strong. It forces you to raise your level of play a little bit."

His biggest concern is what might happen to the Metro Suburban Conference, of which the Raiders are a member, if such a proposal passes. The league is expanding to 14 schools this year and includes both public and private institutions.

"From the Metro Suburban Conference perspective, we have a private and public mix," Carlson said. "Talking with John Treiber (former Glenbard South AD) and talking to some other ADs, what makes the MSC work is we've been able to work through issues and do it collaboratively."

"If something like this happens, what would it mean for the Metro Suburban? Does it do damage to the conference? It's a tough sell. We are in a unique position and so much work has been put in by these ADs, certainly not by me, I'm new, but especially John Treiber. I'd hate to see that crumble."

A few other conferences in the state - such as the Central State Eight (with Springfield Sacred Heart-Griffin), the Northern Illinois Conference (with Rockford Boylan), the Western Big Six (with Rock Island Alleman) and the South Seven Conference (with Belleville Althoff) - also mix public and nonboundary schools but not to the extent of the MSC.

Benet and Nazareth are two area schools that compete in East Suburban Catholic Con-



Shaw Media file photo

Members of York's boys cross country team hoist the 2012 Class 3A state championship trophy. A proposal that would separate public and nonboundary schools in the postseason wouldn't drastically effect cross country, a sport in which public schools usually dominate.

Sports championships by the numbers

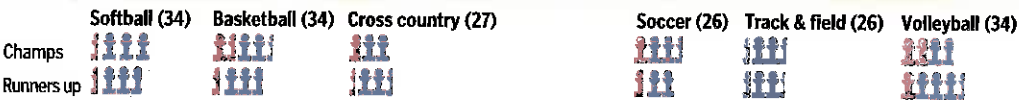
State championships won by private and public schools within the state in selected sports since 2004-05 school year.

👤 = 10 wins private public

BOYS SPORTS



GIRLS SPORTS



SOURCE: IHSA.org

Graphic by Jes Spivak - jspivak@shawmedia.com

ference, which is comprised entirely of private schools. Benet AD Gary Goforth believes the latest proposal stems from the success factor issue. Already competing in the larger classes in the playoffs (7A for football, 4A for softball, basketball and volleyball), the Redwings wouldn't be greatly affected by the success factor.

Goforth didn't want to talk specifics until reading the proposal, but he believes a complete separation isn't necessarily the best solution.

"If it would force the private and nonboundary schools out of the IHSA, I think that would be a detriment to high school athletics," he said. "We enjoy playing the public schools around us."

Coaches' perspective

Tom McCloskey also has been on both sides of the debate, having been a boys basketball coach at Montini (head coach) and Nazareth (assistant) before his current head coaching gig at Riverside Brookfield.

"I kind of like to think I was the same coach at Montini and Riverside Brookfield," he said. "I believe in all the things that we're doing. My approach has almost been the exact same. It's basketball. It's getting kids to love playing and getting a program together. It's not really much different."

"But I do see both sides of it, obviously private schools have an advantage as far as getting kids outside of cer-

tain boundaries."

If the split were to occur, it would drastically change the playoff landscape for local small schools like Lisle and Westmont. Those two schools typically mix with private schools like IC Catholic, Timothy Christian, Aurora Christian, Walther Christian and St. Edward in the postseason.

"I'm torn because I get along with all those guys and they have good teams and good programs," Westmont boys basketball coach Craig Etheridge said of his private school brethren. "Part of me is loyal to the concept of playing the same teams, but I've also lost kids to Timothy Christian, Nazareth and Montini. I'm cu-

rious to see how it plays out on both sides."

Bolingbrook's boys basketball team was knocked out of the playoffs by Benet in 2012. The Raiders and Redwings are typically placed in the same sectional in the playoffs, and this past season Benet won the sectional and went on to play for a state title in Class 4A.

"I think when schools that take whoever walks through the door play against schools that are able to recruit a little bit, it's like comparing apples and oranges," Bolingbrook coach Rob Brost said. "That being said, we'll play anybody anywhere. All that stuff is out of my control. I'm just trying to get our kids ready to play."