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VOLUME 12 NUMBER 25

WWW.THEINDEPENDENTNEWSPAPERS.COM

June 18, 2015

Addison Trail volleyball team makes school history

At first-ever IHSA state tournament, Blazers take 3rd

ADDISON — On June 5 and 6, the Addison Trail Boys volleyball team made school history by becoming the first Addison Trail volleyball team to ever compete in the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) State Tournament. The team members also are the school's first Sectional Champions in volleyball, and they won that title on June 2.

The Blazers made their way onto the State podium and earned 3rd place — and they were welcomed home in style on June 6. The Addison Police Department and the Addison Fire Protection District escorted the team's bus back to the school, where Addison Trail staff members and students were waiting, along with the team's friends and family members.

Sirens celebrating the team's success filled the air, and community members waived as the team and first responders made their way toward Addison Trail. The volleyball players cheered in excitement out the bus windows, and the bus was covered with each of their names.

After making their way through the crowd, the student-athletes were honored during a rally in the auditorium. Village of Addison Mayor Rich Veestra congratulated the team, saying, "Chicago might have

the Blackhawks, but we have the Blazers." Addison Trail Principal Adam Cibulka and Boys Volleyball Head Coach Chad Grant told the students how proud they are of the

team's accomplishment. To see a video from the rally, visit dupage88.net/site/public/videos/?item=120

Members of the Boys Volleyball Team include: Arlind

Rojba, David Zielinski, Zachary Vaca, Jonathan Valentini, Nicholas Stamatopoulos, Alex Dickmann, Kevin Andrews, Jacob Grygo, Joseph Nasti, Michael Chiaramonte, Jonthan

Gonzalez, Jack Vrchota, Kannon Nelms, Colton Noel and Alejandro Murillo. Coaches are Grant, Dan Styler, Katie Prast, Jason Bugajsky and Jessica Clark.



photo courtesy of HR Imaging

ATHS salutes Royal Court of the 2015 Prom

Pictured are members of the 2015 Addison Trail Prom Court. They are (from left) Robert Kusior, Maria D'Ugo, Endia Cummings, Prom Queen Dennice Alfaro-Mateo, Prom King Ulices Gomez, Kelly Delawder, Alejandro Roque, Brittany McComb and Jack Vrchota. Not pictured: Joseph Nasti.

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Addison Trail hosts 2015 commencement ceremony

ADDISON — On June 7, about 500 students received their diplomas and graduated from Addison Trail during the school's 49th commencement ceremony. Family members and friends cheered them on, and

Addison Trail Principal Adam Cibulka, District 88 Board of Education President Donna Craft Cain and class of 2015 graduation speaker Eric Gilliam offered words of encouragement and congratulations. The

Addison Trail Symphony Orchestra, as well as senior members of the Choir and the Shades of Blue choral performing group, provided musical entertainment during the ceremony.



all photos provided

(left): Jerold Macaya sings a solo during a performance of "No Such Thing" by Addison Trail's Shades of Blue. (middle): District 88 Board of Education President Donna Craft Cain tells members of the class of 2015 graduation is the beginning of their adult life and encourages them to continue on the path of success. (right): Eric Gilliam serves as the class of 2015 graduation speaker. His speech, entitled "Invictus," focused on the theme of resilience, and Gilliam encouraged his classmates to remember what it means to be an Addison Trail Blazer.



(top left): Brianna Sitkowski proudly displays her diploma during Addison Trail's 49th commencement ceremony on June 7. (top right): Addison Trail students are all smiles after receiving their diplomas. They are (from left) Esequiel Rojas, Alain Ocana, Kenia Chamorro, Jacqueline Nevarez and Jasmin Delgado. (bottom left): Kenia Chamorro (right) shares tears of joy with Addison Trail science teacher Carolyn Erwin. (bottom right): (From left) Jaylene Mejia, who will be a junior at Addison Trail in the fall, shares a hug with Jasmin Lopez and Mayra Sarabia after the graduation ceremony.



Sign up now for annual children's summer theater arts program

ADDISON — The Addison Children's Theatre and the Addison Center for the Arts will again hold its annual summer theater arts program from Monday, July 6 to Tuesday, Aug. 11, for children ages 8 to 14.

The program, directed by Cathleen Schandemeier Bartels, will be held at the Addison Center for the Arts' Studio Theater, 213 N. Lombard Road (enter Door No. 4). The fee is \$60 for Addison residents (\$56 for siblings with the same last name); \$81 for non-residents *\$76 for siblings with the same last name).

Theater professionals will help students discover their acting and singing techniques. This summer's production includes singing, dancing, acting, physical and mental exercises, rehearsal techniques and stage craft.

This year's performance will be "Charlie & the Chocolate Factory." Student must attend all the sessions to be part of the final performance, which will be at 1 p.m. Friday, July 31 and Saturday, Aug. 1.

Please bring a sack lunch each day. For more information, go online to: addisoncenterforthearts.com or call 630-458-4500.

SPORTS

JUNE 18, 2015 • 9

Addison Trail softball team ends season on high note

Blazers won a play-off game; Renc and Baumgartner on all-conference team

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Addison Trail softball coach Mark Olson liked the way his team closed out the 2015 spring season.

The Blazers scored a 5-4 win over Rolling Meadows in a Class 4A regional quarterfinal game and then lost to St. Charles East in the regional semifinals.

"We played two pretty complete games," said Olson. "The score in the St. Charles East game (8-0) didn't reflect how hard we played."

Olson said the season featured a good number of ups and downs. "It

was a roller-coaster ride," he said. "We'd get in a funk and then we'd find our way out. We had a hard time with consistency on defense, at the plate and with the lineup. We had some girls who were sick. We went through a lot of adversity and didn't get in a consistent groove."

The Blazers finished the season with 12 wins.

"It's a great group of girls," said Olson. "The effort was always there. It was a matter of finding that consistency and getting in a groove. We probably left some wins out there. There probably were five games we should have won. There were games I felt we should have been more competitive in and won. It seemed if we were playing good defense we were struggling with the bat and if we were hitting, our defense was struggling."

Ari Renc led the Blazers with a .380 batting averaged and earned all-West Suburban Conference Gold Division honors. "Ari was a three-time all-conference player for us. That's impressive," said Olson.

Rachel Baumgartner also earned all-conference honors and Olson noted she was an all-WSC Gold pick in both basketball and softball. "That's quite an accomplishment as well," he said.

Olson also cited the efforts of Kelly Delawder. "Kelly was sick at the beginning of the year," said Olson. "She was getting back to full strength and was hitting full stride. She had a great year for us."

Natalie Palermo helped the Blazers in the pitching circle. "Natalie had a fantastic year pitching for us," he said. "She was solid for us. She had a win against Glenbard East where she threw

four shutout innings of relief and she had four shutout innings in the playoff win against Rolling Meadows and had another win against Willowbrook as well. She really stepped up in a big way for us. Her ball had a lot of movement and location."

Alex DiSilvio, another senior, also improved as the year went on. "Alex hit her stride," said Olson.

Olson is excited about the prospects of the group of girls he has coming back. That group includes the likes of Alyssa McMahan (pitcher), Nicolette Napoli (a fixture in right field this year) and Marie Baumgartner (played as a sophomore this spring).

"We know we will have some holes to fill," said Olson. "But we do have some young kids coming back. We have girls who got good experience this year."

Willowbrook baseball team kicks off summer season

Coach Wisner impressed with leadership capabilities

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

While the Willowbrook baseball team's summer season may have started with a 1-3 record, coach Vic Wisner said there were plenty of positives to take away from the opening week.

The Warriors lost a pair to Plainfield East and then split a doubleheader with Hinsdale South.

"The games were close," he said. "We battled. We are going to be a team that will battle."

Just like in the spring, pitching is at the forefront of the summer superlatives. "We

threw the ball well just like we did last year," said Wisner. "It's a hallmark of our team. Most of the kids we have coming back can pitch. We will be strong in that department."

In the team's 3-2 win over Hinsdale South, Ronnie Reitz pitched a strong ballgame, Wisner noted. "Ronnie did a great job," he said. "He worked his fastball and curveball and threw his changeup that he's been working on for awhile. He was phenomenal."

Matt Garbacz and Cameron Zunkel, a pair of key returners for the Warriors, threw out of the bullpen to start the summer. "Both of them have a couple of showcases (events where college coaches attend) so we haven't started them in games yet," Wisner explained.

In the win against Hinsdale, Mark Molitor hit a home run in the seventh inning that proved to be the game-winner for the Warriors.

"Mark had a ton of at-bats in the spring," said Wisner. "It's good to see him make adjustments to his swing. He listened and has worked hard at it. He was 4-for-4 with a homer in that first game."

Wisner said Zunkel and Matt Pizur also have started the summer off on hot notes at the plate.

"Cam is still hitting the ball well and Matt Pizur is swinging a good bat," the coach said. "Matt Garbacz is another one. He has a bunch of hits so far."

Wisner isn't concerned in the least bit about the 1-3 record to start the summer. "It's still

early," he said. "They don't know what they are going to be yet. It's tough because you go right into the summer season. The seniors leave and they brought a certain feel to the team in the spring and this group wants to have that feel. But they have to realize it takes a while for things to blend together. Last year the team was the way it was because it was together 365 days. I told this group they've been together one day. They aren't last year's team. They will create their own identity."

Wisner has been beyond thrilled with the leadership he's seen from the senior-to-be group. He cited a recent volunteer rehab project in the team's clubhouse.

"We have great senior leader-

ship here," he said. "The group went up to the clubhouse and painted the walls and threw away garbage. It's their time now. There are little lockers in the clubhouse and those got painted and the summer guys have their own lockers. They were out there until 6:30 p.m. They vacuumed the place and threw away some huge cans full of garbage. It was neat to see them take ownership. They had such a great experience with each other in the spring. It was neat to see the kids take the next leadership step."

Willowbrook is scheduled to play Downers Grove North, Metea Valley, Glenbard West and Leyden this week in doubleheaders. The Leyden doubleheader is a home contest this Thursday.

IC Catholic Prep girls soccer places three on all-conference team

Knights win 15 games and make it to round of 16 in state tournament

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

IC Catholic Prep girls' soccer coach Tod Privett has plenty of reasons to smile.

His Knights squad went 15-7-1 this spring and won the program's third regional title in

a row. IC advanced to a Class 1A sectional title game where it lost to Chicago Latin School.

"I'm satisfied with the season," he said. "We lost to Latin and Latin did get to the state championship game. We did win a regional for a third year in a row and that was a good accomplishment."

IC placed three players on the all-Metro Suburban Conference West Division team in Erin Maloney, Hannah Hartnett and Dominique Lotz. Maloney is a three-time all-conference

player and Hartnett is a repeat selection as well.

Going back to the Latin game, Privett said a specific game plan was put in place for the opponent. "In that game we set up for the counter attack," he said. "We had two clean breakaways and two sitters. We missed on some excellent opportunities. We had the strategy. All things considered we had a successful season."

IC was slowed by injury during the year and still won 15 games and a regional crown.

"It says a lot about the girls' character," said Privett. "We were a little short on depth in the end, but they fought hard to the end in that Latin game. They set themselves up on the counter attack but couldn't convert on some opportunities to get back into the game. We had a fantastic game plan and the girls carried it out to the best of their abilities."

Hartnett led the Knights with 18 goals and 11 assists. "This was Hannah's third year with us and each year she increased

her output," said Privett.

Maloney scored eight goals. "Besides being a leader out of the back, She tied for third on the team in goals," said Privett. "That's a good output from a center back and occasional holding midfielder role. We will miss Erin. It's hard to describe how much we will miss her. We'll miss the way she carries herself on and off the field and the effort she puts into everything. She was a very good

See **SOCCKER**, Page 11

Indian Trail holds promotional exercise

ADDISON — Indian Trail Junior High School bid farewell to 452 students Thursday night at the 8th Grade Promotional Exercise held at Addison Trail High School on Thursday, June 11.

Indian Trail principal Craig Bennett commended the students for their academic and behavioral successes and reminded them to continue making good choices as they look forward to the opportunities that will be available to them next fall at Addison Trail. He also called on the students to recognize their parents for the role they play in supporting their children's education.

Diplomas were conferred by members of the District 4 Board of Education. Mercedes Lopez, this year's Citizenship Award winner, accepted the diplomas on behalf of her classmates. Mercedes Lopez, this year's Citizenship Award winner, accepted the diplomas on behalf of her classmates.



photo provided

Lopez receives special honor

Mercedes Lopez, who was this year's winner of the Indian Trail Citizenship Award, accepted the diplomas on behalf of her classmates.



courtesy photo

Last day at Ardmore School is magical

Preschool and kindergarten students at Ardmore School enjoyed watching a magician perform tricks as part of their end of the school year celebration. Last week marked the end of an era for Ardmore School, which has been serving District 4's youngest students—preschoolers, kindergartners, and, for a brief period, 1st graders—since 1992. With the construction of the Addison Early Learning Center, Ardmore will reopen as a K-5 elementary school in August.



courtesy photo by HR Imaging

AT dances night away at MSI in Chicago

On June 5, more than 500 students danced the night away during Addison Trail's prom at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. The theme of this year's prom was "Tonight We're Gonna Party Like it's 1925!" (a "Great Gatsby" theme).

Meet SLM's all-area softball team

The high school softball season is officially in the books as all the state trophies have been awarded. With the season in

the rearview mirror, it's the perfect time to celebrate the accomplishments of some of the top players from local schools.



Isabell Alexander

■ **SCHOOL:** Montini
 ■ **YEAR:** Junior
 ■ **IMPACT:** Alexander brings speed to the leadoff spot and strong defense in center field in addition to her offensive ability. The all-conference outfielder hit .486 with 23 walks and 24 stolen bases for the Broncos.



Brooke Bandy

■ **SCHOOL:** York
 ■ **YEAR:** Senior
 ■ **IMPACT:** The DePauw recruit was a standout in each of her three years on varsity at York. She went out with a strong senior season which included 18 wins, a 1.92 ERA and 155 strikeouts and York's fourth straight regional title.



Amy Bukovsky

■ **SCHOOL:** Montini
 ■ **YEAR:** Junior
 ■ **IMPACT:** Being the coach's daughter can come with pressure, but Bukovsky thrived this season for Montini under coach and dad Mike Bukovsky. She hit .525 with 44 RBIs while playing strong defense at shortstop and logging some innings in the circle.



Jessica Conenna

■ **SCHOOL:** IC Catholic
 ■ **YEAR:** Senior
 ■ **IMPACT:** The Northern Illinois recruit racked up strikeouts in the circle and hits with her bat. She went 17-4 as a pitcher with a 1.56 ERA and 198 strikeouts in 148 1/3 innings pitched. Conenna also hit .468 with 17 extra base hits, 38 RBIs and 20 runs scored.



Nicole Cuchran

■ **SCHOOL:** Montini
 ■ **YEAR:** Freshman
 ■ **IMPACT:** Coach Mike Bukovsky said Cuchran had the best offensive season in Montini history and the numbers make a strong case. The freshman stepped right into the No. 3 spot in the order and hit .569, blasted 10 home runs and tallied 58 RBIs this spring.



Gabby Curran

■ **SCHOOL:** IC Catholic
 ■ **YEAR:** Senior
 ■ **IMPACT:** The four-year varsity shortstop batted .483 out of the leadoff spot for the sectional-winning Knights. The Dominican University commit scored 48 runs and had 26 RBIs in 32 games.



Gabby Magnifico

■ **SCHOOL:** York
 ■ **YEAR:** Junior
 ■ **IMPACT:** Magnifico has been on varsity since her freshman year, but this was truly her breakout season. Before tearing her ACL in the regular season finale, Magnifico hit .366 with seven home runs, 31 RBIs and 34 runs scored.



Sarah Milkowski

■ **SCHOOL:** York
 ■ **YEAR:** Senior
 ■ **IMPACT:** Milkowski was York's leader this season, one of the best defensive catchers in the area and a dangerous hitter. The West Suburban Silver all-conference catcher hit .367 with 30 RBIs, 21 runs scored and 14 extra base hits.



Alyssa Ressinger

■ **SCHOOL:** Willowbrook
 ■ **YEAR:** Senior
 ■ **IMPACT:** The four-year varsity first baseman capped off her stellar Willowbrook career with a West Suburban Gold all-conference and all-state season. Ressinger hit .496 with 43 RBIs, 43 runs scored and 16 extra base hits.



Sam Schmidt

■ **SCHOOL:** Willowbrook
 ■ **YEAR:** Senior
 ■ **IMPACT:** The numbers Schmidt, the All-Area MVP, produced in her four-year varsity career are staggering. The Northern Illinois recruit hit .578 with 14 home runs and 61 RBIs this season and finished her career with a .509 average, 44 home runs, 193 RBIs and 179 runs scored.



Abby Solem

■ **SCHOOL:** York
 ■ **YEAR:** Junior
 ■ **IMPACT:** Solem provided a big bat from the cleanup spot for York. The junior, in her third year on varsity, was a West Suburban Silver all-conference third baseman and hit .436 with seven home runs and 43 RBIs.

Honorable mention

■ **ADDISON TRAIL:** Rachel Baumgartner and Ari Renc
 ■ **GLENBARD EAST:** Kailey Lyons and Marissa West
 ■ **IC CATHOLIC:** Anjella Farmer, Melissa Gonzalez and Josie Lytton
 ■ **MONTINI:** Alyssa Sclafani and Lauren Trojnar
 ■ **TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN:** Kaitlyn Gehrke
 ■ **WILLOWBROOK:** Zoe Dannenberg and Delaney Pelsor
 ■ **YORK:** Isabella Jaeger, Amanda Karnatz and Kyra Kroll