

SPORTS

Fenton football team to play two of first three games at home

Bison ready to tackle competitive Metro Suburban Conference West Division

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Fenton football coach Mark Kos looks at his team's 2015 schedule and sees plenty of competition starting back at him.

"It's definitely going to be a challenging schedule," he said. But it's one his team is looking forward to playing.

Fenton, which went 4-5 last year, opens the 2015 season Fri-

day, Aug. 28 at home against Leyden in non-conference play. Leyden, from the West Suburban Conference Gold Division, is a school double the size of Fenton. Leyden went 2-7 last year.

"We open with Leyden and they are an (Class) 8A school," said Kos.

The Bison then head to Melrose Park for a Saturday Sept. 5 game against Walther Christian. That game starts at 1 p.m. Walther is part of the Metro Suburban Conference East Division, while Fenton plays in the larger West Division.

Fenton's two traditional MSC crossover games occur on Sept. 11 at home against Ridgewood and Sept. 18 at Elmwood Park.

Fenton's game against Walther Christian is considered a

straight non-conference game this year.

"With Leyden and Walther Christian and then the two crossover games and our conference slate, every week is going to be a tough week," said Kos. "We continue to play tough teams. There's nothing on the schedule that says you get a week off."

Fenton kicks off MSC West play Sept. 25 at Glenbard South. The Bison then head to Aurora to face Aurora Central Catholic on Oct. 2 to conclude a three-game road trip.

The Bison finish off the regular-season home portion of the schedule with games against Riverside-Brookfield (Oct. 9) and Wheaton Academy (Oct. 16).

Fenton then closes the regular season on the road in Week 9



FENTON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2015

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Friday	August 28	Leyden (home)	7:15 p.m.
Saturday	September 5	at Walther Christian	1:00 p.m.
Friday	September 11	Ridgewood (home)	7:15 p.m.
Friday	September 18	at Elmwood Park	7:15 p.m.
Friday	September 25	at Glenbard South	7:15 p.m.
Friday	October 2	at Aurora Central	7:15 p.m.
Friday	October 9	Riverside-Brookfield (home)	7:15 p.m.
Friday	October 16	Wheaton Academy (home)	7:15 p.m.
Saturday	October 24	at IC Catholic Prep	1:00 p.m.

Head Coach Mark Kos

against IC Catholic Prep. "Our conference has a lot of good teams," said Kos. "It's nice to have this. We've gone from two years ago having to play teams in our conference

twice to having this schedule now. We know we have to be ready game in and game out. There is nobody on the schedule we can overlook."

Addison Trail football team to play five road games

Defending conference champion Blazers have five playoff teams on 2015 schedule

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The defending West Suburban Conference Gold Division-champion Addison Trail football team will find no shortage of top competition on its 2015 schedule.

The Blazers will play five road games including three straight away from home at

the tail-end of the season.

Addison Trail also will play five teams that reached the state playoffs in 2014 including three that made it past the first round (Glenbard South, Hinsdale South and Glenbard West).

The Blazers opened the season on the road in Glen Ellyn on Friday, Aug. 28 against Glenbard South, a member of the Metro Suburban Conference West Division. Glenbard South went 8-3 last year.

Addison Trail then plays the first of two WSC crossover games at home on Sept. 4 against Oak Park-River Forest, which went 7-3 in 2014.

The Blazers then hit the road on Sept. 11 for the annual Dis-

trict 88 game in Villa Park against Willowbrook, which is their West Suburban Conference Gold Division opener.

Addison Trail returns home Sept. 18 to face Downers Grove South and Leyden on Sept. 25 in a pair of conference games. Downers South went 6-4 last year.

The Blazers then go on the road for three games in a row, starting with an Oct. 2 game at Hinsdale South, a team that went 9-3 last year. Addison Trail then travels to Morton on Oct. 9 and Proviso East on Oct. 17 (a 1:30 p.m. Saturday matinee in Maywood).

Addison Trail wraps up the regular season with its annual WSC crossover game at home



ADDISON TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2015

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Friday	August 28	at Glenbard South	7:15 p.m.
Friday	September 4	OPRF (home)	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 11	at Willowbrook	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 18	Downers South (home)	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 25	Leyden (home)	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 2	at Hinsdale South	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 9	at Morton	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	October 17	at Proviso East	1:30 p.m.
Friday	October 23	Glenbard West	7:30 p.m.

Head Coach Paul Parpet Jr.

against Glenbard West. The Hilltoppers went 12-1 last year. Addison Trail is coming off a 2014 season where it went 9-2

overall and reached the second round of the state playoffs. The Blazers won the WSC Gold title with a perfect 6-0 record.

Zunkel a major presence on mound for Willowbrook baseball team

Off-speed pitches up senior-to-be's game

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Keep them guessing. Thanks to some hard work that's what Willowbrook senior-to-be baseball player Cam Zunkel did this summer.

"I definitely worked on my breaking ball more," he said. "My fastball was my strongest point in the spring (Zunkel said he's been clocked in the mid-

80s with his fastball). In the summer I developed a better curve and changeup and that helped me get more batters out. After awhile those pitches became second nature. At first it was tough because I kept missing inside with the curveball and my changeup was going in the dirt. When I started getting those pitches in there for strikes that's when I started helping myself."

Zunkel certainly helped himself with a double-digit strikeout performance in Willowbrook's summer playoff win against Morton.

"That day I went out there with a lot of confidence," he said. "We were

playing Morton, which is a team in our division in conference. It was a playoff game against a team we're familiar with. I went out there confident and once the fastball started working then the curveball and changeup started working. All the pitches were working and I felt good out there."

Pitching is nothing new for Zunkel. "I've pitched since I was little," he said. "I like having the ball in my hands on the mound in big games. All eyes are on you. It's definitely a good feeling."

Besides playing for Willowbrook this summer, Zunkel also played for the

Premier traveling baseball program. "We were 17-9 and had a good team," he said of the Premier squad. "We made it to the championship game in a tournament the Fourth of July."

Zunkel said he would like to play the sport at the collegiate level. "This summer I had a couple emails from college coaches but not anything too serious," he said. "I'm hoping it develops into something pretty serious. Since I was 12 I've dreamed of playing college baseball. I don't know if it would be as a position player or a pitcher. I'm good

See ZUNKEL, Page 19