

FREE
TAKE ONE

Addison INDEPENDENT

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THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022

Second largest USBC tournament in the country coming to Addison

County ready to welcome 3,400 teams, 13,000 athletes at Stardust Bowl

The DuPage Sports Commission (DSC) and DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau (DCVB) are just weeks away from hosting one of the largest women's tournaments in the United States—the United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships.

Larger than Chicago's NFL Draft, this 71-day tournament will take place from April 24 through July 3 at Stardust Bowl in Addison. Organizing officials have been working with

DCVB since 2017 to bring this event to fruition—the welcome signs you may see throughout DuPage communities are just one final touch to numerous layers of coordination and collaboration by DCVB to deliver an event of this scale.

As one of only a few venues in the country with 84 lanes and the ability to host a tournament of this magnitude, Stardust Bowl Addison-DuPage County will welcome over 13,000 athletes plus families—

approximately 400 visitors each day over the tournament's 10 weeks.

With an average of only four hours competing per day, guests fill their off time with dining, shopping, and entertainment.

The governing body reports USBC members as affluent, educated consumers with a strong lifestyle profile and demographics on par with other popular sports including golf and baseball.

Early numbers indicate the event

will generate significant impact county-wide, with more than \$12 million in estimated economic impact.

As long-time partners in sports tourism, DCVB Executive Director Beth Marchetti and Stardust Bowl Manager Jim Saffold completed the bid process with officials with the national governing body in Arlington, Texas in December 2016, putting DuPage County on the short list to host the event.

DCEO/Illinois Office of Tourism, DCVB, the villages of Oak Brook, Downers Grove, Addison, Lombard and DuPage County all contributed resources to help provide a competitive bid.

Stardust Addison was selected in 2017 as host, and preparations have been under way to welcome teams from all over the country despite a move from 2021 to 2022. Doubletree

See USBC, Page 4

EARTH DAY
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For more info visit BvilleParks.org



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

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Addison Trail hosts annual Mr. AT competition

On March 25, nine senior boys competed in Addison Trail's annual Mr. AT event. During the competition, contestants participated in a group dance, performed a talent, demonstrated their Blazer Pride, escorted a parent or guardian during the formalwear portion and competed in a question-and-answer session. The results of Mr. AT 2022 were as follows (from left): Mr. Biggest Flirt: Frank Ruggieri; Mr. Class Clown: Alex Martinez; Mr. Pearly Whites: Antonio Bruno; Mr. Smarty Pants: Sebastian Sawina; Mr. AT: Mateo Gomez; Mr. Showstopper: Adam Sakleh; Mr. Congeniality: Fernando Padua III; Mr. Sweet Talker: Enzo Ciacchia; and Mr. Luscious Locks: Michael Retondo.

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DISTRICT 88
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District 88 holds inaugural esports Super Smash Brothers Invitational

District 88 is focused on connecting with all students to foster an inclusive environment and a sense of belonging to support each child on his or her journey to success.

As part of that initiative, the dis-

trict implemented esports (short for "electronic sports") as an extracurricular opportunity for students this year.

Esports is a form of sport competition that uses video games and often

takes the form of organized, multi-player contests.

On Saturday, April 9, Addison Trail hosted the inaugural District 88 Esports Super Smash Brothers Invitational. Students from Willowbrook and Addison Trail competed in a double-elimination tournament of 1 vs. 1 Super Smash Brothers.

It was an exciting afternoon that

saw Willowbrook sophomore Yaris Austria emerge as the champion, followed by Addison Trail junior Daniel Urquide and Addison Trail senior Kristopher Guadarrama.

The following Addison Trail students participated in the event: Junior Omar Ibarra, junior Daniel Urquide, freshman Peter Sanchez, senior Kostadino Stavropoulos, senior Kris-

topher Guadarrama and sophomore Jorge Molina.

The following Willowbrook students participated in the event: Sophomore Yaris Austria, sophomore Graham Black, senior Ulises Calderon, senior Cristian Castaneda, sophomore Jared Creech, senior Carter Rojek and freshman Nicholas Van Dyke.

Edward-Elmhurst Health to distribute \$100 million Community Investment Fund

Edward-Elmhurst Health (EEH) is accepting applications from not-for-profit and nonprofit charitable organizations for monetary awards from its \$100 million Community Investment Fund. Created following EEH's merger with NorthShore University HealthSystem, the intent of the Community Investment Fund is to support organizations committed to enhancing community health and well-being, advancing health equity and contributing to local economic growth.

The Community Investment Fund helps EEH deliver on its mission to advance the health of its communities by contributing to programs that provide new or expanded benefit and align with EEH's 2022 priorities:

Community Health and Wellbeing

- Access to healthcare by underserved populations
- Advancing health equity
- Addressing social determinants of health
- Addressing mental health and substance use disorders

Local Economic Growth

- Expanding supply chain diversity
- Education, job creation and career development, with a particular focus on further developing and promoting diversity and equity in the healthcare workforce


Edward-Elmhurst Health estimates it will allocate about \$3- to \$6-million to community organizations annually via the Community Investment Fund, with \$4 million allocated in 2022. While there may be exceptions, typical funding awards are expected to be \$250,000 or greater. NorthShore recently announced the distribution of \$2.6 million to seven organizations in Lake and Cook Counties from its Community Investment Fund.

Proposals for the 2022 funding cycle will be accepted online until May 1. To submit a proposal and to learn more about the Edward-Elmhurst Health's Community Investment Fund, including award eligibility and evaluation criteria, visit www.eehealth.org/about-us/community-investment-fund.



On Saturday, April 9, Addison Trail hosted the inaugural District 88 Esports Super Smash Brothers Invitational, where students from Willowbrook and Addison Trail competed in a double-elimination tournament of 1 vs. 1 Super Smash Brothers. WB sophomore Yaris Austria emerge as the champion (center), followed by AT junior Daniel Urquide (left) and AT senior Kristopher Guadarrama.

SUBMITTED PHOTO: Rock Valley Publishing









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Public health officials announce 14,049 new cases of coronavirus last week

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) today reported 14,049 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including 45 deaths since April 8.

Currently, IDPH is reporting a total of 3,094,485 cases, including 33,510 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois since the beginning of the pandemic. The age of cases ranges from younger than one to older than 100 years.

As of April 14, 464 individuals in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 70 patients were in the ICU and 32 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators. The preliminary seven-day statewide case rate is 110 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Illinoisans.

A total of 21,648,058 vaccines have been administered in Illinois. The seven-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily is 19,799 doses. Since April 8, 138,595 doses were reported administered in Illinois.

Of Illinois' total population, more than 76 percent has received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, more

than 68 percent of Illinois' total population is fully vaccinated, and more than 50 percent is boosted according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

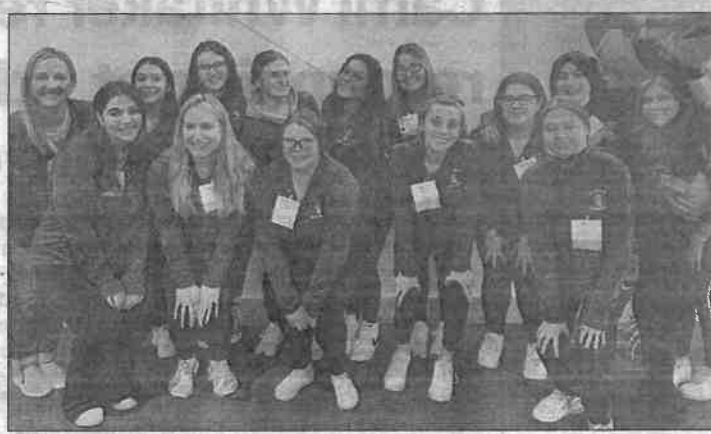
Data indicates that the risk of hospitalization and severe outcomes from COVID-19 is much higher for unvaccinated people than for those who are up to date on their vaccinations.

On April 12, IDPH announced it is using new federal guidelines for tracking COVID-19 at the community level. The new CDC guidelines emphasize the case rate and hospitalizations in order to better track the impact of COVID-19 in communities.

In addition, as a result of HHS announcing that testing providers are no longer required to report some negative test results, IDPH will no longer know how many tests are being done and will therefore no longer report test and case positivity.

All data are provisional and are subject to change.

Additional information and COVID-19 data can be found at <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19.html>.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review

Willowbrook students take part in teaching conference

Several Willowbrook High School students who are enrolled in the school's Preschool Teaching Internship class or are student assistants with the Little Warrior Preschool program attended and volunteered at the recent Illinois Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (IL ASCD) Pre-K and Kindergarten Conference in Schaumburg. The IL ASCD website describes its association as "an organization interested in issues, trends and research that relate to learning, teaching and leading. (The group) offers leadership institutes, workshops and programs that focus on the quality of teaching and learning." During the conference, students worked with Willowbrook alumna Andrea Zulawski (Class of 2019) and her mother, Nancy Zulawski, a retired School District 45 teacher. They learned about developing curriculum, differentiated instruction, play-based learning, child-centered activities, combining music and movement and social-emotional health of children and teachers. Willowbrook Career and Technical Education (CTE) teacher Stephanie Ennis helped coordinate this learning experience.

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Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.

Women's Bible Study Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

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202001

Cami Whitaker receives '88's Best' recognition at Addison Trail

Praises parents, coaches, teachers

Cami E. Whitaker was recently named as Addison Trail's April recipient of 88's Best recognition for her outstanding academic accomplishments. Whitaker, a senior, was recognized during the April 11 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

"I would consider the biggest influences on my life to be my parents, gymnastics coaches and teachers," she said. "My parents are the most tenacious and kindhearted people I know. They have raised seven children, while owning a small business – which is no easy task. They have faced many hardships, including the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and a fire at their business just this past August.

They remained optimistic through everything and worked even harder to reopen their doors. They have been the best support system and set the ultimate example for my siblings and me.

"When you spend as much time as I do in the gym, you become very close with your coaches. My coaches taught me how to be a persistent and forward-thinking person through multiple injuries and surgeries. Most importantly, they taught me how to accept and learn from my failures. I also have been extremely grateful for the support of my teachers through these unprecedented times. Their passion for teaching and connection to their students have truly made an impact on all of us."

Academic and extracurricular achievements:

- Named as a State Scholar
- Named to the Honor Roll all four years of her high school career
- Named as AT's Best Involvement at Addison Trail:

"When you spend as much time as I do in the gym, you become very close with your coaches. My coaches taught me how to be a persistent and forward-thinking person through multiple injuries and surgeries. Most importantly, they taught me how to accept and learn from my failures." — Cami Whitaker

- Math Team
- Marching Band
- Community involvement:
- Club gymnastics (trains 20 hours a week as a level 10 gymnast)
- Coaches gymnastics and babysits on the weekends
- Future plans:
- Whitaker plans to attend Cornell University's College of Engineering, with the intention of majoring in mechanical engineering and minoring in robotics.
- While Cornell University doesn't award merit aid or athletic scholarships, Whitaker received a financial package to compete for the Women's Gymnastics Team.
- Whitaker hopes to pursue a career in the robotics field, working on innovative technology.

"Growing up in gymnastics, you are constantly trying to reach 'perfection,'" she said. "This perfectionism has translated to many other aspects of my life, especially school. I have always been motivated to have perfect grades, a perfect GPA, etc. I have always been fascinated by the advancement of technology and curious as to how many benefits of technology we have yet to explore. That curiosity has grown into a desire to be a part of the team behind these advancements, which motivated me to do well in school to further my education."

Staff member comments:

"Whitaker was an absolute joy to have in Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level English Language and Composition last year. She consistently participated with her Zoom camera on and was eager to discuss the readings we were analyzing. Her thoughtful contributions demonstrated nuanced understandings of the texts at hand and highlighted her close, critical reading skills. Whitaker's essays consistently stood out from those of her classmates, because they were clear, concise, well-organized and well-supported arguments and

analyses. When she was sidelined by a medical issue, Whitaker didn't miss a beat (or a class for that matter). She kept pushing herself to complete her work and get the most out of class. Her determination and tenacity are her calling card and will serve her well as she heads off to college."

— Amy Ferraro, AT English Department Head

"Whitaker has been one of the most extraordinary students I have worked with in my career. Her continued work ethic, along with her dedication to both her academics and athletics, will put her on a path for great success at Cornell University and beyond!"

— Kevin Redding, AT Director of Guidance

"Whitaker is AMAZING! She is a highly focused young woman, who is a role model for her peers. Whitaker always has her goals in mind, and I am so excited to hear about the impressive feats she will accomplish after graduation."

— Kira Bonk, AT science teacher



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Cami E. Whitaker is pictured here with Addison Trail Principal Jack Andrews has been named as Addison Trail's April recipient of 88's Best recognition for her outstanding academic accomplishments. Whitaker, a senior, was recognized during the April 11 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

•USBC (Continued from front page)

Suites by Hilton in Downers Grove was selected by tournament organizers as the host hotel, with dozens of other hotels throughout DuPage County additionally allocating rooms for the tournament room block.

With overnight stays and visitation spread throughout the county, this tournament is a strong example of how DSC and DCVB play a role unmatched by any other organization.

"When we hosted the Junior Gold Championships in 2015, the event generated such significant hotel compression that we saw an occupancy lift throughout DuPage on the Smith Travel Report," said Marchetti. "That is our goal as we pursue sporting events—and it requires work across multiple municipalities and a shared vision for outcomes. These types of wins are only possible

with collaboration."

Village of Addison Mayor Richard Veenstra stated, "The Village of Addison is proud to support the vision of Stardust Bowl owner Henry Barber along with DuPage Sports Commission's vision for sports tourism. Our community team has worked diligently in partnership with Beth and Jim to stand ready to welcome guests to Addison. We look forward to welcoming the bowlers to our community and are excited to be a part of what we know will be a successful tournament for USBC athletes."

Second in size only to the USBC Open Championships in Las Vegas, the Women's Championships staff reports over 3,400 registered teams. Spectators are welcome and admission is free.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Addison Trail English students visit Holocaust Museum

On April 6, 15 Addison Trail students in teacher Annette Severino's English 10 Bridge Program classes visited the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center in Skokie. Dean Alejandro Guzman attended as well. The class recently read and discussed the novel "Night" by Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, and the field trip was

a way for the students to experience what they read about and empathize with those who are being oppressed. The museum's theme is "Take a Stand" against injustice and treat people with respect.

Bond set for Addison man accused of arson at Elmhurst BMW dealership

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and Elmhurst Chief of Police Michael Ruth have announced that bond has been set for an Addison man accused of setting



Dario Salas, 40, appeared at a bond hearing where Judge John Kinsella set bond at \$200,000 with 10 percent to apply. Salas has been charged with two counts of arson, a Class 2 felony.

On April 13 at approximately 1:14 a.m., officers with the Elmhurst Police Department responded to the Elmhurst BMW car dealership located in the 500 block of W. Lake St., for a vehicle on fire in the west parking lot.

Upon their arrival, officers found a black Audi on fire. The Elmhurst Fire Department arrived on scene and extinguished the fire.

It is alleged that on April 13, at approximately 1 a.m., an individual, later identified as Salas, entered the BMW parking lot from the northwest corner and approached the Audi vehicles parked in the west parking lot. It is alleged that Salas then poured gasoline on the vehicle, set the vehicle on fire and then left the parking lot.

An investigation into the matter led authorities to Salas who was taken into custody by Elmhurst officers

"I commend the Elmhurst Police Department for their outstanding work in identifying the fire as intentional and for their work in not only identifying Mr. Salas as the man who allegedly started the fire, but also for their extremely quick apprehension of the defendant."

— Robert Berlin

following a traffic stop in Addison less than two hours later.

"It is alleged that Mr. Salas intentionally set fire to an Audi located at the Elmhurst BMW car dealership," Berlin said. "Thankfully, the Elmhurst Fire Department was able to contain the fire to the Audi with just the two vehicles on each side of the Audi sustaining some damage. I commend the Elmhurst Police Department for their outstanding work in identifying the fire as intentional and for their work in not only identifying Mr. Salas as the man who allegedly started the fire, but also for their extremely quick apprehension of the defendant."

Salas' next court appearance is scheduled for May 11 for arraignment in front of Judge Kinsella.

Coming events

Friday, April 22
Digital converting:
8mm film to MP4

From 1-2 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, learn how to use the Creative Studio's digitization equipment to convert 8mm film reels to MP4. This class will provide a demo of the converting process. Note: The Wolverine converter works with 8mm and Super8 film reels, but does not work with 8mm or Hi8 video tapes. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

Saturday, April 23
Drop-in crafts
(for kids)

From 2-2:45 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, stop by and make something with us. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

Monday, April 25
to Friday, April 29
Hive Mind (for teens)

From 3-4:30 p.m. each day at the Addison Public Library, we'll showcase different ways to calm down, focus, and recharge. Try some ASMR, simple crafts, or talk with experts about mental health. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events

Monday, April 25
Discover the
Life Changing Power
of Meditation

Starting at 7 p.m. on Zoom via the Addison Public Library, join long time meditator Arlene Sammel for this transformational workshop. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

Tuesday, April 26
The job search for
older professionals

From 10 a.m. to noon on Zoom via the Addison Public Library, whether you have been looking for a new job for a while or are newly seeking a part-time job after retirement, we'll show you how to adapt your job search strategies for success. We'll explore the new job search norms, filling out online applications, understanding inter-generational work values, succeeding in the interview, and more. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

• **Microsoft Excel basics**

Starting at 7 p.m. at the Adult Program Room of the Addison Public Library, this class will teach Excel skills such as using basic formatting and formulas. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

Wednesday, April 27
Mid-day Desk Stretch

Starting at 11 a.m. on Zoom via the Addison Public Library, join us for a series of low-impact stretching exercises we can do in our home or work offices to offset our sedentary work lives. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

• **Project Fresh (for teens)**

Starting at 3 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, each month we'll give you a bag of fruits and veggies, a secret ingredient to make them delicious, and a new challenge to develop your cooking skills. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events

• **Meet the threats**

Starting at 7 p.m. at the large meeting room of the Addison Public Library, share your opinions at this roundtable discussion of current events from foreign policy and social issues to the business world and the legal system. If you're concerned about the direction the U.S. is heading, this program is for you. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

Thursday, April 28
Is this a good time
to start a business?

From noon to 1 p.m. on Zoom via the Addison Public Library, Our speaker will walk you through different business models, answer your questions, and share resources and a handout you can use to determine if the time is right for you to become a business owner. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

• **Windows & Mirrors Book Club (grades 3-5)**

From 6 to 6:45 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, join us for a discussion of *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf. In the book, a new student named Ahmet arrives in Mrs. Khan's class, and one child is determined to befriend him.

All participants will receive a free copy of the book to keep; copies will be available starting Apr. 1. Limit 6 participants. Recommended for grades 3-5.

Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

See EVENTS, Page 12

Working to thwart organized retail crime

To support retailers, update prosecuting resources and promote statewide economic growth, the Illinois Senate adopted a measure led by state Sen. Suzy Glowiak Hilton (D-Western Springs) to curb organized retail crime and hold ringleaders accountable.

"Organized retail crimes across the state have disturbed residents, wreaked havoc on businesses and stunted growth within local economies," Glowiak Hilton said. "By advancing the

Organized Retail Crime Act, Illinois has an opportunity to enact one of the most comprehensive crime-curbing efforts in the nation."

In partnership with the Illinois Retail Merchants Association and the office of the attorney general, Glowiak Hilton's initiative defines organized retail crime as a criminal charge and gives prosecutors additional resources to charge crime ringleaders. Specifically, the measure codifies ORC as the

theft of retail merchandise with the intent to sell.

Under the proposal, prosecutors would have new opportunities to bring charges against offenders regardless of where the crimes takes place. For example, if the conspiracy, theft and selling occurred in different jurisdictions, each jurisdiction would have the ability to prosecute the entire crime. The Illinois attorney general would also have the ability to prosecute via a statewide

grand jury.

"The measure targets individuals stealing for profit, not anyone engaging in petty shoplifting," Glowiak Hilton said. "Deterring retail crime starts with supporting law enforcement, holding criminals responsible and making it tougher to resell stolen goods."

To prevent stolen goods from being sold online, the measure also creates the Integrity, Notification and Fairness in Online Retail Marketplaces for Con-

sumers Act, or the INFORM Act, to require third-party sellers to verify identity with bank account numbers other personal identifying information. Sellers who do not comply may be penalized.

As amended, House Bill 1 moves for concurrence consideration in the House.

Editor's note: This was submitted by the office of State Sen. Suzy Glowiak Hilton.

Addison Trail's Orchesis plans annual show

'Don't Stop the Dancing' comes to the stage April 29-30

On Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30, Addison Trail will present its annual Orchesis Show in the auditorium at Addison Trail High School. Curtain times are 7 p.m. each evening, plus an additional performance at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

This year's theme is "Don't Stop the Dancing" and the event will feature more than 20 dance numbers that showcase an array of styles such as hip-hop, jazz, lyrical, salsa, modern-contemporary and musical theatre. Every aspect of the show—from the choreography, to the costumes to the set and lighting—is run by students, and the production will feature 30 dancers, 30 escorts and five hosts.

The Orchesis recently elected new officers which include: co-presidents junior Miabella DiGrazia and senior Gabriela Rojo; publicity, seniors Monserrat Berrum and Jennifer Valdez; secretary senior Maria Angela Doudalis; treasurer senior Marissa

Zuccherro; wardrobe juniors Domenica D'Ugo and Aiste Stipienius; and, historian junior Ava Colella.

The officers are happy to perform in person with no restrictions for the first time since 2019, prior to the pandemic. They also are excited to have an added date this year, as the school will host three shows.

"The audience members can look forward to a high-energy performance, with strong technique and new types of dances we haven't done in a while," the officers said.

"They also can expect to see that 'wow' factor. We want them to have as good of a time as we're having on stage."

Tickets at \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and children ages 3-12 and \$3 for senior citizens, but are free to District 88 students with an ID and seniors with a District 88 Senior Gold Card. Family activity passes are not accepted for this event.

Hoffman Estates woman gets three years for starving two dogs to death

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin has announced the second of two individuals accused of starving two dogs to death has been sentenced to three years in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC)—the maximum available penalty.

Sarah Gorski, 21, of Hoffman Estates, appeared in court in front of Judge Michael Reidy, who handed down the sentence. On Feb. 22, Gorski entered a plea of guilty to three counts of aggravated cruelty to animals, a Class 4 felony.

On Nov. 8, 2021, Gorski's co-defendant, Andre Norris, 29, of Hoffman Estates, was sentenced to three years in the IDOC, the maximum available penalty, after previously entering a plea of guilty to three counts of aggravated cruelty to animals, also in front of Judge Reidy.

On March 2, Naperville officers and Naperville animal control personnel responded to a trail area regarding a disposed of dead German shepherd. The German shepherd, later identified as Meliodas, or "Otis," was found wrapped in a bed sheet in a storage container in a wooded area near a drainage ditch. He weighed approximately 20 pounds, while this type of dog should normally weigh approximately 70 pounds.

An investigation into the matter led authorities to Gorski and Norris as the owners of Otis.

The investigation also found that the defendants had owned at least two other dogs, Scooby and Bubba.

Through the detectives' investigation, it was learned that none of the dogs had many visits to the veterinarian.

On March 12, a search warrant was executed on the defendants' home. When investigators arrived, they found Scooby, a German shepherd/bound mix, in a rusted dog crate, filled with animal feces, blood, and urine.

He weighed approximately 20 pounds, was severely starved, could not walk, had massive sores including one where you could almost see his bone and had feces stuck in his fur.

Bubba, a Corgi, was not located at this time. Through their investigation, authorities learned that Bubba had died in the first week of March. Investigators subsequently found Bubba in a field wrapped in a sheet where Gorski and Norris dumped him.

Both Otis and Bubba were sent to the University of Illinois Veterinary School for a necropsy where it was determined that Otis died from canine parvovirus, starvation and rat poisoning. Bubba, who weighed only four pounds when he was found, died of severe starvation.

"Simply put, with Sarah Gorski and Andre Norris responsible for their well-being, Otis and Bubba never stood a chance," Berlin said.

Gorski will begin serving her sentence on June 2. She will be required to serve 50 percent of her sentence before being eligible for parole.

•Events

(Continued from page 5)

Silhouette Studio Basics: Monograms

From 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Adult Program Room of the Addison Public Library, learn the basics of Silhouette Studio, the design software used for the Silhouette Cameo vinyl cutter. This class will show you the basic editing tools and steps for creating a monogram. Designs created in Silhouette Studio can be cut using the Silhouette Cameo into vinyl for decorating towels, glasses, wood signs, and more. Call 630-543-3617 or learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

Friday, April 29 Story time outside

From 10-10:30 a.m. at the Addison Public Library, it's back. Join us for Story Time Outside on the west lawn of the library. Bring a blanket to sit on if you would like one. After story time, you may decorate the sidewalk with chalk and take home a craft. During the April 29 session, we will celebrate El día de los libros/Children's Book Day! All participants ages 2 and older must wear a face covering if not able to social distance. This program is limited to 15 children total and their caregivers; all children

must be accompanied by a caregiver. Registration is now open. Register for each session separately.

Ongoing events Addison Park District Swim Clinic

This is perfect for children who have passed out of the Dolphins Level in group lessons. Swim Clinic is a great way to introduce children to swim team. To qualify to be in swim clinic, your child must be able to swim freestyle and backstroke properly for 50 yards without stopping. In Swim Clinic, they will learn proper starts and finishes, work on making their strokes legal for competition, and get familiar with common drills and games that occur in practice on a swim team. The class will have an emphasis on stroke technique and endurance. Dates: Session 2: May 2-26. Times: 7-8 p.m. Days: Tuesday and Thursday. Info: addisonparks.org.

Addison Road Warriors Running Club for ages 16 and over

Are you currently a runner or thinking about getting into running? Joining a running club has

great advantages for all running abilities. Our club will incorporate various distances, paces, and surfaces to perform your best. It will provide guidance on goal setting, strengthening, flexibility and nutrition geared specifically for runners. Local races will also be targeted in this program. Location: Club Fitness. Info: addisonparks.org.

Open enrollment is ongoing for the Addison Park District Preschool

The Addison Park District preschool program curriculum reflects the Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards. Visit www.illinoisearlylearning.org for more details. The Park District helps children develop prekindergarten skills, including letter/name recognition, listening skills, healthy habits, cooperative play, fine motor, and socialization skills. The experiences are both educational and recreational, which aid in social, physical, intellectual, and emotional growth. Registration is taken in-person at the Centennial Rec Center. Call (630) 233-7275 option 3 for registration availability. Visit addisonparks.org for required paperwork due prior to first day of

program.

Join the Addison All Star Summer Day Camp Program beginning June 13

Participants will go on supervised hikes, learn to play sports, adventure out to new outdoor places, plant a children's garden, create arts and crafts projects, have fun with dance parties, and will enjoy fitness and movie days. The program will operate in small ratios and groups which will enable participants to receive individual attention in a fun, safe environment. Enroll in a five day a week option or as little as two days a week. Times: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Community Recreation Center. Info: addisonparks.org.

English conversation groups

At 2 p.m. Mondays on Zoom, and at 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Adult Program Room of the Addison Public Library, practice listening and speaking skills in a small group setting. Learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

English reading circle

At 11 a.m. Tuesdays at the Adult

Program Room of the Addison Public Library. Learn more at: addisonlibrary.org/events.

¡Hola! (drop-in)

Join the Addison Public Library on Thursdays from 10:45 to 11 a.m. for an in-person bilingual story time in Spanish and English. Info: addisonlibrary.org or 630-543-3617.

Computer basics

Learn computer basics from p.m. at the Adult Program Room of the Addison Public Library. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-543-3617.

Heroes story time

From 10-10:30 a.m. at the Addison Public Library, join us stories and activities about evil day heroes, superheroes, and more. Info: addisonlibrary.org or 630-543-3617.

Clubs and organizations are welcome to send entries for this column to: news1@rvpublishing.com. Please include a phone number, e-mail address to contact for information.

Villa Park REVIEW

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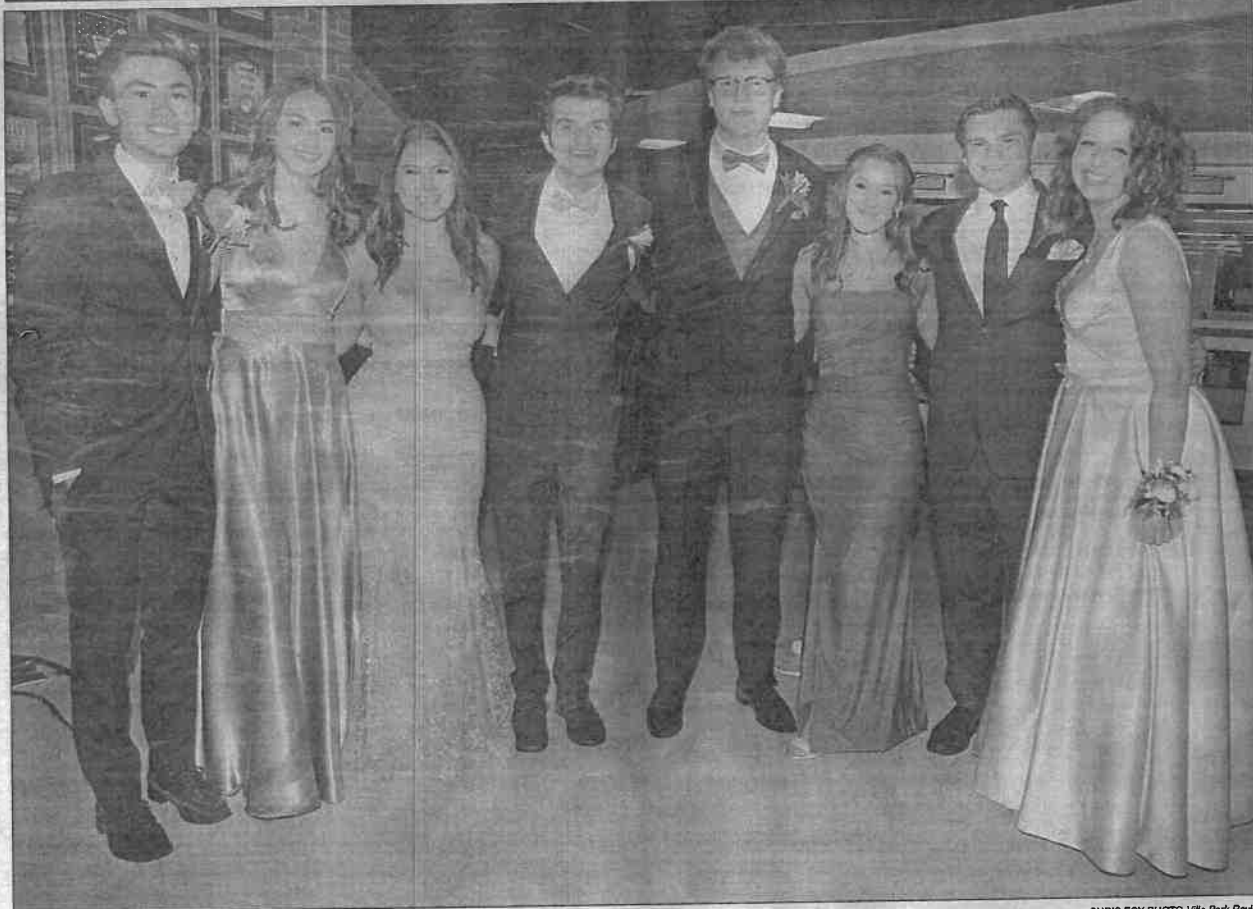
Register at the Deer Grove Leisure
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For more info visit
BvilleParks.org

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THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

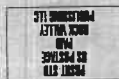
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SAX



Off to the prom

Willowbrook High School held its 2022 prom on Friday evening at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. About 500 students boarded buses at Willowbrook to head to the prom. Pictured (left to right) at the school are: junior Quinten Terselle, junior Alyssa McKenna, junior Samantha Tantilla, sophomore Sean O'Brochta, junior Bobby Ernst, junior Sarah Kosanda, Sean Shepherd (a 2021 Willowbrook graduate) and junior Amella Tortorici.

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Tips to help older adults combat loneliness, isolation

Humans are social beings. Even before the coronavirus disrupted social lives, experts have long studied the health effects of isolation and loneliness. There's one group at high risk—older adults.

As people get older, many are alone more often. This lack of connection leaves them vulnerable.

Loneliness (the feeling of being alone) and social isolation (a lack of social connections) affect a significant number of older adults in the U.S.

Many adults aged 50 and older are socially isolated or lonely in ways that put their health at risk, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

"Health problems associated with social isolation and loneliness include depression, anxiety, cognitive decline, obesity, high blood pressure, heart

disease, stroke, dementia and Alzheimer's disease," said Charles Lawler, M.D., with Elmhurst Memorial Medical Group, an internal medicine physician who specializes in geriatrics. "Some studies suggest that people who feel lonely may have weakened immune cells and have trouble fighting off illnesses."

What can older adults do to prevent the negative health effects of social isolation and loneliness? First, talk to a doctor.

A doctor can assess their risk for loneliness and social isolation and work with them to help prevent associated medical conditions.

People can also try these tips to combat loneliness and isolation as they age:

- Engage in meaningful, productive activities with others.

- Join a support group for older adults or a religious organization for spiritual support.

- Find a sense of purpose. It's a buffer against stress, anxiety and depression.

- Structure days by setting goals that become part of a regular routine.
- Help others by volunteering at a hospital, animal shelter or organization.

- Work for a social cause with others who share the same values.

- Do something they enjoy each day (e.g., reading, writing, drawing, music, puzzles, games).

- Take a class (e.g., art, cooking, swimming, yoga)

- Practice gratitude. It can lead to more life satisfaction, among other health benefits.

- Maintain a healthy lifestyle (e.g.,

eat well, get good sleep, exercise regularly).

- Consult with a doctor who has expertise in geriatric populations and/or seek help from a professional geriatric counselor.

- Access community resources, including AARP, Illinois Department on Aging, Eldercare Locator and National Council on Aging.

Keep in mind, people can feel lonely regardless of the amount of social contact they have. Some people don't mind being alone and don't feel lonely when they're alone. Others feel lonely while among a group of people.

Changes in mood, energy level or appetite that persist or interfere with everyday life should not be dismissed as a normal part of getting older.

For more information, visit EE-Health.org.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Prom night

About 500 students attended Willowbrook High School's 2022 prom on Friday night at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. Several buses transported the students from Willowbrook to the prom. One photo (left) at the school shows (left to right) seniors Vince Vassolo, Marc Collura, Jordan Flynn, Max Silkalitis and Cristian Lager. Another photo (below left) shows (left to right) seniors Rocco Luczak, Sophie Sullivan, Elizabeth Garcia and Leo Latiker. One more photo (below right) shows (left to right) seniors Emily Maher, Katie Wentworth and Damian Rocha. Willowbrook's Class of 2022 will hold its commencement ceremony in the school's main gymnasium on Sunday, May 22.



Warriors close week with a victory over Argo

*Triumph at
College of
DuPage lifts
team's record
to 5-1*

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook softball team won two of three games last week to improve its overall season record to 5-1.

The Warriors began the week with a 7-6 loss at Plainfield South on April 11. One day later, Willowbrook defeated Proviso West 14-1 in a five-inning game in Villa Park. The Warriors finished the week with Saturday's 5-2 victory over Argo in a contest played at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn.

Freshman Sonia Ruchala went 2-for-2 in last week's game against Plainfield South. Ruchala scored one run and drove in one run. Senior Grace Hayes delivered a 2-for-4 effort at the plate with one run batted in.

The Warriors scored three runs in the top of the sixth inning to take a 6-5 lead, but Plainfield South won the game by scoring two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Willowbrook scored seven runs in the first inning of its game against Proviso West. The Warriors added two runs in the second inning, one

run in the third inning and four runs in the fourth inning.

Ruchala went 3-for-3 with a double and a triple in the win over Proviso West. She scored two runs and drove in three runs. Senior Josie Chiano also drove in three runs for the Warriors, while junior Emily Pearson drove in two runs.

Freshman Hannah Kenny pitched a complete game for the Warriors in their victory over Proviso West. Kenny recorded 13 strikeouts in five innings. She allowed one hit and one walk.

Argo scored two runs in the top of the first inning of Saturday's game, but Willowbrook responded with four runs in the bottom of the first inning. The Warriors added one more run in the fifth inning.

Willowbrook connected for three hits in the game, while Argo had just two hits. The Warriors committed three errors. The Argonauts made five errors.

Junior Kayleigh Dennison went 1-for-3 and scored two runs for Willowbrook in Saturday's win. Sophomore Karman Rowe pitched a complete game for the Warriors. She allowed two hits and no earned runs over seven innings. Rowe, who fired 101 pitches in the game, recorded four strikeouts while allowing three walks.

Willowbrook will open its West Suburban Gold Conference season with this week's games against Downers Grove South, Morton and Leyden.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

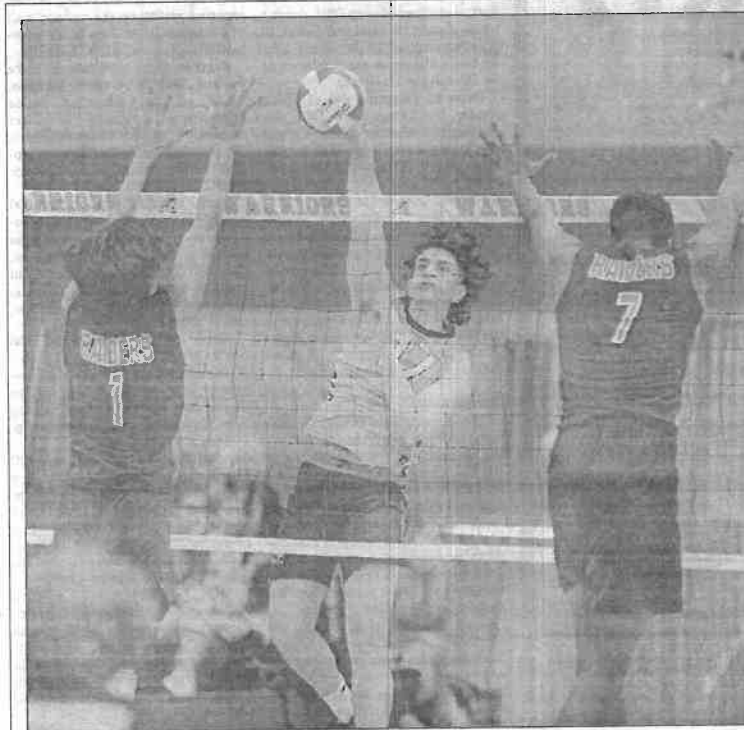
Willowbrook's softball team earned a 5-2 win over Argo on Saturday in a game played at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. The Warriors improved their overall season record to 5-1 with the victory. One photo from Saturday's game shows sophomore catcher Isabella Dugo firing the ball to first base. Another photo shows junior Kayleigh Dennison connecting for a double in the fifth inning. Dennison eventually scored on a groundout by senior Caitlyn Kulczynski to give the Warriors a 5-2 lead. Argo scored two runs in the top of the first inning. Willowbrook scored four runs in the bottom of the first inning.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Warriors at the net

Willowbrook's boys volleyball team faced Bolingbrook in last week's match in Villa Park. The visiting Raiders defeated Willowbrook 25-19, 25-21 in the April 13 contest. While Willowbrook's overall record dropped to 3-8 with the loss, head coach Ryan Bazon noted that the team has been very competitive in most of its matches this season. Senior Michael Mosbah (left - No. 17) provided eight kills and six digs for the Warriors. Senior Dom Faillo contributed 16 assists and one ace, while junior Brandon Edwards supplied five kills, four digs and one ace. Senior Joey Pearson made six digs. Another photo from the match shows junior Patrick Dasbach (above - No. 14). The Warriors will play at an Invitational at Downers Grove South this Friday and Saturday.



Speak Out

Call
630-
629-
TALK

email: speakout@rvpublishing.com



I'm reading the Speak Out of Thursday, April 7, and I'm getting thoroughly disgusted. Practically every single comment in that week's Speak Out is nothing but Biden bashing. It's getting a little ridiculous. Yeah, Biden's trying to do the best he can for this country. Many of us voted for him. That's why he's there: to try to do what he can so he can help the United States and survive what Trump had destroyed. Thank you.

There are a lot of people trying to support the current federal government, but we must really focus on the train wreck of representatives we have locally. Illinois will not change until we get rid of the folks who voted to teach your children about sex. Illinois is a train wreck and all the Madigan money that bought them is gone. We need change. Vote them out!

A recent caller advised we should frown when seeing coal being transported. Why? Coal is used for electricity production, aluminum production, steel manufacturing, cement and paper production, etc. If this caller does not have any cement in his or her life to drive or walk on, uses no electricity, no steel in their car, no aluminum uses and no paper uses, then frown at the coal train.

I'm enjoying watching the left squirm and have conniption fits over Elon Musk's offer to buy Twitter. Maybe if he takes over Twitter, he will get rid of the twits on Twitter who only censor conservative viewpoints. When is the last time you've heard of anyone on the left being banned from Twitter?

Hi, this for the guy who runs Villa Park. When I voted for you, you made it sound like you were going to fix all kinds of stuff. Nothing has been done. The streets are worse than ever. There are more potholes than ever. And now, I'm betting the newspaper won't put this in. Bye.

When the news media reports that the U.S. gave in Ukraine \$800 million in military aid, do they give them cash or equipment? If they give equipment, is it the inflated price the government pays for everything, or is it the real cost? Remember the \$400 toilet seats the military used to buy? And why do we make public the list of things we are going to send? The Russians monitor our news media and get a step ahead. Thank you.

I do not consider myself an expert on Ukrainian-Russian history or relations. I fly a Ukrainian flag in front of my house. I support the Ukrainian people and abhor the destruction of city after city. People: men, women and children are being slaughtered in the streets. This is simply a case of evil versus good. It is not a morality play because people are bleeding and dying. Evil must not succeed.

This week's truism: It's amazing when you see two normal-looking human beings watch or observe an event and they can have such a difference of opinion on what actually happened. You see that even more today in American politics.

I am totally amazed how throughout DuPage County, there are no allowances for yellow blinking lights on streets and roads or yellow/red lights late at night. What we have is, in fact, the complete opposite, where you have stop lights on timers. And the amount of gas wasted waiting at red lights when there's no traffic on the opposite side is unbelievable. More needs to be done. Explain why we cannot have yellow blinking lights like they have downstate or in Wisconsin.

To all the people who want to give the homeless job applications, or take them to places that they know are hiring so they can get work, I have one question for you: Why don't you take them to work with you and you hire them? When people don't have a place to properly clean up, or have the clothes to wear to a job, or have the ability to get to and from that job, or even have a fixed address or P.O. box to put in their application, those are roadblocks to them getting employment. So, it's not as cut-and-dried as you think. Thank you.

Most of us hard-core Democrats need to realize our party is no longer what it was. Evolution takes its toll in politics and everyday life; some good, some bad. Our strong lead in socialism over the conservatives in government may be short-lived when we run out of the people's money. We need to do more than label people racist, etc. We Americans need to preserve America as one. E pluribus unum. Remember?

President Biden, why don't you swallow your pride and open up the Keystone Pipeline? Do something good for a change and get us out of recession. Bye.

Crime is a problem in our country. What should we do about it? Here's a good idea: let's open our southern border to allow millions of people to illegally pour into our nation. I'm sure absolutely none of the people who are coming in are involved with drugs, gangs, human trafficking or other criminal activity. Biden deserves to be impeached for dereliction of duty.

The new Illinois revenue law recently passed needs to require signs on gas pumps. The sign should state: "As of July 1, 2022, the State of Illinois has suspended the inflation

adjustment to the motor fuel tax through Dec. 31, 2022. The price on this pump should reflect the suspension of the tax increase" and threatens a fine of \$500 a day on stations that don't comply. This is very hypocritical. In 2019, the Illinois politicians passed a 38-cent increase in the gas tax. They did not require signs for this adjustment. Hm. It must be an election year. This is what makes Illinois a joke. This measure is not eliminating a gas tax; it is only delaying the increase. Big deal. Can't wait until fall when we will get a whopping \$50 check from

the state with the governor's r on it. Funny how these will be right before the election. Gotta Illinois politics.

So I hear members of the Ill. House and Senate passed the la spending plan in state history also voted themselves more \$485,000 in cost of living incre. Keep all this in mind when you getting campaign literature this from the incumbent representa and senators around here who posedly have been looking ou you in Springfield the last two y



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishi

Warriors tangle with Morton

Willowbrook's girls soccer team played three matches last week. All three matches were part of the Plainfield Classic Tournament. The Warriors began the week with a 4-0 win over Stagg on April 11. Junior Kennedy Vannoy scored three goals in the victory. Senior Erin Fitzgibbon added one goal. Senior Brooke Vandergriff provided three assists, while Fitzgibbon delivered one assist. Willowbrook played a West Suburban Gold Conference match against Morton on April 14 in Villa Park. In addition to being a conference match, the contest was part of the Plainfield Classic. Morton defeated Willowbrook 5-0. The Mustangs held a 3-0 halftime lead in the battle, which took place in extremely windy conditions. Willowbrook's conference record slipped to 1-1 with the loss.

Unfortunately for the Warrior: Vannoy suffered an injury late in the first half of the match against Morton. Vannoy (No. 9) is pictured at left during that match. Another photo (above) from the match shows junior Molly Brennan (No. 15, left) and senior Izzy Manning (No. 24, right). The Warriors finished the tournament with Saturday's 3-1 loss to Dundee-Crown in Plainfield. Fitzgibbon scored Willowbrook's goal with an assist from senior Rachael Klamecki. Saturday's loss moved the Warriors' overall season record to 6-4. Willowbrook's schedule this week includes Friday's home match against Glenbard East

