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THURSDAY, SEPT. 1, 2022



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

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Friday night football in Villa Park

Willowbrook High School's football team kicked off its 2022 season with Friday night's home game against Notre Dame College Prep School of Niles. The halftime entertainment included performances from Willowbrook's cheerleaders, dance team and marching band. At the end of their performance on the field, the band members marched toward the stadium track and played "Hey! Baby" in front of Willowbrook's student section. Some enthusiastic students are pictured while band played nearby. The Warriors' fans didn't have much to cheer about during the game. The visiting Dons from Notre Dame built a 14-0 halftime lead and went on to beat Willowbrook 28-0. The Warriors will play another home game this Friday, when they will face Downers Grove North.

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Warriors are ready for more success

Willowbrook begins new season with wins over Bartlett and East Aurora

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team began its 2022 season with last week's 25-14, 25-10 win over Bartlett in Villa Park.

Two days after beating Bartlett, the Warriors improved to 2-0 when they earned a 25-12, 25-6 win at East Aurora.

This year's Willowbrook team is trying to build on the success of last year's spectacular season. The Warriors posted an overall record of 37-2 in 2021. The team won the West Suburban Gold Conference title with a perfect 6-0 record during the regular season. Willowbrook proceeded to win the program's first regional title by claiming the championship plaque at a regional on its home court. The Warriors then won a sectional title, beating Wheaton Warrenville South in a sectional final to earn the plaque at the IHSA Class 4A Bartlett Sectional.

Willowbrook's memorable 2021 season ended with a loss to Mother McAuley in an IHSA super-sectional match on the Mighty Macs' home court.

Willowbrook head coach Irene Mason said this year's team, which includes several returning players from last season, has discussed the success of 2021. Most of the Warriors' focus, however, is concentrated on the current season.

"We talked about it, just to re-

member the feeling of what it was like when we were one game away with that super-sectional loss," said Mason after Willowbrook's season-opening win over Bartlett on Aug. 22. "Other than that, we're forgetting about last year, and we've got a new team that's doing things and our goal is to be better than last year."

Mason noted that last year's success has led to high expectations for the Warriors, who attracted a large and spirited student section for their season opener against Bartlett.

"Seeing these girls and how they step up under the pressure situations is exciting, and it makes things fun," said Mason of the team's players.

Willowbrook junior Calli Kenny provided six kills, eight assists, five digs and two aces in last week's win over Bartlett. Her sister—sophomore Hannah Kenny—added five kills, 11 assists and four digs. Senior Natalie Cipriano supplied five kills, two aces and three digs. Sophomore Anna Marinier contributed five blocks, while junior Elle Bruschuk had two kills, four aces, five digs and four assists.

Junior Eliza Ramey delivered three kills and two blocks in the Warriors' season-opening victory. Senior Grace Conley had two digs and two assists.

Calli Kenny had four kills, seven assists and four digs in the Warriors' win at East Aurora on Aug. 24. Hannah Kenny piled up four kills, 11



assists, three aces and five digs. Cipriano, Bruschuk and Marinier each bashed three kills. Conley made six digs.

Willowbrook's schedule this week includes home matches against Fenwick and Lyons Township, along with the Warriors' own invitational, which takes place this Friday and Saturday. Willowbrook will open its West Suburban Gold Conference season with a home match against Addison Trail on Sept. 6.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's girls volleyball team started its 2022 season with last week's 25-14, 25-10 victory over Bartlett in Villa Park on Aug. 22. Junior Calli Kenny (above - No. 9) contributed six kills, eight assists, two aces and five digs in the win. Sophomore Hannah Kenny (below - No. 6) provided five kills, 11 assists and four digs. Sophomore Anna Marinier (top left - No. 15) delivered five blocks. Willowbrook improved its record to 2-0 following its 25-12, 25-6 win at East Aurora on Aug. 24. This year's Warriors are trying to build on the success of the 2021 team, which captured conference, regional and sectional titles. Last season's Willowbrook team compiled an overall record of 37-2. The Warriors' 2021 season ended with a loss to Mother McAuley in an IHSA Class 4A super-sectional.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Warriors
vs.
Rams

The Willowbrook girls tennis team edged Glenbard East 4-3 in last week's dual meet in Villa Park. The Aug. 25 competition between nearby schools featured three singles matches and four doubles contests. Willowbrook senior Molly Brennan (above left) earned a 6-2, 6-1 win in the No. 1 singles match. The Warriors' No. 1 doubles team of juniors Lauren Carson (above middle) and Jasmine Langston (above right) delivered a 6-2, 6-4 victory. Willowbrook's tandem of senior Maggie Anderson and junior Brenda Martinez prevailed at No. 2 doubles. Anderson and Martinez won the first set 7-6 and lost the second set 6-2. The pair of Warriors secured a 10-7 win in the tiebreaker. Willowbrook's No. 3 doubles team of sophomores Ella Lopez and Avery Solis also won in a tiebreaker. Like their teammates at No. 2 doubles, Lopez and Solis won the first set 7-6, lost the second set 6-2 and prevailed 10-7 in the tiebreaker. The Warriors opened their season with a 7-0 win over Elmwood Park on Aug. 22.



Willowbrook's offense struggles in a 28-0 loss to Notre Dame

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook football team opened its 2022 season with Friday's 28-0 home loss to Notre Dame College Prep School of Niles. The visiting Dons scored two first-half touchdowns to build a 14-0 halftime lead. Notre Dame added two more touchdowns in the second half.

"We never really established anything offensively," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth after the game. "We couldn't do anything to take the pressure off of our defense."

Hildreth noted that a couple of Willowbrook miscues gave the Dons great field position on their first two touchdown drives. One of those miscues took place when the Warriors were attempting a punt and missed a blocking assignment. Willowbrook also turned the ball over on an interception to put

the Dons in position for another touchdown drive.

Notre Dame scored its first touchdown on a 7-yard run in the first quarter. The Dons added another 7-yard touchdown run in the second quarter. A 9-yard touchdown run at the start of the fourth quarter helped the Dons push their lead to 21-0. Notre Dame scored its final touchdown of the night on a 20-yard pass with about five minutes to play.

The Warriors' season continues with another home game this week. Willowbrook will face Downers Grove North (1-0) this Friday in Villa Park. The Trojans began their season with a 36-13 win over Hoffman Estates.

The Warriors will begin their West Suburban Gold Conference schedule when they travel to Proviso East on Sept. 9.



I hope Trump is eventually prosecuted and goes to jail, but if Trump somehow gets through this, I bet the Trumpians will force Republicans to nominate him in 2024. And to that I say go right ahead. Nothing would galvanize me and millions of others more than to go into the voting booth and casting my vote for whoever is running against him.

A whopping 4.9 million illegal immigrants have crossed our border since Biden has taken office. This is according to a report from the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), and many have been released into American communities. Nearly 200,000 crossed the border in July alone. Also in July, 2,071 pounds of fentanyl, the equivalent of 469 million lethal doses, and 12,989 pounds of methamphetamine were seized at the southern border. Keep those borders open and those illegal immigrants coming, Mr. Biden.

I heard the new IRS agents, all 87,000 of them, will be going after the rich so that they finally pay their fair share of taxes. Well, here's a quote I found that pretty much debunks that hogwash: "The Joint Committee on Taxation, Congress' official tax scorekeeper, says that from 78 percent to 90 percent of the money raised from under-reported income would likely come from those making less than \$200,000 a year. Only 4 percent to 9 percent would come from those making more than \$500,000."

So now Trump says he would have given over all the documents he was hiding if he was asked. He was asked, he was subpoenaed and months went by. Of course, we had to go in and get them; there was top secret information there that he may have planned to give to Russia or some other enemy of our great country. I served six years in our military with a top-secret clearance; this information could have affected every one of us, our children and our grandchildren. He should be convicted and silenced.

So there is a big bailout coming for student loan debt. Don't get me wrong, I think college tuition is way too high, as are the interest rates, but the idea of those of us who either paid off our student loan debts, didn't go to college because of the cost or are otherwise swimming in our own cesspool of financial downfalls having to pay for someone else's student loan debt is just ridiculous on its face. What a way to buy young voters. And what is to stop higher learning institutions from charging even more tuition, knowing that there will be some student loan debt forgiveness? I think it is time to restructure how student loans are set

up, and definitely lower the interest rate. My own son's rate went up from around 4 percent to 8 percent while he was in college in the mid-2000s, thanks to Obama.

"There are none so blind, as those who will not see" is a quote that applies to so many in our community these days. We have hundreds of years of physical records and thousands of years of scientific records that show our climate is changing. Yes, it has changed many, many times, but the change we are now realizing is greater than any from the last couple of thousand years. Wake up folks; we need to realize this, but not accept that it has to happen without us actually trying to slow it.

If you are a laborer or tradesman, every doctor, lawyer and professional thank you for paying for their college loan debt. This administration doesn't care about you. Keep the shiny Trump ball in front of you as an excuse to provide handouts to those who don't need them. Inflation, layoffs, bad international deals, higher taxes and growing deficits. We cannot keep voting for these people who are only interested in taking care of themselves. Just because you have always voted blue doesn't mean you need to continue. Orange Man was bad, but his policies provided lower taxes, no inflation, a growing economy and fuel independence.

Wake up, Americans. The FBI's raid on Trump's residence is just the beginning of the country as a police state under the Democrats who want to change America. Their next plan is expanding the IRS to attack their adversaries. Venezuela might not look like a bad place for future retirement.

It is always easier to talk about and solve future abstract problems than deal with the ones we are facing in the present tense.

Yeah, regarding the retort to the person's comment in last week's Speak Out. OK, California is pretty much a Marxist state. So there you go. They're making people do certain things, forcing them to do certain environmental behaviors that should be voluntary. Basically, they're whacked and their governor is as well.

I see a judge has allowed Oakbrook Terrace to reactivate the red-light cameras and the amount of corruption with these red-light cameras is ridiculous, as these are nothing but more revenue-generating attacks against citizens of this country. These red-light camera operators need to have their licenses revoked. Lawsuits against them, for milking the citizens, need to be initiated.

Warriors enjoy solid start to their season

Team posts 5-1 win in its first match; Willowbrook then earns a tie and a win at the Joe Novey Tournament

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook boys soccer team opened its 2022 season with three matches last week. The War-

riors earned a pair of victories and a tie in those three matches to kick off their campaign with a 2-0-1 record.

Willowbrook began its sea- son with a 5-1 home victory over Elmwood Park on Aug. 23. The Warriors played their next two matches at the Joe Novey Tournament at Addison Trail High School. Willowbrook scored a late goal in play Glenbard North to a 1-1 tie on Aug. 25. Two days later, the Warriors defeated Sycamore 4-0.

Senior Aiden Amin scored two goals in Willowbrook's season-opening win over Elmwood Park. Sophomore Vinni DaSilva junior Liron Ebema and junior Carlos Bohm scored one goal each for the Warriors, who held a 2-0 home lead.

Glenbard North scored in the second half of last week's match in Addison to take a 1-0 lead over the Warriors.

Willowbrook evened the score when senior Dahl Acuna delivered the equalizer with about 90 seconds to play.

Sycamore attempted a penalty kick less than two minutes into Sunday's contest.

Willowbrook senior goalkeeper Jack Voss dove to his left to make a save on the play.

Voss also saved a penalty kick during the season opener against Elmwood Park.

Senior Ricardo Acosta scored Willowbrook's first goal of Sunday's match. DaSilva assisted Acosta's goal.

Bohm then scored on a penalty kick to give the Warriors a 2-0 lead during the first half.

DaSilva pushed the lead to 3-0 when he provided a second goal with an assist from V. Bohm added his second goal of the match later in the second half. Amin assisted Bohm on the final goal of the contest.

Voss and junior Carlos Gass shared Willowbrook's goalkeeper duties during Saturday's shutout.

"The kids are believing, working hard," said Victor Lopez, the Warriors' first-year coach following Saturday's victory over Sycamore.

The Warriors' schedule week includes a match at Wheeling Warrenville South, along with other tournament matches at Addison Trail. Willowbrook will face Prospect West in this week's tournament match.

A victory in that battle could propel Willowbrook to this Saturday's championship contest of the Joe Novey Tournament. If the Warriors and Glenbard North both tie 2-1 tournament records, a tiebreaker (most goals scored during tournament) will determine which team will play in the championship match.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's boys soccer team began its season with three matches last week. The Warriors earned two wins and a tie in the three contests. Willowbrook opened its season with a 5-1 home win over Elmwood Park on Aug. 23. Two days later, the Warriors faced Glenbard North in a match at the Joe Novey Tournament at Addison Trail High School. Willowbrook trailed the Panthers 1-0 late in the contest, but senior Dahl Acuna scored with about 90 seconds to play to even the score; the match ended in a 1-1 tie. The Warriors played another match at the tournament on Saturday, when they faced Sycamore. Willowbrook beat the Spartans 4-0. Sycamore attempted a penalty kick less than two minutes into the match. Upper photo: Willowbrook senior goalkeeper Jack Voss dives to make a save on the penalty kick attempt by Sycamore. Above: senior Aiden Amin (No. 23). The Warriors are scheduled to continue play in the Joe Novey Tournament this week.

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 1, 2022

Addison Trail mourns loss of long-time student Joseph 'Joey' Banks passes away at 17

A message was delivered to the Addison Trail community in the District 88 newsletter last week from Principal Jack Andrews, who shared the sad news that Addison Trail student Joey Banks had passed away. Andrews' message is below followed by the obituary.

"It is with great sadness we share the news that Addison Trail student Joseph 'Joey' Banks passed away on Aug. 23.

Joey was a member of the class of 2023 and planned to attend the District 88 Transition Program next year, which helps individuals ages 18 to 21 who have a variety of abilities learn life skills, obtain job training in a community setting and transition to life after District 88. He had started developing these skills with Addison Trail vocational coaches by working at Clarendale of Addison. He was a true Addison Trail Blazer in every sense of the word and made an impact throughout our school community.

"Joey was involved in our Best Buddies club (which creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development and inclusive living for people with a variety of abilities) and our Pay It Forward/Freshmen Orientation event, and he enjoyed his grand welcome to Addison Trail. Joey was one of those students who everyone knew and loved. His warm personality had a positive effect on all those around him, and he always had a smile on his face.

"Our thoughts and hearts are with Joey's family and friends, and we will continue to help each other through this difficult time. Our social work-

"Joey (Banks) was one of those students who everyone knew and loved. His warm personality had a positive effect on all those around him, and he always had a smile on his face. Joey will forever be missed and will always be part of the Addison Trail family."

— Addison Trail Principal
Jack Andrews

ers, psychologists and counselors are available for those who need support.

To honor, celebrate and remember Joey, students and staff participated in a variety of events. Those include members of our Girls Volleyball Team wearing green ribbons (which is the color associated with cerebral palsy awareness) during their Aug. 24 game against Maine East, student performance groups wearing green ribbons during our first home football game of the season on Aug. 26, staff and students wearing green on Aug. 26 (including during the class of 2023 Senior Sunrise event) and student council decorating the commons area in green. Students, staff

and fans also participated in a "green out" during the football game. To view photos from those events, see the photo gallery above.

Joey will forever be missed and will always be part of the Addison Trail family."

With Blazer Pride,
Jack Andrews
Addison Trail Principal

Obituary

Joseph "Joey" Lawrence Banks of Addison went on to walk with angels on Aug. 23, 2022, at the age of 17. He was born on August 9, 2005, at Loyola Hospital and grew up in Addison. Joey was a senior at Addison Trail High School where he touched the lives of countless students and

staff with his contagious smile and positive attitude. He aspired to attend college through the Transitions Program and become a meteorologist with the help of his favorite aide, Mrs. Miller. Joey was blessed by so many who went above and beyond to help him, from his beloved bus driver Ted to the doctors and staff at Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, Loyola, and various other members of the community.

Joey was passionate about weather and loved to spend his free time watching the Weather Channel. He also enjoyed swimming with friends and family, making FaceTime calls and an abundance of friendly teasing. Most people spend their time on earth constantly learning lessons.

Joey was put on this earth to teach lessons. He taught us to smile, to be happy, to be grateful; he taught us empathy and to simply live and enjoy each moment. Most of all, Joey taught us to love.

Joey is survived by his angel, his mother Samantha Banks nee Petersen, who he recently described at school as the most important person in his life whom he could always count on; his loving father Larry Banks; selfless and loving sister Mia whom he fiercely loved and protected, and his little sister Amy; beloved dogs Harley and Lexi; Grandma Carol Petersen, Grandpa Robert Petersen, Great Grandma Joan Doda-

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HR IMAGING PARTNERS PHOTO Addison Independent

Three cheers for back-to-school

On Friday, Aug. 19, the fields at Addison Trail and Willowbrook were filled with Blazer and Warrior Pride, as District 88 students, staff, parents, guardians and community members came together to celebrate the beginning of the 2022-23 school year with the 6th annual Blue and White/Silver and Blue Community Nights. Here, Addison Trail's cheerleading squad came out in their blue glasses and matching shirts to celebrate the new school year. More photos inside.

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At Community Night

The Addison Trail Blazer football team showed its stuff on Community Night when District 88 students, staff, parents, guardians and the rest of the community came together for the first scrimmage at the start of the new school year.



HR IMAGING PARTNERS PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Sound the trumpet

This trumpet player performs on the field on Friday, Aug. 19, at Addison Trail's Community Night football game, held to celebrate the beginning of the new school year.

State health officials note 24,297 new cases of COVID-19 over the past week

DuPage not included on 'High Level' list

Last week, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) reported 24,297 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including 82 deaths since Aug. 19.

According to the CDC, 33 counties are now rated at High Community

Level for COVID-19. An additional 48 counties in Illinois are now rated at Medium Community Level.

Currently, the IDPH is reporting a total of 3,670,258 cases, including 34,677 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois since the beginning of the pandemic.

• Student (Continued from front page)

ro, and Grandma Susan L. Banks; Aunt Denise (Briap) Collins, Aunt June (Lew) Hensley, Uncle Matthew (Sarah) Banks, Uncle Christopher (Stephanie) Banks, and Aunt Cara (Adam) Hauser; loving cousins Luke and Liv Hensley; Benjamin, Anna, Siena, and Oliver Banks; Christopher, Charles, and Weston Banks; Hannah, Caleb, and Bennett Hauser; many extended aunts, uncles, and cousins, especially Best Friend Cousin Dominick Dodaro.

Joey was preceded in death by his grandfather, Larry E. Banks "Papa Larry," who surely welcomed Joey home with the biggest smile as now he had his best bud to playfully bicker over whether to watch the football game, the Weather Channel, or a crime show.

A celebration of Joey's life was held Wednesday, Aug. 31 at Saint John's Lutheran Church in Lombard. Arrangements provided by Bucaro Funeral Home and Cremation Center at 485 W. Army Trail Road, Bloomingdale. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside.

A GoFundMe fundraiser in support of Joey's family can be found at gofundme.com/f/calling-all-of-joey-banks-best-friends?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=customer

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Joey Banks Memorial Fund.

For more information, please call 630-242-4700 or visit www.bucarofuneralhome.com.

As of Aug. 25, 1,310 individuals in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 158 patients were in the ICU and 59 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators. The preliminary seven-day statewide case rate is 191 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Illinoisans.

IDPH Director Sameer Vohra is urging all Illinoisans to get up to date on vaccinations and booster shots as the best defense against hospitalization and more serious outcomes from COVID-19. A second booster shot is recommended for all individuals over the age of 50 four months after they have received their first booster. In addition, he is reminding parents and guardians to get children vaccinated.

The IDPH is supporting an education and outreach campaign by the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to educate health-care providers and parents about the effectiveness and safety of the newly authorized vaccines for children under 5.

The counties in Illinois listed at High Community Level are Adams, Boone, Carroll, Champaign, Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland,

Douglas, Edgar, Franklin, Gallatin, Hardin, Henderson, Jackson, Jo Daviess, Johnson, Lawrence, Lee, Marion, Marshall, Massac, Perry, Pike, Pope, Saline, Stephenson, Vermilion, Wabash, Washington, Whiteside, Williamson, and Winnebago.

IDPH has been supporting pharmacies and healthcare providers in efforts to increase their inventories of the various FDA-authorized treatments. There are over 1,200 treatment locations in Illinois—including all the major retail pharmacies. More than 96.7 percent of the state's population is within a 10-mile radius of one of these locations.

A total of 23,213,858 vaccines have been administered in Illinois. The seven-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily is 6,728 doses. Since Aug. 19, 47,094 doses were reported administered in Illinois.

Of Illinois' total population, more than 77 percent has received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, more than 69 percent of Illinois' total population is fully vaccinated, and more than 54 percent of the vaccinated population has an initial booster according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.