

Warriors begin post-season surge by winning a regional title

Willowbrook advances to this week's Proviso West Sectional

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team captured a regional championship last week. The Warriors won the IHSA Class 4A Downers Grove North Regional title on Oct. 27. Willowbrook beat Downers Grove North 25-20, 25-16 in the regional final.

The Warriors, who improved their overall season record to 35-2 with their win over the Trojans, advanced to this week's Proviso West Sectional. If the Warriors win two matches at Proviso West to claim the sectional title, they will advance to this Friday's super-sectional at Hinsdale Central. The winner of that super-sectional will earn a berth in the IHSA Class 4A state semifinals in Normal.

Willowbrook is the No. 1 seed in the Proviso West Sectional. The Warriors met York (the sectional's No. 4) seed in one of this week's sectional semifinals. The winner of that match faced Glenbard West (the No. 3 seed) or St. Charles East (the No. 2 seed) in the sectional final.

The Warriors won regional and sectional titles last season before losing to Mother McAuley in a super-sectional.

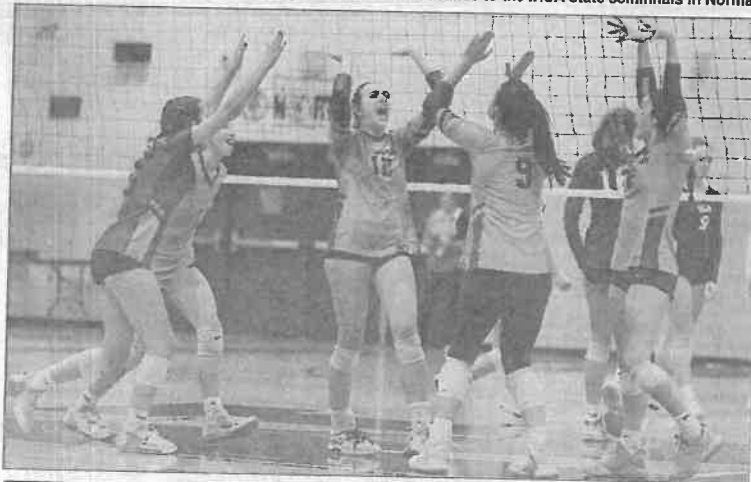
Junior Calli Kenny delivered seven kills, seven assists and seven digs for the Warriors in their win over Downers Grove North in last week's regional final. Sophomore Hannah Kenny provided six kills, six assists, five digs and three aces. Senior Natalie Cipriano contributed six kills and four digs. Senior Grace Conley piled up 12 digs and handed out four assists.

Junior Elisa Chivilo made five digs, while sophomore Anna Marinier connected for two kills.



JOE PEARSON PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's girls volleyball team won two matches last week to capture the championship of the IHSA Class 4A Downers Grove North Regional. After opening the regional with a victory over Proviso West on Oct. 25, the Warriors defeated Downers Grove North 25-20, 25-16 in the regional final on Oct. 27. One photo (below) from the regional final shows junior Elle Bruschuk (No. 12) celebrating with junior Calli Kenny (No. 9) after the Warriors won a point. Willowbrook improved its overall record to 35-2 with its victory over the Trojans. The Warriors advanced to this week's Proviso West Sectional. If Willowbrook wins two matches to claim the sectional title, it will play in this Friday's super-sectional at Hinsdale Central High School. The winner of that super-sectional will advance to the IHSA state semifinals in Normal.



JOE PEARSON PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's football team opened the IHSA Class 7A post-season with Friday's 35-14 loss at Wheaton North. The Warriors completed their season with an overall record of 5-5. Wheaton North improved to 9-1 and advanced to this week's second-round game against Lake Zurich. The Falcons built a 21-0 halftime lead over the Warriors. Wheaton North's lead grew to 35-0 by the end of the third quarter. Willowbrook scored its two touchdowns during the closing minutes of the fourth quarter. Junior Jimmy Degnan of the Warriors is pictured during his touchdown reception, which provided Willowbrook's first points of the night. Sophomore K.J. Rhodes made the team's second touchdown reception of the game. Junior quarterback Arthur Palicki threw the touchdown passes to Degnan and Rhodes.

Warriors' season ends with a first-round loss to Wheaton North

The Willowbrook football team's 2022 season ended with Friday's 35-14 loss at Wheaton North in a first-round game in the IHSA Class 7A playoffs.

The Warriors completed their season with a 5-5 record.

Wheaton North, which improved its record to 9-1, will face Lake Zurich (9-1) in this week's

second-round battle in Wheaton.

Wheaton North led the Warriors 21-0 at halftime. The Falcons intercepted a Willowbrook pass and returned it for a touchdown early in the third quarter to push their lead to 28-0.

Wheaton North added one more touchdown in the third quarter to increase its lead to 35-0.

The Warriors scored their two touchdowns in the game's last few minutes. Junior quarterback Arthur Palicki completed a touchdown pass to junior Jimmy Degnan to provide Willowbrook's first score of the game.

The Warriors scored their second touchdown on a pass from Palicki to sophomore K.J. Rhodes.

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Diederich will run in Peoria

Willowbrook senior earns an individual berth in this week's IHSA Class 3A state meet

STAFF REPORT

Senior Kevin Diederich of the Willowbrook boys cross-country team will compete in this Saturday's IHSA Class 3A state meet in Peoria. Diederich earned his berth in the state meet with his strong effort in Saturday's Waubonsie Valley Sectional in Aurora.

Diederich completed the 3-mile race at the sectional in a 29th-place time of 15 minutes, 30.8 seconds.

The sectional's top 10 runners who weren't members of state-qualifying teams advanced to the state final as individuals. Diederich placed among those 10 runners.

The top seven teams in each of the state's four sectionals earned berths in the state meet. Willowbrook's boys team placed 14th in the team results of Saturday's sectional, which included 18 full teams.

In addition to Diederich, the Warriors' sectional lineup included sophomore Adriano Quintero, who finished the race in a 96th-place time of 16 minutes, 49.1 seconds. Sophomore Jake Skibbie (16:52.4) finished in 98th place, while sophomore Kasen Blain (17:04.2) wound up in 106th place. Senior Charlie Hayes (17:21.6; 112th), senior Henry Sloan (17:27.3; 114th) and sophomore Patrick Harczos (17:59.9; 125th) rounded out Willowbrook's sectional lineup.

Two members of the Warriors' girls cross-country team competed as individuals in Saturday's girls race at the Waubonsie Valley Sectional. Sophomore Amelie Ojeda completed the 3-mile race in a 73rd-place time of 19 minutes, 55.1 seconds. Sophomore Malin Meeker (21:57.7) posted a 113th-place finish. Neither of the Warriors advanced to this week's state meet.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing
Senior Kevin Diederich (No. 1451) of the Willowbrook boys cross-country team is pictured as he approaches the finish line during Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Waubonsie Valley Sectional in Aurora. Diederich, who completed the 3-mile race in a 29th-place time of 15 minutes, 30.8 seconds, earned an individual berth in this week's IHSA Class 3A state meet in Peoria. The sectional's top 10 runners who weren't members of state-qualifying teams advanced to the state meet as individuals. Willowbrook's boys team posted a 14th-place finish in the team standings of the sectional, which included 18 full teams.

Yes, Villa Park calling. I have a nephew who's in athletics at a local high school and they actually play soccer in the rain. I'm trying to figure out why this is, why they would endanger the kids to get pneumonia and get sick; playing soccer when there's hard rain. This is outrageous. And I wonder how many schools in the area actually have their students play when it's cold and raining outside, and if athletics are that important, the disregard for the kids is not a priority.

I continue to read in Speak Out about some people's distaste and dissatisfaction for former President Trump and his advocates. Guess what? President Trump is no longer president. Stop looking in the rearview mirror; draw your attention to what is happening in our country. People throughout the United States are being robbed, raped, shot and stabbed at alarming levels on the heels of the defund-the-police police ideology. Illegals are streaming across the southern border in the thousands. We know nothing about them. Gas and heating prices are alarmingly high. Grocery prices are skyrocketing. Forget about Trump. What is the direction of the U.S. under the existing administration, his followers and their ideology?

This is a 71-year-old Vietnam veteran calling. Many Trump supporters get upset when they are called racist, fascist and the like. When you were a kid, your parents didn't want you to hang out with certain kids because you would get a bad reputation. Same thing applies when you become an adult; every fascist, racist, ultra right-wing group in the country supports Trump. These are the people Trump supporters are in bed with, so don't be surprised when you get lumped in with these anti-democratic groups.



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So glad to see my fellow common-sense neighbors adding to this column. Trump is on film saying he never loses—never, and would do anything he needed to, to win. Now we know that even before the 2020 election, he planned to declare a win, no matter what the votes were. What a terrible traitor to our democracy. How can people continue to believe anything that he says? Check for yourself; Trump reportedly cheated dozens of companies and put dozens out of business by declaring bankruptcy. He said before the election that, I quote, "I want to be king." And he tried, but lost.

Please keep in mind Deb Conroy, according to a campaign ad from her opponent for DuPage County Board chair (Greg Hart), partnered with corrupt Mike Madigan to raise income taxes four times. We don't need that type of politics in DuPage County.

I can't believe that Amendment 1 is even on the ballot in November. The state is reeling under unfunded pension debt to public sector union employees. Amendment 1 would give public sector unions even more power! Wake up Illinois!

The present ruling administration has no accountability on how they are spending our tax dollars with Ukraine and our tax dollars in other ways. Vote for performance, not personality when voting for your representatives on Tuesday, Nov. 8. Your voice in voting is your future.

My 26-year-old daughter watching her cost of living continue to increase with inflation felt it was very important to get her vote counted. She requested a mail-in ballot and filled in and signed. The ballot was returned because the signature did not match. I watched her fill it out and it is the same signature she has

had since learning cursive. It never me wonder if it had anything to do with the straight Red ticket she put out. Now she has to get this note in order to be counted. I have to wonder what side of the aisle the person who makes these decisions sits on.

When you see the media gear up against Darren Bailey, you know he might be the right guy to come to the guy in office now.

Halloween is a holiday where celebrate death, the occult and grotesque. What does that say about us as a culture? Where are we going as a culture?

I see Greg Hart is running county board chairman, and I am a little confused. I didn't know he was going to do for education. I am a little confused. I didn't know that type of politics in DuPage County had much to do with schools. I really think that's a function of county board chairman. Either confused or he is. Thank you, Greg.

I was wondering: Do people never use their turn signals even angry at other people who never use their turn signals?

I have to give Democrats and liberals credit this election cycle. I know how to stay on script. been nothing but pro-abortion, party 6th and Trump, but when think about it, who can blame them for sticking to these talking points. They certainly can't run on their record the last two years, with inflation at a 40-year high, more taxes (especially in this state), high gas prices, a stagnant economy, crime that's out of control, spending that's out of control, children falling behind in school, COVID lockdowns, vaccine mandates, a crisis along southern border, and the list goes



JOE PEARSON PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Warriors complete perfect season with a state title

Willowbrook High School's girls flag football team completed an undefeated inaugural season by winning the title at the Girls Flag Football State Championship, which took place on Saturday at the Chicago Bears' facility at Halas Hall in Lake Forest. The Warriors were one of four teams to advance to Saturday's action in Lake Forest. Willowbrook edged Chicago's Kenwood Academy High School 18-14 in a semifinal game. The Warriors then beat Chicago's Taft High School 20-0 in the championship contest. The Willowbrook program finished its first season with a perfect 9-0 record.

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- The views expressed by callers are their own.
- All calls are checked by four editors. If a consensus of editors believed a particular call is deemed to be in poor taste, erroneous, inaccurate, libelous or doesn't make sense, the call will not be published.
- With regard to calls of a political nature, it is not possible to have an equal balance of calls with liberal and conservative viewpoints during any given week. The editors of Speak Out don't have control of who calls in, what their political leanings happen to be, and the topics they want to discuss.
- If you have further questions about Speak Out, email: pcw@rvpublishing.com.