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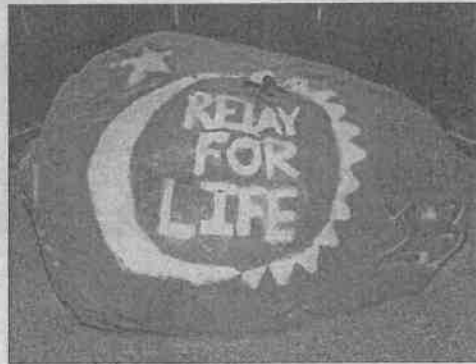
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

Relay for Life



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Villa Park Review

Nearly 400 students raised almost \$60,000 in the Relay for Life of District 88 Youth fundraising event, which took place Saturday evening at Willowbrook High School. The fundraiser benefits the American Cancer Society. Students from District 88's two schools—Willowbrook and Addison Trail—spent the entire night at Willowbrook. The event included a variety of activities, including volleyball and dodgeball tournaments. During Relay for Life events, participants take turns walking around a track. Because cancer never sleeps, there is always at least one participant walking on the track. Cancer survivors walked the opening lap on the track in Willowbrook's field house during Saturday's event. Caregivers joined the cancer survivors for the second lap. All of the participants then joined in walking the third lap. Willowbrook High School graduate Tad Tchop was honored as the event's leading fundraiser. Tchop, a 2021 Willowbrook graduate, has been involved in the event for six years. During that time, he's raised over \$19,000 to make a difference in the fight against cancer. Tchop was the leading fundraiser for this year's event, raising \$6,500. Pictured (left to right) during Saturday's opening ceremony are Tchop and Kiyoko Czech of the American Cancer Society.



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Commission accepting nominations for its 2022 Green Champion Award

The Villa Park Environmental Concerns Commission advises the village president and board of trustees on matters relating to the preservation, protection and improvement of the environment, including the quality of land, air and water.

In 2016, the commission created its Green Champion award program to recognize any outstanding environmental achievements of individuals, groups, organizations or companies in Villa Park.

The annual certificate will be presented in one of the following nine categories:

1. Energy efficiency
2. Renewable energy
3. Conservation of natural resources

4. Recycling programs and use of recycled content products
5. Green produce use and use of recycled content materials
6. Water conservation
7. Transportation
8. Outreach and education
9. Other innovation projects and programs

How do I nominate a deserving candidate?

You can submit an online nomination form by accessing the Village of Villa Park website and searching for "Green Champion Award" or using the link on the commission's web page. When

accessing the online form, use the username public@villaparkvillage.com and password "public". A print version nomination form is also available at <http://www.invillapark.com/DocumentCenter/View/6355/Green-Champion-Award-Nomination-Form> and may be submitted to the Village of Villa Park Environmental Concerns Commission by email at EnvironmentalConcerns@invillapark.com or to the Village of Villa Park (Attn: Environmental Concerns Commission) 20 S. Ardmore Ave., Villa Park, IL 60181.

Nominations are accepted for residential and non-residential properties in Villa Park and may be submitted by property owners,

business owners and by others who feel a project or site deserves recognition.

Nomination forms will be kept on file for future consideration for a period of no more than two years from the date of submission.

Nominations are due by March 17 this year for consideration by the Environmental Concerns Commission for the 2022 Green Champion Award. In most instances, the award will be presented by the commission at a Village Board meeting that is closest to Earth Day, April 22. For more information, contact Commission Chair Bob Wagner at 630-484-8856.

Villa Park Fire Department assists with putting out structure fire in Lombard

Person, dog found deceased in basement
On Feb. 28 at approximately

6:18 a.m., the Lombard Fire Department was dispatched to a reported structure fire on the 100 block of W. North Avenue. A neigh-

bor called 911 after seeing smoke coming from the house.

The first fire department crews arrived at 6:21 a.m. and found smoke coming from the roof and eaves of the house. Upon entering the house, a small fire was found in the kitchen and quickly extinguished.

While searching the house, the resident and a dog were found deceased in the basement. Crews remained on the scene for approximately one hour, performing overhaul and extinguishing hot spots.

"This is a devastating tragedy, and our hearts go out to the friends and family of the victim," said

Lombard Deputy Fire Chief Ray Kickert.

The fire is under investigation by the Lombard Fire Investigations Unit, DuPage County Fire Investigation Task Force and the Lombard Police Department. The fire caused an estimated \$100,000 in damage to the house, which was deemed uninhabitable.

The Lombard Fire Department was assisted by the Elmhurst and Villa Park fire departments, as well as the Addison and York Center fire protection districts. Lombard police assisted with traffic and crowd control.

Obituaries

JOSEPH BARBOSA, 92

Joseph Barbosa, age 92, of Villa Park, Illinois. Beloved husband of the late Aurelia P. Barbosa, nee Palomar; loving father of Michael (Roxane); dear grandfather of Jessica and Michael J.; fond brother Meli Serna, the late Lucia Ortiz, Barbara Mejia, Mary Torres, Marcelina Torres, and Rodolfo Barbosa.

Visitation, Friday, March 10, from 3-8 p.m. at Steuerele Chapel, 350 S. Ardmore Ave., Villa Park. Funeral Saturday, March 11, 9:30 a.m. from the funeral home to St. John the Apostle Catholic Church, 330 N. Westmore Ave., Villa Park, for Mass at 10:15 a.m. Interment Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

HELEN CHINDLUND, 92

Helen Chindlund, 92, of Villa Park, IL passed away Sunday Feb. 26, 2023, at her home after a long battle with Alzheimer's.

Helen worked at York Community High School in Elmhurst, IL and was a founding member of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in DuPage County IL.

She enjoyed going out to lunch, dinner, and the casino with her friends. She also enjoyed shopping, sewing, porcelain doll marking, baking zucchini bread, and bingo. Oh, how she loved bingo!

Helen is survived by her three daughters, as well as her niece, nephew, great-nephew, great-nieces, and numerous grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Private services are being held at this time.

LUCILLE K. FLYNN, 95

Lucille Katherine Flynn, nee Kestel, age 95, of Villa Park, Illinois for 70 years. Wife of the late Richard Joseph Flynn Sr.; loving mother of Susan Flynn, Patrick Flynn and the late Richard Joseph (Debbie Durkin) Flynn Jr.; dear daughter of the late Edith, nee Koch, and the late George Kestel; devoted grandmother of Danny and Sami Borne; preceded in death by her siblings Bernard, Fredrick, Marcella and Richard "Dick"; aunt of many nieces and nephews.

Services were held March 6. Interment Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery. Funeral info: steuerlefh.com or (630) 832-4161.

JOSEPH SRZ

Joseph was a loving husband to Charlene. Joseph was a loving father to Jeffrey, John, Susap, and Joel. Joseph was a loving father-in-law to Judy, Kelley, Eugene, and Jenni. Joseph was a loving Grandpa to Brittni, Brandon, Jacob, Aidan, Gavin, Emily, MaLi, Delaney, Aleena, Ella, and Charlie. Joseph was a loving uncle of many and Joseph was a loving friend of many!!!

Joseph was the cherished son of Emily Kleszynski and Frank Smrz and the loving Brother of Patricia and Howard Zingraf.

Joseph and Charlene were married for 60 years and dated for five years before being together 65 years. Joseph was a veteran of the U.S. Marines. Joseph was a Sox fan. Joseph retired after 32 years from General Motors Electro-Motive Division and then continued to work in the railroad industry.

Joseph was involved in his children's lives enjoying baseball, Boy Scouts, Indian Guides, and Indian Princesses. Joseph enjoyed family camping in a tent, then a camper, and then a dream come true ... a lake home. Joseph always wanted to share the "Diamond" on Fisher Lake with the Moon so brightly shining on the water! Joseph was a "Joe of all trades."

Joseph's Loving Life was a gift to all and Joseph will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered!!



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook students to compete in national event

Three Willowbrook High School students have qualified to compete in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) National Leadership Conference, which will take place April 26-30 in California. Those three students, pictured left to right, are: Junior Diego Morales Perez (who placed second in C# Programming at the State Leadership Conference), senior Neeraja Kumar (who placed third in Fundamental Desktop Publishing at the State Leadership Conference) and senior Mahnoor Fatani (who tied for third in Advanced Accounting at the State Leadership Conference). According to its website (www.bpa.org), Business Professionals of America is the premier CTSSO (Career and Technical Student Organization) for students pursuing careers in business management, information technology, finance, office administration, health administration and other related career fields.

We want to print your news!

What's going on at your club or organization?
Seeking new members? Hosting a fundraiser?
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Ball receives 88's Best award for January

Senior excels in academics and athletics

Willowbrook High School senior Sarah Ball of Villa Park was named her school's recipient of the 88's Best award for the month of January. Ball was honored during the District 88 Board of Education's meeting on Jan. 30. The 88's Best honor recognizes students for their achievements in and out of the classroom.

Ball is an exceptional member of Willowbrook's Class of 2023. She is an inductee of the National Honor Society, the National English Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, the Math Honor Society and Willowbrook's social studies honor society—Civitas. Ball has been

named an Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar with Honors and an Illinois State Scholar. She's also been named to Willowbrook's Distinction Honor Roll in each semester of her time in high school.

Ball is a member of Best Buddies—a club dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She's also a member of the Willowbrook Student Council.

Ball is a standout athlete who has excelled as a member of Willowbrook's girls gymnastics and girls track and field teams. She added

to her athletic achievements as a member of Willowbrook's girls flag football program, which recently completed its inaugural season. The Warriors' flag football team won the Illinois state championship at the

Chicago Bears' Halas Hall facility in Lake Forest in October. In November, the Warriors won a championship at the NFL FLAG Regional Tournament in Ohio.

Winning the regional event pro-

pelled the Warriors to the NFL FLAG national competition, which took place in Nevada in February.

Ball will attend Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. She plans to study nursing.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook High School senior Sarah Ball was named her school's recipient of the 88's Best award for the month of January. Ball, who is a Villa Park resident, was honored during the District 88 Board of Education's Jan. 30 meeting. She is an academic and athletic standout at Willowbrook. Ball has been a key contributor to the school's girls gymnastics and girls track and field teams. She is pictured on the balance beam during a gymnastics meet in January. Additionally, Ball was a standout member of Willowbrook's girls flag football team, which recently completed its inaugural season. The Warriors won state and regional flag football championships in the fall of 2022. The team competed at a national competition in Nevada in February. Ball will attend Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, where she plans to study nursing.



Montini Catholic Math Team makes history by bringing home first regional championship

Members of Montini Catholic High School's Math Team, under the direction of moderator Christine McManus, made history by bringing home its first Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics regional championship trophy Feb. 25.

This year's competition was held at North Central College, an in-person event after two years of being hosted remotely.

McManus and her team went into the competition focused on succeeding and were very optimistic about their chances of qualifying for state. Her team is the only Catholic school in Division 2A to qualify for state

every year since 2002 (as a wildcard team) - but this year was different.

"They are the first Bronco team ever to win the regional championship. It was a total team effort," said McManus, who's been coaching the team throughout her 30-year career at Montini Catholic. "There have been so many times over the years that we've come close. Finally! I am so very proud of these young people."

Next up for the Broncos is the state competition to be held on Saturday, April 22.

The 2023 ICTM regional competition accolades earned by Montini

Catholic mathletes are:

Overall: first place individual awards:

10th place Joe Spaccapaniccia, Precalculus

7th place Chris Zayed, Algebra II

6th place Andrew Sparke, Algebra I

6th place Alex Silveyra, Precalculus

4th place Ray Li, Geometry

3rd place tie Sam Hemmersmeier and Matthew Silveyra, Algebra II

2nd place Conor Kaefel, Geometry

Team awards

4th place Orals

4th place Junior-Senior 8-person

3rd place Precalculus

3rd place Geometry

3rd place Junior-Senior 2-person

2nd place Algebra II

1st place Calculator

1st place Frosh-Soph 8-person

1st place Frosh-Soph 2-person

Bronco Math Team members:

Seniors: Michael Crowley, Thomas Cyze, Matt DiSimone, Alex

Silveyra and Joe Spaccapaniccia.

Juniors: Anjay Dhir (Lombard), Marin Ferris and Sam Hemmersmeier.

Sophomores: Jack Barrett (Villa Park), JJ Brunke (Lombard), Julian D'Anca, Conor Kaefel (Lombard), Ray Li, Seoyeon Park, Danny Shermann, Matthew Silveyra and Chris Zayed (Lombard).

Freshmen: Savannah Gutierrez, Tommy Healy, Grace Landry (Lombard), Cassidy McCarthy and Andy Sparke.

Coaches: Chrissy McManus, Barry Briggs, Don Krystof, and Erin Bradarich.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Lombardian

Members of the Montini Math Team are, top row from left to right: Michael Crowley, Thomas Cyze, Matt DiSimone, Alex Silveyra, Joe Spaccapaniccia, Anjay Dhir (Lombard), Marin Ferris, Sam Hemmersmeier, Jack Barrett (Villa Park), JJ Brunke (Lombard)

and Julian D'Anca. Bottom row: Conor Kaefel (Lombard), Ray Li, Seoyeon Park, Danny Shermann, Matthew Silveyra, Chris Zayed (Lombard), Savannah Gutierrez, Tommy Healy, Grace Landry (Lombard), Cassidy McCarthy and Andy Sparke.

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The gender issue has now crept into one of the most private places—public restrooms. In 2019 our legislature designated that public bathrooms be “unisex” that “any” gender can use, but in single occupancy, or as a “family”. I have no issue with that. However, taking things a step further, the concept of allowing public buildings to offer “all-gender multiple occupancy” bathrooms has come up in the General Assembly. Seriously? So I, as a female, and a man, can both use the same public bathroom at the same time? That has to be some of the most convoluted, wacky, ridiculous thinking I have ever heard. Once, I was at a venue and a few men just barged into the ladies room because theirs was full. It was beyond uncomfortable. I was

mortified. However one feels about the whole idea of gender identity, this has gotten out of control. It takes “inclusion and equity” to a frighteningly bizarre level. And we are paying our legislators to even consider this? I would sure like to hear how they justify this mixed-gender bathroom idea.

Municipalities, the county and state are getting opioid fund “settlements” and I would like them to show total transparency as to where that money will be kept, and how it will be spent. Education, prevention and treatment would be among my top priorities. I am not against opioids in general, as I have both witnessed and experienced the benefit, but there is a misconception that

because it is a “prescribed” drug, it must be OK—not to mention the illegal selling and use of these drugs, some of them cut with deadly fentanyl. Or how about putting money into research on how to keep the efficacy of such drugs without the addictive properties; if that is even possible?

So Illinois got an upgrade in its credit rating for paying off some of its debts, but my question is, how much of that money used to pay those debts came from federal and/or COVID-19 relief funds? In other words, had the state not gotten that money, I wonder what that rating would have looked like. I guess we shall see if that new A- rating stays solid or, as revenues fall short, it dips back down, where it was once just above a “junk” rating. Either way, we taxpayers will likely end up being on the hook to pay those debts. Current pension promises from past administrations cannot be changed, but looking ahead, stop and think what that will mean to taxpayers who have to fund those pensions.

It seems like there’s more of a focus on diversity than there is on competence. If you are flying in a plane, what’s more important—the pilots’ diversity or their competence? If you are going into a hospital for surgery, are you concerned with the surgical team’s diversity, or its competence? If an organization is obsessed with diversity, it might lower its competency standards just to appear more diverse. That’s not going to work out very well.

I’ll admit that I need to lose a few pounds. Thanks to Bidenflation, I might succeed in slimming down. There’s no way I’m paying \$7 for a package of cookies or a pint of ice cream.

The Republicans’ efforts haven’t yet found a shred of proof of significant election tampering. Tampering that they would have you believe happened in five or six states that, coincidentally, would be those they need to flip to win the electoral vote,

in hundreds of counties, in thousands of precincts, involving the efforts of many thousands of supposed cheaters working in concert among which nobody left evidence, talked, got sloppy or has come forward. Yeah, right! All those involved Democrats just outsmarted all the Republicans looking for the cheating. Ha! Not sure how reasonable that is. Or, maybe, just maybe, the cheating just plain didn’t happen! Give me a break!

Have you been reading about the collapse of South Africa? The U.S. embassy is urging Americans who are there to stock up on food and water. The country’s power grid is falling apart. There are rolling blackouts every day. Looting and violence are major problems. A few years ago, South Africa’s government agreed to reduce its carbon footprint. It’s not working out. If you think the United States is immune to a similar disaster, think again.

Lori Lightfoot’s been a terrible mayor. Of course, she’s resorted to whining about how bigotry had something to do with her defeat. Give us a break. She was elected by a wide margin four years ago. Did all of the people who supported her then, but rejected her now, become racists and/or sexists? Nope. Here’s the more logical reason they didn’t vote for her in 2023: She’s incompetent.

Does anyone else read the police blotter each week and wonder how many of these suspects weren’t “Born in the USA?” I’m sure someone might read that question and try to change the subject by sermonizing about racism or hate speech. But it’s a valid question. There are plenty of American-born criminals. We aren’t looking for more people who don’t obey the law. Of the inmates currently residing at the DuPage County Jail, how many were born outside of this country? Someone has the answer. Why won’t anyone report it?

We’ve been told over and over that mail-in voting is safe and secure. A

lot of the politicians and me personalities who say this, also claim that inflation was transitory that COVID-19 couldn’t have originated in a lab and that getting COVID “vaccine” would prevent you from getting COVID. Any if mail-in voting is safe and secure does that mean sending cash through the mail is now safe and secure? ahead, Democrats, show your confidence in our postal system. Supporting your bills by sending cash through the mail. It’s perfectly safe and secure!

The voters in Chicago have spoken. Lori Lightfoot was the first incumbent in 40 years (NBC News) to lose a bid for re-election. But bottom line is that the crime rate nothing else, has been abysmal under her watch, and subsequent seems that crime is spilling out of our suburbs, where criminals, some of them violent, are treating towns like Chicago, the new West. With so many people running against her, and not being in the two, I think that sent a message was not doing a very good job. I hope for a new mayor who will in crime, give the police resources and allow them to do their job, make Chicago a place where want to visit again. Until then, I staying away.

I see where JB Pritzker critic Ron DeSantis for coming to Florida. I laughed because Pritzker quoted as saying DeSantis does represent the values of the people of Illinois. Here’s my response to Pritzker: you certainly don’t represent my values. Pritzker support woke agenda every chance he gets. He’s turned this state into a hotbed on demand and cannabis of the Midwest. People leave Illinois in droves, and guess where many of them move to? Florida. Why is Mr. Pritzker? Illinois has a per capita debt of \$140 billion. Florida has a \$20 billion budget surplus. I want to see a debate between this lionaire blowhard and DeSantis. Santis would clean his clock.

DuPage County state’s attorney honored as Governmental Leader of the Year by DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference

DuPage County State’s Attorney Bob Berlin (right) was honored as the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference’s Governmental Leader of the Year at the Conference’s annual Legislative Reception and Dinner held recently at the Lisle/Naperville Hilton. The conference recognized Berlin for his instrumental role in working with our legislators in shaping the SAFE-T Act trailer bill HB 1095, and his advocacy on behalf of local governments throughout the collaborative negotiations with legislators and other advocates. Conference President and Darien Mayor Joseph Marchese presented the award to Berlin in front of approximately two hundred attendees including Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives Emanuel Chris Welch, Senate President Don Harmon, DuPage County Board Vice Chairman Michael Childress, Senate Minority Leader John Curran, House Minority Leader Tony McComble, numerous bi-partisan state representatives and senators as well as several DuPage County Board members. “I am truly honored to accept this award on behalf of my entire office as well as law enforcement throughout the county,” Berlin said. “Public safety is a collaborative effort. The support my office receives from law enforcement throughout the county is extraordinary and for that I thank them.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Founded in 1952, the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference is a council of 35 municipal governments in DuPage County whose membership is comprised of both elected and appointed officials. The conference, which is a not-for-profit organization supported by membership dues and grants, is dedicated to addressing municipal public policy issues and fostering intergovernmental cooperation for DuPage communities and the state as a whole.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Pub

Making a difference

One of District 88’s main fundraising events is the Relay for Live of District 88 Youth, which raises funds for the American Cancer Society. This year’s Relay for Life event took place on Saturday night at Willowbrook High School. Nearly 400 District 88 students raised about \$60,000 in this year’s fundraiser. Participants spent Saturday night at Willowbrook. They participated in several activities and games the closing ceremony at 6 a.m. on Sunday morning. Willowbrook graduate Tad Tchop was the lead fundraiser for this year’s event. He raised \$6,500. In the six years he’s been involved in the annual Relay for Life fundraisers, he’s raised over \$19,000. In honor of Tchop’s prolific fundraising to support American Cancer Society, the large inflatable chair located in Willowbrook’s field house during the event was named the Tad Tchop Purple Chair. Pictured (left to right) in that chair on Saturday are Willowbrook freshmen Mae Lubke and Lily Chivilo. Both students are Villa Park residents who are members of school’s girls volleyball program.

SPORTS

SUBURBAN LIFE GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Lenee Beaumont, 'on a mission,' led Benet to second in state

By JOSHUA WELGE
jwelge@shawmedia.com

Lenee Beaumont cannot quite pinpoint the genesis of her competitive streak.

She just knows she's always hated losing.

Since she was young, whatever the Benet senior guard did, she had to win. Park district games, meaningless contests, it didn't matter. That fire was only stoked by like-minded teammates and coaches.

So when Beaumont and Benet lost both games at the state tournament in her junior season, she was consumed to make it right.

"All I could think of all summer is I wanted a chance to win a state championship," Beaumont said. "Summer workouts, summer leagues, I felt somehow I had to help this team get better today. In our preseason talk, coach asked me what I wanted to accomplish. I said I wanted the opportunity to go back down to state."

It was a journey not without detours.

Benet, with a roster not as deep as others Beaumont has been surrounded by, lost seven regular-season games—the most in coach Joe Kilbride's nine seasons. A three-game losing streak at mid-season left him wondering if this team had the stuff for a playoff run.

Beaumont would not accept other-



Mark Busch - mbusch@shawmedia.com

Benet's Lenee Beaumont brings the ball up the court against Geneva's Caroline Madden during their Class 4A state semifinal game March 3 at CEFCU Arena in Normal.

wise. She averaged 22 points, 10 rebounds and three assists in Benet's seven playoff games, with 21 points and 14 rebounds in the sectional final and 25 points and the game-winning assist in the final seconds of the supersectional.

In an epic championship game, the Indiana recruit willed Benet from 15 points down with 27 points and eight rebounds in an eventual double-overtime loss to O'Fallon.

"She was on a personal mission to get us back down there and get it done," Kilbride said.

Beaumont, who averaged 19.3 points, 7.6 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 1.7 steals this season, broke Kathleen Doyle's

school record for points in a season and led Benet to second in Class 4A, is the Suburban Life Girls Basketball Player of the Year for the second straight season.

Beaumont, while devastated at losing her final game, could put the journey and the historic final into perspective.

"If you look back to December, a lot of people felt we wouldn't have been in the supersectional," Beaumont said. "Just to think we competed with the best and had the opportunities we did, it's incredible to think about."

Kilbride, who feels fortunate to have coached two generational talents, marvels at how Beaumont added to her skill set from the most skilled eighth grader

he's ever seen.

Always possessing good size for a guard, Beaumont lifted four times a week this past offseason to get stronger. She worked with Jeff Pagliocca, a trainer with the Chicago Sky and some NBA clubs, on her basketball skills and focus for games.

Beaumont, in addition to everything else she does, became a dominant rebounder in the playoffs. Kilbride called her "maybe the best post player in Illinois, and she's a guard."

"I showed her film from last year's Kenwood game to show her what they did to defend her, and her comment was that was before I got in the weight room," Kilbride said. "She got to where she could put her shoulder on you and control you."

Beaumont's biggest growth in the past two years is a recognition that her team is best-served by a "dog mentality" to hunt for her own shot.

In past seasons, Kilbride at times had to yell at Beaumont to shoot it. At practices before her junior year, Kilbride would stop and make the girls run if Beaumont passed up an open shot.

Kilbride after last season compared Beaumont to "Spider-Man," a superhero who had not realized her powers. He's since revised that thought.

"She hadn't discovered her super powers yet, but now she has," Kilbride said. "Criminals better beware."

Suburban Life All-Area Girls Basketball team

FIRST TEAM

Lenee Beaumont, Benet, senior, guard: Indiana recruit and AP Class 4A First Team All-State pick led Benet to second place in Class 4A after Redwings took fourth in state her junior year. Beaumont averaged 19.3 points, 7.6 rebounds and 3.2 assists a game, her 619 points breaking Kathleen Doyle's single-season record. Beaumont in seven playoff games averaged 22 points, 10 rebounds, 3 assists and 1.5 steals.

Mariann Blass, York, senior, guard: Quincy commit led Dukes to regional title and finished career with 1,050 points. Blass averaged 15.6 points, 3.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 3.5 steals. Sweet-shooting guard capped her career with 31 points in overtime loss to Loyola in sectional semifinal.

Shannon Blacher, Wheaton, senior, guard/forward: NIB recruit and three-time all-GCAC pick led Lady Broncos to 27-8 record and sectional title as a senior. Blacher in first 34 games averaged team-high 12.8 points, 5.3 rebounds, 2.8 assists

and 1.6 steals as one of the area's best defenders. Blacher scored her 1,000th career point this season.

Grace Carstensen, Nazareth, senior, guard: DePaul recruit, four-year varsity player and AP Class 3A First Team All-State pick led 35-1 Nazareth to Class 3A state championship, program's first state title. Sweet-shooting Carstensen averaged team-high 12 points with 4 rebounds, 3 assists and 2 steals a game through 34 games.

Ally Cesarini, Lyons Township, senior, guard: Lewis recruit and four-year varsity player averaged team-high 11.8 points, 4.6 rebounds and 2.8 steals as MVP of 29-5 West Suburban Conference and regional champions. In a game against St. Charles East, Cesarini reached the fourth-highest total in Lyons history with nine steals.

SECOND TEAM

Aralia Dray, Nazareth, junior, guard:

Boston College soccer recruit and AP Class 3A Second Team All-State helped lead 35-1 Nazareth to Class 3A state championship, program's first state title. Dray averaged 11 points, 3 steals and 3 assists through 34 games.

Bella Kedryna, Lemont, senior, guard: South Suburban Conference Blue Division Player of the Year averaged 21.2 points, 9.4 rebounds and 3.2 steals a game while shooting 74% at the free-throw line. Kedryna scored a career-high 34 points in regional final loss to Providence.

Kaitlyn Parker, Downers Grove North, junior, forward: Leading scorer and rebounder for 21-4 Trojans' team. Parker averaged 15 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists and 1.5 steals. She made 41 3-pointers and shot 85% at the free-throw line, making 97.

Emily Petring, Downers Grove South, senior, guard: Coastal Carolina soccer recruit and an outstanding three-sport athlete led Mustangs to first West Suburban Gold title since 2001. Petring averaged 15.7

points, 4.7 rebounds and 3.7 steals a game while shooting 45% from the floor.

Samantha Trimmerger, Benet, senior, forward: One of the area's top posts was at her best in the postseason in helping lead Benet to second in Class 4A. Trimmerger averaged 10.1 points and 6.9 rebounds for the season. She posted double-doubles in both state tournament games and both sectional games.

Honorable Mention

Sara Abdul, Wheaton North, sophomore, guard; Olivia Austin, Nazareth, junior, forward; Kennedy Brandt, Glenbard West, senior, forward; Elle Bruschk, Willowbrook, junior, guard/forward; Maggie Fleming, Downers Grove North, senior; America Flow-ers, Hinsdale South, junior, forward/center; Stella Kohn, York, junior, forward; Victoria Matulevicius, Moultrie, junior, guard; Brooklyn Moore, Glenbard South, sophomore, center; Danielle Scully, Nazareth, junior, forward.