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Kazooza DISCOVER

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 14, 2023



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Willowbrook beats Addison Trail

Willowbrook's football team defeated Addison Trail 42-0 on Friday evening in Addison. Willowbrook led the Blazers 21-0 at halftime in the battle between District 88 rivals. Junior receiver K.J. Rhodes (No. 0) scored the Warriors' first two touchdowns of the game. He caught an 18-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback Arthur Palicki in the middle of the first quarter. On the first play of the second quarter, Rhodes caught a short pass from Palicki and sprinted down the field for an 84-yard

touchdown reception. The Warriors, who maintained possession of the District 88 Trophy with Friday's win, have now defeated Addison Trail in the last eight renewals of the annual game known as the District 88 Bowl. The Blazers have not beaten Willowbrook since 2015. The Warriors improved to 2-1 overall and 1-0 in West Suburban Gold Conference play with their decisive victory. Addison Trail dropped to 2-1 overall and 0-1 in the conference.

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CHRIS FOX PHOTO (Rock Valley Publishing)

Supporting the Warriors

Willowbrook High School's football team received plenty of student support at Friday's West Suburban Gold Conference game against District 88 rival Addison Trail. In addition, Willowbrook's enthusiastic student section is pictured during halftime of Friday's game. The Warriors led Addison Trail 21-0 at halftime. Willowbrook scored three touchdowns during the third quarter on its way to a 42-0 victory.

Police announce results from impaired driving enforcement campaign

The Villa Park Police Department made three DUI arrests during the recent Labor Day impaired driving campaign, which ran from Aug. 18 through the early morning hours of Sept. 5.

Other citations and arrests during the campaign included possession of a controlled substance, a warrant arrest

and driving without a valid driver's license.

"Through the Labor Day enforcement effort, we helped to make our roads safer and remind motorists that impaired driving is not a game," said Villa Park Police Sgt. James Cihak.

The Villa Park Police Department joined forces with other law enforce-

ment agencies and highway safety partners throughout the state for the Illinois Labor Day "Drive-Sober or Get Pulled Over/Drive High Get a DUI" enforcement campaign. The effort was made possible by federal highway safety funds distributed by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Police Reports

The Villa Park Police Department recently reported the following arrests and citations. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a conviction, and that suspects are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Persons charged with domestic battery are not named in order to protect the privacy of victims. Juveniles age 17 or younger are not named.

Sept. 2

Tyshawn Ferguson, 33, of Chicago, was charged with DUI, failure to secure a seatbelt for a child, improper lane usage and disobeying a traffic control signal near W. Roosevelt and S. Ardmore at 2:39 a.m.

A complainant at a store in the 400 block of W. North reported that an unknown suspect removed items from display shelves and left through the emergency exit.

A complainant at a store in the 900 block of S. Route 83 reported at 7:16 p.m. that two subjects battered each other.

Sept. 1

Police said Eleanor J. Bell, 63, of Streamwood, was arrested on an origi-

nal complaint and warrant for violation of a stalking no-contact order for an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 30.

A complainant at a store in the 500 block of S. Route 83 reported that an unknown suspect removed multiple scooters from display shelves and left the store without paying.

Aug. 30

A 16-year-old male juvenile from Villa Park was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, no valid driver's license and a curfew violation in the 300 block of S. Oakland at 4:20 a.m.

Officer served a suspect at a hotel in the 1-100 block of W. Roosevelt with an order of protection at 3:27 a.m. A victim was transported to an area hospital.

Aug. 29

Alexis L. Hudgens, 32, of Chicago, was charged with retail theft/switching a price tag not exceeding \$300 at a store in the 900 block of S. Route 83 at 10:13 p.m.

Joe A. Stacker, 29, of Chicago, was charged with retail theft/possessing displayed merchandise not exceeding

\$300 at a store in the 1-100 block of E. North at 2:03 p.m.

Aug. 28

A complainant at a gas station in the 300 block of W. St. Charles reported two subjects were arguing and shoving each other.

Aug. 27

A complainant in the 1100 block of N. Yale reported an unknown suspect removed a laptop from an unsecured vehicle parked in the driveway. The suspect also removed an unsecured vehicle parked in the driveway. A few days later, the vehicle was located in another town.

Juvenile complainants at a school in the 1100 block of S. Villa reported at 1:40 p.m. that an unknown suspect followed them while they were riding their bicycles. Upon officers' arrival, the suspect was gone.

Fraud, identity theft

According to information provided by the Villa Park Police Department, police reported five incidents of residents being a victim of fraud or identity theft.

Two women charged with stealing more than \$1,400 worth of merchandise from Oak Brook Nordstrom Rack

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and Oak Brook Chief of Police Brian Strockis announced that bond was set for two women accused of stealing from the Shops at Oak Brook Nordstrom Rack store on 22nd Street.

Destiny Jackson, 25, and Alexis Glenn, 30, of Chicago, each appeared at a bond hearing where Judge Brian Telander set bond at \$20,000 with 10 percent to apply for Jackson and at \$10,000 with 10 percent to apply for Glenn. The state had asked for a bond of \$75,000 with 10 percent to apply for both Jackson and Glenn.

Both defendants are charged with one count of burglary (Class 2 felony) and two counts of retail theft (one Class 3 and one Class 4 felony).

Additionally, Jackson is charged with one count of aggravated battery to a police officer (Class 2 felony) for allegedly biting one of the officers during a brief struggle.

On Sept. 6, at approximately 1:45 p.m., an Oak Brook police officer observed a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot of the Nordstrom Rack store with an out of state temporary license plate that was backed into a parking spot, unoccupied and left running.

It is alleged two women, later identified as Jackson and Glenn, arrived at the Nordstrom Rack in the vehicle and then went in the store. It is alleged that after approximately three minutes, both defendants exited the store carrying shopping bags filled with approximately \$1,471 worth of fragrances that neither defendant had paid for.

It is further alleged that when confronted by officers, the defendants threw the bags of merchandise on the ground and attempted to flee on foot. It is alleged that Jackson was tackled by an officer and that during a struggle she bit the officer. Glenn was taken into custody approximately 200 yards away after a brief foot pursuit.

"The allegations that these two women drove to the Nordstrom Rack store and left their car running in the parking lot while they helped themselves to more than \$1,400 worth of merchandise and simply walked out without paying, are shocking," Berlin said. "Even more disturbing is the allegation that Jackson bit an officer, breaking his skin, as she was being arrested. The fact that Oak Brook police officers were waiting for them when they walked out of the store is a testament to the truly outstanding work of the Oak Brook Police Department."

"This is another example of our pro-active policing strategies working to deter crime and enforce the law," Strockis said. "Our undercover officers are out in our retail areas looking for suspicious activity which is resulting in significant arrests and recovered stolen property. It's disgusting that the suspect bit an officer attempting to elude arrest and I'm grateful he was not severely injured. We will not accept or tolerate this type of behavior in Oak Brook and will continue to keep our retail establishments safe."

The next court appearance for both defendants is scheduled Oct. 5, for arraignment in front of Judge Telander.

Battery manufacturing plant coming to Illinois with \$530 million incentive deal

By Andrew Adams
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

A new battery manufacturing plant is set to open in northern Illinois next year after the state offered more than \$330 million in tax incentives to make it happen.

Gotion, a Chinese battery manufacturing and development company, announced on Sept. 8 that it will build a lithium-ion battery manufacturing facility in Manteno, about 50 miles south of Chicago.

The roughly \$2 billion project is set to create 2,600 jobs and begin production in 2024. The plant will produce battery cells, battery packs like the kinds used in electric vehicles and large-scale energy storage systems.

Gov. JB Pritzker called the development "the most significant new manufacturing investment in Illinois in decades."

In total, the state and local governments offered Gotion more than \$536 million in incentives and tax breaks, according to Pritzker's office.

The company is the fifth to make a deal with the state under the two-year-old Reimagining Energy and Vehicles, or REV, program. Under the deal finalized on Thursday, the state will provide \$213 million in tax credits to the company over the next 30 years — nearly nine times more than the previous four deals combined. Gotion's agreement is contingent on a minimum investment of

\$1.9 billion among other stipulations.

Gotion is also set to receive \$125 million for capital funds from a \$400 million pot of money overseen by Pritzker's office that is sometimes referred to as a "closing fund." This discretionary fund was approved by lawmakers for the current budget year, giving Pritzker the authority to offer businesses incentives to relocate to Illinois beyond those offered in other state programs.

A Pritzker spokesperson said the negotiations between the state and Gotion started approximately two years ago.

The company also worked out a deal with Kankakee County to cap the taxes paid on the approximately 150-acre property at \$2 million per year for the next 30 years, according to Kankakee County Board Chair Andrew Wheeler.

The chairman of Gotion's parent company in a statement on Sept. 8 said that the group was drawn to Illinois because of "an enabling business environment" and "a supportive state government."

The company produces lithium iron phosphate cells for groups like Volkswagen. The German automotive manufacturer is the largest single shareholder in Gotion's parent company, Gotion High-tech, and the two companies share a strategic framework for developing battery cells, according to Volkswagen's 2022 annual report.

Warriors rout Blazers 42-0

Willowbrook has won eight straight meetings in the District 88 Bowl

The Willowbrook football team opened its West Suburban Gold Conference season by steamrolling Addison Trail 42-0 on Friday night in Addison.

The Warriors improved their overall season record to 2-1 with their win over the Blazers in the annual battle known as the District 88 Bowl. Willowbrook hasn't lost to Addison Trail since 2015.

Addison Trail dropped to 2-1 following its loss to the Warriors. The Blazers opened their season with non-conference wins over Maine East and North Chicago.

The Warriors will play a conference game at Downers Grove South (0-3) this Friday. The Mustangs opened their season with non-conference losses to Wheaton North, Down-

ers Grove North and York.

Willowbrook's duo of senior quarterback Arthur Palicki and junior receiver K.J. Rhodes teamed up on the team's first two touchdowns of Friday's game. Palicki fired a 22-yard touchdown pass to Rhodes on a fourth-and-18 play with 5:26 left in the first quarter. On the first play of the second quarter, Palicki threw a short pass to Rhodes, who caught the ball near the Warriors' 15-yard line and zoomed down the middle of the field for an 84-yard touchdown reception. Junior kicker Brandon Lopez added the second of his six extra-point kicks of the game to give the Warriors a 14-0 lead.

A 1-yard touchdown run from Palicki boosted Willowbrook's lead to 20-0 with about two minutes left in

the first half.

The Warriors kicked off to the Blazers to start the second half. Willowbrook recovered the kickoff at Addison Trail's 20-yard line. Two plays later, Palicki broke a 17-yard touchdown run to give the Warriors a 27-0 lead.

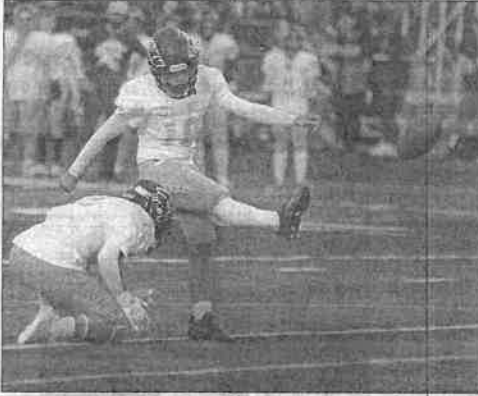
Palicki added a 4-yard touchdown run with about five minutes to play in the third quarter. Later in the quarter, junior Aidan Kuehl of the Warriors picked up a short Addison Trail punt and raced 25 yards into the end zone to account for his team's final touchdown of the night. Lopez tacked on the extra-point kick to push the lead to 42-0 with 3:30 left in the third quarter.

Kuehl's punt return for a touchdown triggered a running clock for the remainder of the game.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's football team overpowered Addison Trail 42-0 on Friday in Addison. The Warriors scored three touchdowns during the first half to take a 21-0 halftime lead. Willowbrook added three more touchdowns in the third quarter. One photo from Friday's contest shows senior quarterback Arthur Palicki (No. 1 - above), who scored three rushing touchdowns for the Warriors during the game. Palicki, who is shown with offensive lineman Myles McIntyre (No. 71), fired a pair of touchdown passes to junior K.J. Rhodes during Friday's victory. Another photo from Willowbrook's win over the Blazers shows junior Brandon Lopez (No. 10), who made all six of his extra-point kicks during the game. He is pictured (far left) with junior Troy Wisner, who is the holder on Lopez's kicks. One more photo from Friday shows senior linebacker Cody Wenkus (No. 11 - left) pursuing an Addison Trail ball carrier. The Warriors' season continues with this Friday's game at Downers Grove South.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Undefeated

Willowbrook's girls volleyball team ran its overall season record to 14-0 with six wins last week. The Warriors opened their West Suburban Gold Conference season with a 25-12, 25-12 win at Addison Trail on Sept. 5. Willowbrook then won five straight matches to win the championship of Saturday's six-team Leyden Invitational. The Warriors didn't lose a single game during their five victories at Leyden's

round-robin event. One photo (right) from last week's win at Addison Trail shows senior Calli Kenny of the Warriors rising above the net. Another photo from the match shows senior Elisa Chivillo (No. 3 - middle) keeping the ball in play. One more photo (left) shows junior Anna Marinier (No. 8) hitting a serve. The Warriors' schedule this week includes today's non-conference match at Montini Catholic in Lombard.

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 7, 2023

KABOOM!

Playground Build

Last chance to register! BvilleParks.org/kaboom

DISCOVER

GRAND OPENING 1 p.m. SATURDAY, SEPT. 16



SUBMITTED PHOTO: Addison Independent

District 88 pays tribute to Vanessa Rocha

Trees were tied with blue ribbons as the District 88 community lined the street in front of Addison Trail High School on Friday, Sept. 1, as a salute to Vanessa Rocha who passed away recently after a battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Rocha was an administrative assistant to the Willowbrook Guidance Department beginning in 2013, then in 2022, transitioned to Addison Trail in the same position. Story on page 3.

Man charged with robbing Bensenville bank ATM

Leads police on high-speed chase

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and Bensenville Chief of Police Daniel Schulze have announced that bond was set for a Tex-

as man accused of robbing a Bensenville bank ATM technician and then leading police on a high-speed chase before crashing his car in Lombard.

Earrest Hudson, 23, of Houston, appeared at a bond hearing where Judge Daniel Guerin set bond at \$1.5 million.

Hudson is charged with one count of financial institution robbery (Class 1 felony), one count of robbery (Class 2 felony), one count of ag-

gravated fleeing and eluding (Class 4 felony) and multiple misdemeanor and petty traffic offenses.

Judge Guerin also granted the state's motion for a source of funds hearing at which the defendant must prove that any funds used to post bond are not the result of illegal ac-

tivity.

On Wednesday, Aug. 30 at approximately 4:34 p.m., a technician was servicing an ATM at the Chase Bank located in the 100 block of W. Grand Ave. in Bensenville. It is alleged that

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District 88 invites stakeholders to Crosstown Classic

Annual football rivalry takes place Friday

It's football season, and the community is invited to attend this year's 57th annual District 88 Crosstown Classic Football Game between the Addison Trail Blazers and the Willowbrook

Warriors on Friday, Sept. 8 at Addison Trail, 213 N. Lombard Rd. Gates will open at 5 p.m., and just before the varsity game begins (about 5:45 p.m.), there will be an introduction of

local community leaders, dignitaries, service groups, first responders and veterans. The district looks forward to seeing everyone to enjoy a night of football, friendship and fun.

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DISTRICT 88

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ATHS mourns loss of well-loved staffer

Vanessa Rocha loses courageous battle with ALS

With great sadness, District 88 shared the news with the community that Addison Trail staff member Vanessa Rocha passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 23 as a result of her battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Rocha joined the District 88 family in 2013 as an administrative assistant to the Willowbrook Guidance Department, then transitioned to Addison Trail in 2022 in the same position.

"Vanessa truly embodied what it means to be an Addison Trail Blazer," said Addison Trail principal Jack Andrews.

"Vanessa would warmly welcome in students as they were looking for their counselors, make colleagues laugh and would always make herself available to help when needed. In spite of being diagnosed with ALS, she showed up to work and put forth effort to make it a good day. Her perseverance is something all of us admired and will remember. Those who had the opportunity to know Vanessa will forever be grateful for her smile and laugh."

She was the cherished daughter to Ruben Munoz and Rosalva Munoz (nee Gonzalez); beloved, caring, and exemplary mother to Alessandro Rocha and Alexa Rocha; loving sister to Ruben (Roberta) Munoz and Kenny Munoz.



Vanessa Rocha
1979-2023

Treasured granddaughter to the late Jesus Munoz Marquez, the late Maria De la Luz Munoz Garcia, the late Blas Gonzalez, and Maria Guadalupe Robledo. She was also a beloved niece, adored by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Vanessa leaves many hearts empty as she was more than a daughter to her parents and more than a "Sis" to her siblings.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Vanessa was loved by many, especially all the kids she helped at the guidance counselors office. She will be greatly missed.

Memorial services took place on Friday, Sept. 1 and included a procession past Addison Trail, where staff lined the sidewalks as a sign of love and support. Trees and light posts at the school were wrapped in blue ribbon to raise awareness of ALS.

In lieu of flowers and in her memory please consider a contribution toward the 2023 ALS Walk for life: Yanny's Village- Les Turner ALS Foundation.

Addison Trail kicks off school year with open house

On Thursday, Aug. 31, Addison Trail students and parents/guardians attended the school's annual Open House.

Participants were able to tour the building, meet administrators and staff members and learn about Addison Trail's curriculum as they followed an abbreviated version of their child's daily schedule.

Principal Jack Andrews welcomed the group and shared successes of Addison Trail, as well as important information for the school year.

The District 88 Transition Program also hosted an Open House for parents/guardians.

That program 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.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Addison Trail science teacher Jorge Galvan passes out information as he speaks with those who attended the school's Open House on Thursday, Aug. 31.

•Robbery (Continued from front page)

while the technician was working, two men, one of whom was later identified as Hudson, pulled into another bank lane near the technician, exited their vehicle, a Nissan Murano, and ran toward the technician.



Ernest Hudson

It is alleged that the men, who were both wearing masks, ordered the technician to leave. It is further alleged that after the technician left, Hudson and his accomplice took the ATM containers containing cash and checks, got back in their vehicle and

fled the scene westbound on Grand Avenue.

A bank employee called 9-1-1 at this time. At approximately 4:50 p.m., officers with the Elmhurst Police Department observed the suspects' vehicle traveling southbound on Route 83. Officers initiated a pursuit. It is alleged that the vehicle, driven by Hudson, did not stop for officers and continued to flee, driving in and out of traffic until turning west onto St. Charles Road. It is further alleged that Hudson continued to flee police reaching speeds of more than 100 mph on St. Charles Road before crashing his car in the 600 block of St. Charles Road.

Both suspects fled the car on foot

and Hudson was taken into custody after a brief pursuit. Police said approximately \$38,000 in cash was recovered from the defendant and the vehicle.

"It is alleged that in the middle of the afternoon, Mr. Hudson and his accomplice, both wearing masks, approached an innocent man who was working on an ATM, ordered him to leave and then robbed the bank ATM of approximately \$38,000," Berlin said. "I thank the Bensenville Police Department for their efforts on this case as well as the Lombard and Elmhurst police departments for their work on apprehending the defendant."

"Mr. Hudson thought that by rent-

ing a car and allegedly putting stolen plates on it, he and his accomplice could outsmart law enforcement," Schulze said.

"They underestimated the cooperative efforts of DuPage County police departments and the State's Attorney's Office working closely together. He was quickly apprehended and charged.

"I would like to thank the police departments that helped with this case, including but not limited to Elmhurst, Villa Park and Lombard as well as the DuPage County Sheriff's Office."

Hudson's next court appearance is scheduled Thursday, Sept. 28 for arraignment in front of Judge Guerin.

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2023/01

Warriors even their record at 1-1 with a home victory

Willowbrook scores 27 unanswered points in 27-14 win over the Panthers

Willowbrook's football team rallied to beat Glenbard North 27-14 in Friday night's non-conference game in Villa Park. The Warriors improved to 1-1 after winning their 2023 home opener.

Willowbrook will begin its West Suburban Gold Conference season with this Friday's battle at District 88 rival Addison Trail (2-0). The Blazers, who started their season with non-conference wins over Maine East and North Chicago, are the only West Suburban Gold Conference team with an unblemished 2023 record.

Glenbard North, which fell to 0-2 after its loss to Willowbrook, led the Warriors 14-0 in the middle of the second quarter. Willowbrook fought back to even the score at 14-14 by halftime. The Warriors scored two fourth-quarter touchdowns on their way to picking up their first victory of the season.

Willowbrook delivered its fourth-quarter success one week after allowing a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns in a 15-12 loss at Notre Dame College Prep in Niles on Aug. 25. The Warriors led Notre Dame 12-0 through three quarters of the season opener.

The Dons scored two, fourth-quarter touchdowns on their way to a narrow victory.

Glenbard North's first offensive drive against Willowbrook yielded a touchdown—a 3-yard scoring run with a little more than five minutes left in the first quarter. The Panthers' opening drive covered 59 yards and included a 48-yard pass play.

Glenbard North scored its second touchdown of the night on a 2-yard run on a fourth-and-goal play with 7:46 remaining in the second quarter. The touchdown run completed a 67-yard drive.

The Warriors responded with a 72-yard scoring drive that concluded with a 35-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback Arthur Palicki to junior K.J. Rhodes. Palicki looked to his right and lofted a high pass on the play. Rhodes made the catch near the goal line.

Junior Brandon Lopez added the extra-point kick to cut Glenbard North's lead to 14-7 with about five minutes left in the first half.

Willowbrook raced 93 yards for a

touchdown on its next offensive series. The Warriors began the drive after a Glenbard North punt. Willowbrook took possession of the ball at its own 7-yard line with less than one minute to play in the first half.

Palicki began the drive by completing two passes to Rhodes. Palicki then connected with senior Carter Ferguson on a 49-yard pass play that advanced the ball to the Panthers' 22-yard line.

A few plays later, Palicki completed another pass to Ferguson, who was tackled near the 3-yard line. Palicki threw the ball to the turf on the next play to stop the clock. He then fired a short touchdown pass to junior Jesus Gomez with less than 10 seconds to play in the half. Lopez made the ensuing extra-point kick to deadlock the score at 14-14.

Willowbrook's defense stopped the Panthers short of a first down on a fourth-and-two run in the third quarter. The Warriors then took possession of the ball at their own 25-yard line.

A Glenbard North interception ended a Willowbrook scoring threat later in the third quarter. The Panthers be-

gan their ensuing drive at their own 10-yard line following the turnover.

After an very short punt by the Panthers early in the fourth quarter, Willowbrook began an offensive series at Glenbard North's 28-yard line. The Warriors capitalized on the good field position. Palicki closed out a 28-yard drive with a 3-yard touchdown run that gave the Warriors their first lead of the evening. Lopez's extra-point kick raised Willowbrook's lead to 21-14 with 10:46 left in the game.

Minutes later, Glenbard North faked a punt and threw a pass on a fourth-down play. The Panthers completed the pass, but the Warriors stopped the receiver short of a first down. Glenbard North was flagged for a penalty on the play. The Warriors declined the penalty and took possession at the Panthers' 42-yard line.

Once again, Willowbrook took advantage of its good field position. Shortly after a holding penalty sent the Warriors back to where their drive began, Palicki fired to Ferguson, who caught the ball in the middle of the field, near the 20-yard line, and raced

into the end zone for a 42-yard touchdown reception that pushed Willowbrook's lead to 27-14 with 7:20 left in the game.

The Warriors couldn't convert the ensuing extra-point kick after they were unable to cleanly execute the snap to the holder.

Willowbrook's defense delivered two more fourth-down stops in the game's closing minutes. One of those stops came on a fourth-and-one run at midfield with about five minutes to play. The next fourth-down stop came with about one minute remaining. The Panthers completed a pass on that play, but the Warriors tackled the receiver short of the first-down marker.

The Warriors and Glenbard East recently confirmed that the two schools will renew their football rivalry in 2024.

Willowbrook and the Rams met in the season opener for several years, but the two area schools haven't squared off on the gridiron since 2015.

Next year's matchup between the neighboring schools will take place in Villa Park.

Warriors' boys and girls teams race at Lyons Township

Willowbrook's Amelie Ojeda finishes 14th in the girls race

Willowbrook's boys and girls cross-country teams ran in Saturday's Mike Kuharic Invite at Lyons

Township High School's south campus. The Warriors finished 13th out of

16 teams in the girls race. Willowbrook landed in 14th place in the 19-team boys' event.

Both teams competed on the same 5-kilometer (3.1 mile) course. The boys race began a few minutes after the end of the girls race.

Junior Amelie Ojeda delivered the Willowbrook girls team's best finish in Saturday's event by completing the race in a 14th-place time of 19 minutes, 52.5 seconds.

Junior Malin Meeker (22:42; 68th), junior Molly Brown (23:00; 73rd), junior Rosemary Kling (24:55.7; 93rd) and senior Lillian Caron (24:58.6; 94th) rounded out the Warriors' scoring lineup. Junior Sophia Stasch (30:37.6; 108th) also competed in the

race for Willowbrook.

Downers Grove North won the team title in the girls race with its total of 26 points. Five Trojans ran to top-10 finishes in the invitational standings. Lyons Township placed second with 55 points, while Sandburg claimed third place with 71 points. Willowbrook posted a team score of 333 points in its 13th-place finish.

Junior Adriano Quintero turned in the Warriors' fastest time in the boys race, which he completed in a 50th-place time of 17 minutes, 41.1 seconds. Senior Declan Abercrombie (17:47.2; 53rd) was the next Willowbrook runner to cross the finish line.

Junior Jake Skjibbe (18:01.2;

67th), senior Eyan Weder (18:42.4; 86th) and junior Kasen Blain (19:01.5; 97th) completed the Warriors' scoring lineup in the boys race. Seniors Liam Moran (19:40.8; 109th) and Alex Perry (20:57.7; 119th) also represented Willowbrook in the boys race.

Lyons Township won the team title in the boys competition with its score of 76 points. West Aurora placed second with 80 points. The Warriors finished in 14th place in the team standings with 345 points. Niles West also finished with 345 points. The Warriors won the tiebreaker with Niles West because Willowbrook's sixth-fastest runner (Moran) finished ahead of Niles West's sixth-fastest runner (by 2.4 seconds).



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Winning duo

Willowbrook's girls tennis team faced Elk Grove in last week's dual meet in Villa Park. The Warriors earned a 4-3 victory in the Aug. 30 event, which featured three singles matches and four doubles contests. Willowbrook prevailed in all four doubles matches. The Warriors' tandem of seniors Lauren Carson (above left) and Jasmine Langston (above right) posted a 6-3, 7-5 victory in the No. 1 doubles match. Senior Brenda Martinez and Junior Avery Scalls delivered a 6-0, 6-1 win at No. 2 doubles. Senior Natalie Bliss and sophomore Hannah Gawat provided a 6-2, 6-3 triumph in the No. 3 doubles match. Willowbrook's No. 4 doubles team of sophomores Kiki Smalling and Zoey Evans sailed to a 6-0, 6-0 win. Junior Elia Lopez of the Warriors lost a 6-3, 6-4 decision in the meet's No. 1 singles match. Willowbrook senior Lauren Schaik lost 6-1, 6-4 at No. 2 singles, while sophomore Shannon Freer suffered a 7-5, 6-2 loss at No. 3 singles.

Broncos jump to 2-0 with 44-24 win over Hillcrest

Marre scores three touchdowns in Montini's road victory

The Montini Catholic football team raised its record to 2-0 with Friday's 44-24 win over Hillcrest High School in Country Club Hills.

The Broncos will continue their season with this Friday's game against Nazareth Academy (0-2) in Lombard.

Montini led Hillcrest (1-1) 23-0 at halftime of Friday's contest. The Broncos led the Hawks 37-8 with about eight minutes to play in the game.

Senior kicker Cole Stumbaugh gave Montini an early 3-0 lead when he kicked a 20-yard field goal in the first quarter.

The Broncos added to their lead later in the opening quarter, when junior quarterback Gaetano Carbonara

threw a 30-yard touchdown pass to junior Santino Florio.

Carbonara and Florio connected on a 36-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter. Stumbaugh's extra-point kick pushed the Broncos' lead to 17-0.

Moments after the Hawks fumbled a punt, Montini senior Alex Marre raced 19 yards for a touchdown to push his team's lead to 23-0 late in the second quarter.

Hillcrest scored its first touchdown of the game in the middle of the third quarter. The Hawks converted a two-point play to reduce Montini's lead to 23-8.

Minutes later, Marre broke an 18-yard touchdown run. Stumbaugh added the extra-point kick to give

the Broncos a 30-8 lead with a little more than three minutes left in the third quarter.

Montini senior George Asay provided a 57-yard touchdown run with about eight minutes left in the fourth quarter. About two minutes later, Marre caught a 51-yard touchdown pass from Carbonara. Marre's third touchdown of the night gave the Broncos a 43-16 lead. Stumbaugh made the extra-point kick to produce the team's final point of the night.

Marre rushed for 161 yards on 14 attempts and made three receptions for 84 yards during Friday's victory. Carbonara completed 10 of 14 pass attempts for 192 yards and three touchdowns. He threw one interception.

Blazer makes an ace



Senior Zack Morris of the Addison Trail boys golf team fired a hole-in-one during Willowbrook High School's John Hamann Invitational on Saturday morning. Morris recorded the ace at the par-3 second hole at Sugar Creek Golf Course in Villa Park. The Invitational featured a scramble format. Addison Trail's team shot an 8-under-par score of 56 to finish fourth in the standings of the 12-team event.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Answers

PUZZLE 1

5	4	3	7	6	8	2	9	1
9	2	8	4	1	3	5	6	7
1	6	7	2	5	9	8	3	4
7	5	9	8	4	6	3	1	2
6	8	2	5	3	1	7	4	9
4	3	1	9	7	2	6	5	8
8	1	6	3	2	4	9	7	5
3	9	5	1	8	7	4	2	6
2	7	4	6	9	5	1	8	3

PUZZLE 2

1	2	8	6	4	5	9	3	7
9	4	5	7	3	8	2	1	6
3	7	6	1	9	2	4	8	5
5	3	4	8	7	1	3	6	2
6	8	1	9	2	3	7	5	4
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8	5	9	4	1	7	6	2	3
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CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR THE BENSENVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1

A Public Hearing to approve a proposed property Tax levy increase for the Bensenville Fire Protection District No. 1 for 2023 will be held on September 13, 2023 at 6:45 p.m. at the Bensenville Park District 1000 W. Wood Street, Bensenville, Illinois. Any person desiring to appear at the Public Hearing and present testimony to the District may contact Jeff Agonath, Treasurer, P.O. Box 225, Bensenville, IL 60106. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended for 2022 were \$278,650. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2023 are \$412,350. This represents 47.9% increase over the previous year. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2022 were \$0 (Zero). The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2023 are \$0 (Zero). This represents no change over the previous year. The total taxes for 2022 were \$278,650. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2023 are \$412,350.

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Zachary Morris named 88's Best for August

Faculty point out 'warm personality, genuineness'

Zachary Morris has been named as Addison Trail's August recipient of 88's Best recognition for his outstanding academic accomplishments. The senior was recognized during the Aug. 28 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

Throughout his four years at Addison Trail, Morris has proven to be a great role model for his peers and has spent his high school career balancing all of it with a positive attitude and a contagious Blazer spirit that has had a lasting effect on his teachers and classmates. He said he is extremely proud of how he pushed through the second semester of his junior year, as he lost two grandmothers, both of whom were very close to him, during that time.

"I believe everyone is a product of their environment, so I believe my parents are a huge reason for my successes," he said. "If it wasn't for my parents' love and support, I would not nearly be the person I am today. My motivation stems from those closest to me. My successes are a collective effort with my friends and family."

Morris plans to attend "a high-level university." He hopes to continue volunteering with the Special Olympics program and would consider playing collegiate level golf.

Achievements:

- Ranked at the top of his class
- Earned Distinction Honor Roll status each semester of his high school career
- Named "Student of the Semester" by the English, social studies and business depts

Involvement at Addison Trail:

- Member of National Honor Society (NHS), Board President, past three years
- Member of DECA; qualified for the DECA International Career Development Conference

- Member of Math Team
- Member of the varsity boys golf team, Captain since his sophomore year
- Member of the boys volleyball team

• Volunteer coach with the Special Olympics basketball team

• Helps coordinate events for the Best Buddies Club

Addison Trail faculty share praise for Morris:

"Morris did such a great job this past year as a peer coach to our Special Olympics Basketball Team. The kids all had so much fun working together and can't wait for the upcoming season. He also has been a wonderful Best Buddy to all the students."

- Jessica Sokolowski, special education teacher and Best Buddies Club adviser

"I am excited for Morris' recognition and not at all surprised. It is wonderful to know that Morris' achievements his freshman year on Zoom were only the beginning to his high school academic successes. I remember Morris' consistent dedication in maintaining his grades and for doing whatever was necessary to excel, given our remote learning circumstances. However, what I remember most of all is Morris' infectious smile (yes, I saw it often on Zoom!), kindness and joviality. I wish Morris all the best in his future endeavors."

- Aileen Sullivan, science teacher

"I have had the pleasure of coaching Morris in golf. He is a four-time varsity team member and two-year captain. As a captain, Morris has led the team with honor and integrity - and in the sport of golf, those two things are extremely important. He is a wonderful young man with an amazing personality. Morris is definitely deserving of this honor, and I am excited to see he is



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pictured here with Addison Trail Principal Jack Andrews is Zachary Morris, who has been named as Addison Trail's August recipient of 88's Best recognition for his outstanding academic accomplishments. Morris, a senior, was recognized during the Aug. 28 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

receiving it."

- Eric Noyberg, math teacher and head boys golf coach

"Morris is one of those students who enters a teacher's classroom and leaves the sort of impression that won't fade. Not only does he check all the boxes of being a stellar student, including his classroom participation as well as outstanding quiz and test scores, but he shines his warm personality on his teachers and fellow students. There is

a genuineness to him that makes all those around him feel seen and cared about. This upbeat and positive nature is a daily occurrence, despite the challenging situations he experienced during his junior year, losing loved ones within his family. He handles adversity and stays true to his best self, which is a model not only for his peers, but an inspiration to his teachers as well."

- Stephen Bruns, English teacher



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Future Blazers take the field

The halftime performers during Friday's football game at Addison Trail High School included participants in recent camps held by the school's cheerleading and dance teams. The photo (above left) from Friday shows some of the girls who took part in the cheerleading team's camp. Another photo (above right) shows a few of the girls who attended the camp conducted by the school's dance team—the Blazettes.

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Suburban Life

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

CALLI KENNY

Willowbrook, senior, volleyball

Why Kenny was selected: Kenny had 20 kills – 12 coming in the third set – eight assists and seven digs to lead Willowbrook to a three-set win over Lyons. She then helped lead the Warriors to the championship of the Willowbrook Invite. She was selected the Athlete of the Week in an online vote.

Here is her interview with Sports Editor Joshua Welge.

Welge: How big was that Lyons' win and what did it do for the team's confidence?

Kenny: I think it was a great first test to see how we can deal with adversity. We have never beaten them, even in our most successful seasons, so I think winning gives us the confidence that this could be the best one yet.

Welge: You've said you want this to be the greatest Willowbrook team ever. What gives you confidence that it can be?

Kenny: Our lineup is pretty experienced. We all felt how it was to come up short last year and most of us being seniors are two really huge factors making us want to make this year special. I think we also saw [last] weekend that when everyone is playing well, we don't have any weak links.

Welge: What areas of your game do you want to continue to grow as you prepare to play Division I volleyball [at Marquette] next year?

Kenny: One big thing I want to work on is my serve receive and defense because it's a possibility that I might do that at Marquette.

Welge: You've played multiple sports well. What made you decide that volleyball was the one you wanted to continue to pursue?

Kenny: I've always been on successful teams in volleyball and been part of great programs [Willowbrook and 1st Alliance]. I've also been surrounded by amazing coaches and teammates that make competing even more fun. I also love the fast pace game that allows for so many opportunities to make an impact every point.

Welge: Do you know what you plan to study at Marquette?

Kenny: I'm interested in nutrition or physical therapy.

Welge: What's your favorite TV show or movie?

Kenny: "The Summer I Turned Pretty"

Welge: What's your favorite food?

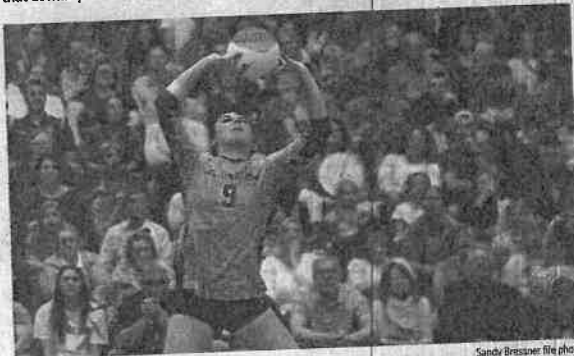
Kenny: Anything Mexican!

Welge: What's the favorite current class you are taking?

Kenny: AP Psychology

Welge: What's the favorite meal a family member makes?

Kenny: Tacos



Sandy Bressner file photo

Willowbrook's Calli Kenny sets the ball during the Class 4A Proviso West Sectional final game against St. Charles East on Nov. 2, 2022.

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PREP FOOTBALL: LYONS 13, WHEATON WARRENVILLE SOUTH 0

Jack McQueeney moves to running back, scores both Lyons TDs

By BILL STONE

Shaw Local News Network correspondent

WESTERN SPRINGS — Lyons Township senior wide receiver and co-captain Jack McQueeney was excited this preseason to learn he would also be starting at safety.

At practice Aug. 29, McQueeney found out he was adding a third position — running back.

"It was kind of a last-second plan. Our running back was out and I had to fill in," McQueeney said. "A great opportunity to get some handoffs. And the team played great tonight."

McQueeney scored both touchdowns Sept. 1, including one rushing, and contributed to a great defensive effort that lifted the Lyons to a 13-0 victory over visiting Wheaton Warrenville South.



Jack McQueeney

McQueeney had a 24-yard touchdown reception from senior quarterback Ryan Jackson 57.4 seconds before halftime and an 8-yard touchdown run with 1:38 left in the third quarter right after the Lyons (1-1) thwarted a WW South drive that reached the 12-yard line.

McQueeney rushed for 99 yards on 13 second-half carries after one no gain before halftime.

"We just kept building up on the momentum," McQueeney said. "After that [touchdown], it just felt like we couldn't be stopped in the run game right after halftime."

Lyons coach Jon Beutjer, a former star quarterback for the Tigers, called the victory "a must-win" for the 2022 Class 8A state quarterfinalists.

"Hats off to our defense. We gave up some plays. They had some nice third-down conversions but our guys just hanging tough and believing and playing for each other," Beutjer said.

"Any time you can get a shutout against Wheaton South, or any team, we're happy about that. I'm just proud

that our guys just kept battling and not giving up."

Lyons' defense saw Illinois recruit Eddie Tuerk, Colgate recruit Noah Pfafflin, Kellen Knop, Roman Sosnovy and Ian Gamino combine for five sacks.

WW South (1-1) had only 65 yards of offense in the first half but went 27 yards on the opening drive of the second half. The next drive had a 46-yard strike from quarterback Luca Carbonaro to Joey Preede to reach the Lyons 13.

After gaining another yard, the Tigers had a holding penalty trying to halt the Lyons' pass rush. WW South followed with a 9-yard pass to the 13. After Pfafflin's sack put the ball back to the 22, Maison Haas' 29-yard field-goal attempt was wide right.

The Lyons then marched 80 yards to score again using McQueeney's rushing and two passes for 31 yards to Caleb Greer, who had 104 of Jackson's 155 passing yards.

"A tale of a few plays there that we don't convert and then the swing of momentum with a long drive coming

back was probably a key point in the game," WW South coach Sean Norris said. "We're playing some young kids that are learning. We have some guys that need to learn to be in the moment and make those plays when they need to in varsity football."

The Tigers' defense again played well, holding Lyons to 128 yards in the first half, but 52 came on Jackson's last two completions.

Jackson found Greer for a 28-yard completion to the 39, followed by a pass interference penalty trying to connect with Pfafflin.

At the 24-yard line, Jackson rolled right, scrambled back across the field and found a wide-open McQueeney at the 13. McQueeney beat the oncoming defensive back to the end zone.

"Ryan's insane. Just an awesome play by Ryan. I hardly had to do any work," McQueeney said.

Carbonaro passed for 154 yards, 114 in the second half. WW South sophomore Owen Yorke rushed for 70 yards starting in place of both injured Matt Crider and Max Schlegel.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL: WILLOWBROOK DEF. LYONS 21-25, 26-24, 25-19

Calli Kenny takes over in third set, rallies Willowbrook

By JOSHUA WELGE

jwelge@shawmedia.com

LA GRANGE — Calli Kenny has set the bar awfully high at Willowbrook the past two seasons, but this year she's reaching for the stars.

Or, as she calls it, the G.O.A.T. "G.O.A.T., greatest of all time, that's our motto for this year," Kenny said. "We want to have the greatest season that Willowbrook has ever had."

Kenny, a senior, and the Warriors took a giant first step toward that Aug. 30.

The Marquette recruit put the team on her back when it mattered most with a stunning 12 kills in the final set. Kenny and Willowbrook came back from a set down and an early six-point hole in the third set for a 21-25, 26-24, 25-19 win over host Lyons.

Nobody on the Willowbrook side knew if the program had ever beaten Lyons, but even so, it's safe to say it's been a while. The Warriors had lost the last 10 matches to the Lyons dating to 2007. Kenny was a baby when that streak started, but she had her own personal history and hungered to break through against Lyons.

She did with 20 kills, eight assists, seven digs and four aces. Sister Hannah Kenny had 10 kills, 14 assists and 11

digs. Anna Marinier had four kills and eight digs and Elisa Chivilo turned in 11 digs for Willowbrook (3-0).

"I lost to them my freshman year. I lost to them last year, too," Kenny said. "This was a great first test to seeing the kind of team we can be. Winning this gives us great confidence going forward. If we're able to beat them, we're able to beat anyone."

The Warriors had ample reason to believe it wasn't their night beyond the programs' history.

Willowbrook lost an early four-point lead in the first set and almost let a 20-13 advantage in the second set slip away. A delay of game whistle went against the Warriors, gifting Lyons (4-1) a point to draw to within 24-23. Willowbrook overcame that with Kenny's kill off a block at set point, but Lyons then rolled off the first six points of the third set.

"After the first six points, they were all unforced errors. I was like, 'Guys, we have nothing to lose right now, give it our all, stay aggressive,'" Kenny said. "If we hit the ball out, we hit the ball out. But go up there confident."

Kenny practiced what she preached with kills for Willowbrook's first three points of the set. She had two more after two by her sister, Louisville recruit Hannah Kenny, to close the Warriors to within 12-9. Calli Kenny's dig set up a

Marinier kill to tie it at 14-14 and Calli Kenny's off-balance kill that clipped the net gave Willowbrook the lead for good at 16-15.

Calli Kenny had six kills during an 8-1 run that turned a 15-15 tie into a commanding 23-16 lead. Fittingly, she threw down match point.

"She just has a takeover mentality. When she's locked in and ready to go, it's hard to stop her," Willowbrook coach Irene Mason said. "She's an outstanding athlete and an amazing volleyball player and she shows it night after night. It's nice to have her sister serving her beautiful balls, too."

Lyons has a number of good players with five starters back from a 30-win team, led by George Washington recruit Abby Markworth at setter.

But the Lyons still are searching for the alpha go-to hitter they had last year in Karmyn Lee-Caracci, now at Georgetown.

"We certainly have a very balanced offense and Abby is doing a wonderful job of pushing, but we don't have the terminator we had last year," Lyons coach Jill Bober said. "We can get there. We have all the pieces. It's just finding that consistency. I'm OK to be on that roller coaster ride in August."

Bober referred to the roller coaster theme on more than one occasion.

Grace Turner had four kills and a block, Anabelle Montgomery two kills and Sienna Olsen the kill at set point in the first set. But the Lyons hit a lull midway through the second set and couldn't match Kenny's transcendent play in the third.

"It was a series of roller coasters," Bober said. "Perhaps you can see it on both sides, but our digs were a little more aggressive perhaps than Willowbrook."

Willowbrook volleyball has won a record 23 matches the past two seasons, reaching a supersectional in 2021 and a sectional final last season.

But the history between the two programs wasn't lost on Mason, either.

"We haven't beaten them since I've been around and I started at Willowbrook in 2012," Mason said. "I knew that in the back of my mind and I made sure the girls did, too. We want to do great things this year. This is a great opportunity to show what we can do and the fight we have."

Calli Kenny laughed at the mention of the standard she's set at Willowbrook, but her ultimate goals are no laughing matter.

"Sophomore year, we were one game away from state," Kenny said. "We just want to really get to the point where we're at Redbird Arena."

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 7, 2023



SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review

Willowbrook High School's girls volleyball team won five straight matches to win the championship of its own eight-team invitational, which took place on Friday and Saturday. The Warriors are pictured after they defeated Metea Valley in Saturday morning's championship contest. Willowbrook improved its overall season record to 8-0 with its five victories at the invite. Earlier in the week, the Warriors

posted road victories at Fenwick and Lyons Township. After losing the opening game of the Aug. 30 match at Lyons Township, the Warriors rallied for a 21-25, 26-24, 25-19 win. Willowbrook opened its West Suburban Gold Conference schedule earlier this week with a match at Addison Trail.

Warriors surge to 8-0 after winning the title at their own invite

Team posted a thrilling three-game victory at Lyons Township earlier in the week

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team improved its overall season record to 8-0 with seven victories last week. The Warriors began the week

with road victories at Fenwick and Lyons Township. Willowbrook then won five matches and claimed the title at its own eight-team invite.

The Warriors defeated Metea Valley 25-19, 25-13 in Saturday's championship match at the invitational.

Willowbrook opened its successful week with a 25-21, 25-10 win at Fenwick on Aug. 28. Two days later, the Warriors edged Lyons Township in a three-game battle. After losing the first game, Willowbrook rallied to beat the Lions 21-25, 26-24, 25-19.

Senior Calli Kenny provided 11 kills and 10 assists for the Warriors in last week's win at Fenwick. Junior Hannah Kenny contributed six kills, 10 assists and three aces. Senior Eliza Ramey supplied five kills and four blocks.

Calli Kenny piled up 20 kills, eight assists, seven digs and four aces during her team's Aug. 30 win at Lyons Township. Hannah Kenny delivered 10 kills, 14 assists and 11 digs in the match. Junior Anna Marinier added four kills, eight digs and two aces. Senior Eliza Chivilo had 11 digs and five assists.

Willowbrook began its own invitational with three wins on Friday. The Warriors began the event with a 25-18, 25-10 win over Trinity. Willowbrook then beat Coal City 25-16, 25-11. The Warriors finished the day with a 25-11, 25-16 win over Glenbard North.

Willowbrook defeated West Chicago 25-17, 25-14 in one of Saturday's semifinal matches at the invite.

The Warriors then beat Metea Valley 25-19, 25-13 in the title contest.

Calli Kenny had 10 kills, nine assists, three digs and three aces in Saturday's championship match. Hannah Kenny provided five kills, 12 assists and four digs against Metea Valley. Ramey hit five kills in the title contest. Marinier and senior Elle Bruschuk connected for two kills each. Chivilo and senior Keri Ostrowski contributed four digs each.

Earlier this week, the Warriors opened their West Suburban Gold Conference season with a match at Addison Trail. The Warriors will play at Leyden's Eagle Invite this Saturday.

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Police.....	8	Classifieds.....	20



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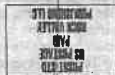
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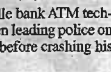


Bond set for Texas man charged with robbing a Bensenville bank

After allegedly taking about \$38,000 in cash, suspect then led police on high-speed chase into Lombard; Villa Park officers took the suspect into custody; another suspect escaped

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and Bensenville Chief of Police Daniel Schulze announced on Saturday that bond had been set for a Texas man accused of robbing a Bensenville bank ATM technician last week, then leading police on a high-speed chase before crashing his car in Lombard.

Earnest Hudson



Officers from the Villa Park Police Department took the suspect into custody in Lombard following a brief pursuit that took place after the crash.

Barriest Hudson, 23, of Houston, appeared at a bond hearing on Friday, where Judge Daniel Guerin set bond at \$1.5 million with 10 percent to apply. Hudson is charged with one count of financial institution robbery (Class 1 felony), one count of robbery (Class 2 felony), one count of aggravated fleeing and eluding (Class 4 felony) and multiple misdemeanor and petty traffic offenses. Judge Guerin also granted the state's motion for a source of funds hearing at which the defendant must prove that any funds used to post bond are not the result of illegal activity.

On Wednesday, Aug. 30, at approximately 4:34 p.m., a technician was servicing an automated teller machine (ATM) at the Chase Bank located in the 100 block of W. Grand Ave. in Bensenville. It is alleged that while the technician was working, two men, one of whom was later identified as Hudson, pulled into another bank lane near the technician, exited their vehicle, a Nissan Murano, and ran toward the technician.

It is alleged that the men, who were both wearing masks, ordered the technician to leave. It is further alleged that after the technician left, Hudson and his accomplice took the ATM containers containing cash and checks; got back in their vehicle and fled the scene westbound on Grand Avenue. A bank employee called 911 at this time.

At about 4:50 p.m., officers with the Elmhurst Police Department observed the offending vehicle traveling southbound on Route 83. Officers activated their emergency lights and sirens and initiated a pursuit. It is alleged that the vehicle, which was driven by Hudson, did not stop for officers and fled, driving in and out of traffic until turning right on to St. Charles Road. It is further alleged that Hudson continued to flee police, reaching speeds of more than 100 mph on St. Charles Road before crashing the car in Lombard, near St. Charles Road and Chase Avenue.

Both men fled the car on foot and Hudson was taken into custody after a brief pursuit. According to the Villa Park Police Department, Villa Park officers apprehended Hudson. It is alleged that approximately \$38,000 in cash was recovered from the defendant and the vehicle.

Updates from the Villa Park and Lombard police departments stated that while Hudson was quickly apprehended, the second suspect was able to elude officers despite an extensive search of the area. The suspect was described as a black male with dreadlocks, wearing a white athletic shirt and black pants.

A few hours after the vehicle crashed, a resident in the area of Vista Pond Park in Lombard advised of

seeing an individual matching the description of the subject at about 9:20 p.m. Another update from the evening stated the suspect was seen running eastbound from the area of Pleasant Lane and Kramer Avenue in Lombard. That location is about one block north of Vista Pond Park.

Officers from several mutual aid agencies assisted in the search for the subject who fled the scene. A police helicopter, K-9 units and a drone were deployed during the search.

Inbound and outbound Metra Union Pacific-West trains were stopped in the area while police searched for the missing suspect. Metra Union Pacific-West issued its first Twitter alert regarding the incident at 5:13 p.m. As the evening progressed, Metra reported that several inbound and outbound trains were operating with extensive delays due to police activity. Additionally, multiple Metra Union Pacific-West inbound and outbound trains between Chicago and Elburn did not operate during the evening.

At 10:30 p.m., the Lombard Police Department reported that the scene had been cleared, and that the suspect was no longer believed to be in the area.

Anyone with information regarding the incident is asked to call 911 immediately.

It is alleged that in the middle of the afternoon, Mr. Hudson and his

accomplice, both wearing masks, approached an innocent man who was working on an ATM, ordered him to leave and then robbed the bank ATM of approximately \$38,000," Berlin said. "To make matters worse, it is further alleged that Mr. Hudson then led police on a 100-mph chase during rush hour before crashing his car. This type of brazen behavior will not be tolerated in DuPage County and will be met with the full force of the law. We are all thankful that no innocent motorists or pedestrians were injured or killed. I thank the Bensenville Police Department for their efforts on this case as well as the Lombard and Elmhurst police departments for their work on apprehending the defendant."

"Mr. Hudson thought that by renting a car and allegedly putting stolen plates on it, he and his accomplice could outsmart law enforcement," Schulze said. "They underestimated the cooperative efforts of DuPage County police departments and the State's Attorney's Office working closely together. He was quickly apprehended and charged. I would like to thank the police departments that helped with this case, including but not limited to Elmhurst, Villa Park and Lombard as well as the DuPage County Sheriff's Office."

Hudson's next court appearance is scheduled Sept. 28, for arraignment in front of Judge Guerin.

O'Brochta receives 88's Best honor for August

Villa Park resident has excelled in the classroom and on the stage at Willowbrook

Willowbrook High School senior Sean O'Brochta was recently named his school's recipient of the 88's Best award for the month of August.

O'Brochta, who is a Villa Park resident, received the award at the District 88 Board of Education meeting on Aug. 28.

The 88's Best award recognizes students for their achievements in and out of the classroom. The award honors nine students from Willowbrook High School and nine students from Addison Trail High School during each school year. Each recipient of the award receives an 88's Best glass sculpture and a certificate to a local restaurant.

O'Brochta is an academic standout in Willowbrook's Class of 2024. He is an inductee of the National Honor Society, as well as the National English Honor Society, the Math Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, Tri-M (Modern Music Masters) and Willowbrook's social studies honor society—Civitas.

O'Brochta has earned Distinction Honor Roll status in each semester of his high school career. He's involved in the New Beginnings program, a program in which upperclassmen mentor freshmen and assist them in adjusting to high school. He's also a co-captain of Willowbrook's speech team, and the president of the school's Thespian Honor Society.

To date, O'Brochta has been a



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook High School senior Sean O'Brochta received the 88's Best award for the month of August. He is pictured (right) with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause (left).

cast member in nine theatrical productions at Willowbrook. He has received two Illinois High School Association (IHSA) All-State Drama Competition Cast honors. He's a member of Willowbrook's concert choir, as well as CenterStage—the school's vocal jazz ensemble. He has earned All-District recognition from the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA).

O'Brochta plans to study engineering after he graduates from Willowbrook next year. Purdue University and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign are his top choices to continue his education.

The Queen of Hearts continues to hide in VFW Post 2801's contest

Winner's share is nearly \$33,000, before taxes; next drawing takes place this Friday

The winner's share of Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2801's current Queen of Hearts contest is about \$32,400—before taxes.

The contest's next ticket drawing will be held at 8 p.m. this Friday, Sept. 8. The drawing will take place at the post, which is located at 1911 St. Charles Road.

The post is open to the public. The Friday night ticket drawing will take place in the post's downstairs bar—the VFW Post 2801 Banquet.

A five-pull of tickets in the Queen of Hearts drawing costs \$5. Contestants do not need to be present at the Friday-night drawing. Tickets are on sale at the post throughout the week, up until a few minutes before the ticket drawing.

The contest features a board of 54 spaces that represent a full deck of cards, including two jokers. Each card on the board is numbered and concealed. The ticket drum is cleared after each week's drawing.

Each Friday, the contest tickets that were sold during the week are spun in the rotating drum, and one ticket is selected. That ticket includes a number representing one of the spaces in which the card has not yet been revealed. If the card on that space contains the Queen of Hearts, the owner of the selected ticket claims the winner's share.

In the drawing of Friday, Sept. 1, the winner's share was approximately \$31,000, before taxes. The owner of the ticket that was pulled from the drum on Friday evening fled out No. 25 on that ticket. The card behind that space turned out to be the 8 of Hearts. The owner of that ticket did win \$5.5. The owner of the ticket that's chosen from the drum each Friday wins at least \$25.

The Queen of Hearts is still hiding behind one of the four covered spaces (26, 39, 48 and 53) remaining on the contest board. She can't hide much longer. She will show her face sometime this month.

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