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CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

An emotional night at Willowbrook

Willowbrook High School's football team played its homecoming game on Friday night. Shortly before the opening kickoff, the school honored a member of the football team—junior Sean Presley—who died on Sept. 17. The large crowd of students in Willowbrook's student section wore red—Presley's favorite color—in memory of

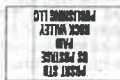
their fellow Warrior. Presley was a Villa Park resident. His family attended the game and joined the school's students in releasing red balloons into the air after observing a moment of silence. Willowbrook defeated Hinsdale South 37-34 in Friday's contest.

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Warriors earn an emotional homecoming win

Willowbrook edges Hornets 37-34; Warriors play the game days after the death of their teammate—Sean Presley

The Willowbrook football team defeated Hinsdale South 37-34 in Friday night's West Suburban Gold Conference battle in Villa Park. The Warriors improved to 3-2 overall and 2-1 in the conference by winning their homecoming game in front of a large crowd of supportive spectators.

Hinsdale South fell to 2-3 overall and 2-1 in conference play.

Friday's contest was not a typical homecoming game for the Warriors, who are mourning the loss of one of their teammates. Willowbrook junior Sean Presley, 16, died on Sunday, Sept. 17.

Presley, 16, was a resident of Villa Park, and a lineman for the Warriors who wore No. 54. His family attended Friday's game and stood at midfield as everyone in attendance observed a moment of silence before the opening kickoff.

The members of Willowbrook's student section wore red—Presley's favorite color—to Friday's game. After observing the moment of silence, those students released red balloons into the air in honor of their fellow Warrior.

Junior Brandon Lopez kicked a 25-yard field goal to give the Warriors a 3-0 lead with 3:44 left in the first quarter of Friday's game.

The visiting Hornets took the lead with a 2-yard touchdown run on the first play of the second quarter. Hinsdale South added the extra-point kick to increase its lead to 7-3.

Senior Carter Ferguson of the Warriors delivered a long return on the ensuing kickoff. Ferguson brought the ball to the Hornets' 36-yard line. A short time later, Willowbrook se-

nior quarterback Arthur Palicki fired a 20-yard touchdown pass to junior K.J. Rhodes. Lopez made the extra-point kick to give the Warriors a 10-7 lead.

Hinsdale South regained the lead on a 6-yard touchdown pass with about seven minutes left in the first half. Willowbrook then delivered a 65-yard touchdown drive to reclaim the lead. Palicki's 1-yard run finished the drive. The Hornets blocked the extra-point kick, leaving the Warriors' lead at 16-14 with about five minutes remaining in the first half.

Friday's halftime festivities included a fireworks presentation. The second half included additional fireworks, with the teams pouring on 41 points after scoring a total of 30 points during the opening half.

Hinsdale South started the second-half scoring with a 59-yard touchdown pass with 9:32 left in the third quarter. The Hornets, who owned a 20-16 lead after the touchdown, missed the ensuing extra-point kick.

The Warriors moved back into the lead two minutes later, when Palicki rumbled into the end zone on a 3-yard touchdown run. Palicki's run across the goal line completed a 77-yard scoring drive that included a long reception by junior Aidan Kuehl.

Lopez's extra-point kick gave the Warriors a 23-20 lead.

Willowbrook added to its lead when junior Martin Anfinson caught a 38-yard touchdown pass from Palicki with 4:15 left in the third quarter. Lopez tacked on the extra-point kick to give the Warriors a 30-20 lead.

The Hornets cut into Willowbrook's lead with a 4-yard touchdown

run with 6:36 remaining in the game. The extra-point kick trimmed the Warriors' lead to 30-27.

Willowbrook faced a third-and-19 play from the Hornets' 42-yard line with a little more than one minute on the clock. Palicki dropped back and completed a pass to junior Charlie Siegler, who raced down the middle of the field and into the end zone for what appeared to be a game-clinching touchdown. Lopez made the extra-point kick to give the Warriors a 37-27 lead with 1:07 to play.

The Hornets proceeded to score on the next play from scrimmage, completing a 66-yard touchdown pass. The extra-point kick reduced Willowbrook's lead to 37-34 with 52 seconds to play.

The Hornets then tried an inside kick, which the Warriors recovered. Willowbrook then ran out the clock to nail down a hard-fought victory in a contest that lasted three hours. The game ended after 11 p.m.

"I'm just really proud of our kids," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth after Friday's win. "These kids really pulled together and took care of each other throughout the week."

Hildreth noted that he and the rest of the team's coaching staff had never dealt with the sudden death of a player until last week.

"There's no comp to this," Hildreth said. "We just try to do the best we can to be there for each other."

Willowbrook's season continues with this Saturday's conference game at Proviso East (1-4 overall, 0-3 in the conference). Addison Trail defeated the Pirates 42-12 in Friday's West Suburban Gold matchup in Addison.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's football team improved to 3-2 overall and 2-1 in West Suburban Gold Conference action following Friday night's 37-34 win over Hinsdale South. Playing their homecoming game, the Warriors held a slim 30-27 lead with a little more than one minute to play. Willowbrook senior quarterback Arthur Palicki then connected with junior Charlie Siegler on a 42-yard touchdown pass on a third-and-19 play. Siegler is pictured (top) while crossing the goal line for the touchdown. Junior kicker Brandon Lopez added the extra-point kick after Siegler's touchdown reception to give the Warriors a 37-27 lead. Hinsdale South scored on the 66-yard touchdown pass on the game's next play from scrimmage. The Hornets then tried an inside kick. The Warriors recovered the kick to seal their victory. One more photo from Friday's game shows Willowbrook junior K.J. Rhodes (above) racing down the field after making a reception in the first quarter. Rhodes caught a 20-yard touchdown pass from Palicki in the second quarter. Willowbrook's season continues with this Saturday's conference game at Proviso East.



Warriors' perfect season continues

Willowbrook beats Downers Grove South to move to 17-0

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team jumped to 17-0 overall and 3-0 in West Suburban Gold Conference play with last week's 25-18, 25-17 victory over Downers Grove South in Villa Park.

Junior Hannah Kenny contributed nine kills, 10 digs and eight assists for the Warriors in their win over the Mustangs on Sept. 19. Senior Calli Kenny provided seven kills, 13 assists and seven digs.

Junior Anna Marinier supplied six kills, three digs and two assists for Willowbrook in last week's victory over Downers Grove South. Senior Elisa Chivilo added five digs and five assists. Senior Elle Bruschuk had two kills and two digs, while junior Lily Javier delivered three kills and two digs. Senior Eliza Ramey also provided three kills and two digs. Senior Keri Ostrowski made two digs and served one ace.

Willowbrook's schedule this week includes non-conference matches at Whitney Young, Glenbard East and Oak Park/River Forest.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's girls volleyball team improved its overall season record to 17-0 with last week's 25-18, 25-17 West Suburban Gold Conference win over Downers Grove South in Villa Park. Junior Hannah Kenny (No. 6) of the Warriors delivered nine kills, eight assists and 10 digs in the win over the Mustangs on Sept. 19.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

A dominant win

The Willowbrook flag football team overpowered Dundee-Crown 67-0 on Friday night in Villa Park. The Warriors improved to 3-0 with the convincing win in their homecoming game. One photo from the contest shows Willowbrook junior Glanna Fallo (No. 22 - above left) heading toward the end zone for a first-half touchdown. Another photo shows (above right - left to right) junior Kendall Medinger, freshman Carson Rieger and senior Emma Anderlik after Rieger scored a touchdown in the second half. The Warriors' season continues with this Saturday's home game against Fenton.

New State Police rules for assault weapons permits take effect Oct. 1

People who owned banned weapons before new law must apply for FOID endorsement

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Illinoisans who own weapons that can no longer be purchased or sold in the state under its new assault weapons ban will soon be able to register those weapons so they can legally keep them.

The law, officially known as the Protect Illinois Communities Act, bans the sale and possession of firearms defined as "assault weapons" as well as assault weapon attachments, .50 caliber rifles, .50 caliber cartridges and high-capacity magazines.

However, the law provides an exception for Illinoisans who already owned such items before it went into effect. Those people are required to submit an endorsement affidavit

through their Firearm Owner's Identification Card account before Jan. 1, 2024.

The Illinois State Police filed emergency rules with the secretary of state on Monday to implement that portion of the assault weapons ban beginning next month.

State agencies have authority to issue emergency rules in certain circumstances. Those rules can only remain in place for up to 150 days, after which they must be replaced by permanent rules or repealed. Permanent rules are subject to a public comment period and review by the legislative Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

ISP will begin accepting affidavits online starting Oct. 1. Affidavits must

be submitted online through a FOID Card account, which can be accessed through ISP's Firearms Services Bureau website or by going directly to www.ispsfb.com/Public/Login.aspx.

ISP has also published a "frequently asked questions" page on its website with additional information about how to submit an endorsement affidavit.

Help is also available at any of ISP's FOID kiosks, located in Lockport, Springfield, Collinsville, and Du Quoin.

According to the statute, those affidavits must include the applicant's name, date of birth and FOID card number. Applicants also need to provide the make, model, caliber, and serial number of each weapon, and a

statement testifying that they own a locking mechanism for the weapon.

The affidavit form will also include a statement that reads, "Warning: Entering false information on this form is punishable as perjury under Section 32-2 of the Illinois Criminal Code of 2022."

The law passed during the General Assembly's lame duck session in January. It was prompted by a mass shooting at an Independence Day parade last year in Highland Park that left seven people dead and dozens more injured or traumatized.

The assault weapons ban prompted several lawsuits almost immediately after Gov. JB Pritzker signed it into law on Jan. 10.

Numerous challenges in federal

court allege the law violates the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. One federal judge in the Southern District of Illinois ruled that it did, but two other judges in the Northern District rejected such claims. Those cases have now been consolidated and an appeal is pending before the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago.

In 4-3 decision in August, the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the law, rejecting claims that the exemptions in the act amounted to "special legislation" and a denial of equal protection under the Illinois Constitution.

But the court has delayed issuing a final order in that case pending the plaintiffs' appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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. 16

A 47-year-old woman and 20-year-old woman, both of Villa Park, were charged with two counts of domestic battery in the 400 block of N. Chatham at 8:20 a.m.

Sept. 15

A 44-year-old Villa Park man was

charged with two counts of domestic battery in the 200 block of N. Princeton at 8:42 p.m.

A complainant in the 300 block of E. Highland reported they received a threatening text message.

Sept. 14

Victor Almaraz, 29, of Glendale Heights, was arrested on an original complaint and warrant for violation of an order of protection in the 1-100 block of W. Plymouth on the above date for an alleged incident that occurred June 8.

A complainant at a store in the 300 block of N. Ardmore reported that a suspect was causing a disturbance and throwing liquor around the store. Officers spoke with the suspect, who was trespassed.

Sept. 13

A complainant at a store in the 1-100 block of E. North reported that a suspect removed a scooter from a display shelf and left without paying. The suspect was located and trespassed, and a citation was issued.

A complainant at a store in the 1-100 block of E. North reported that an unknown suspect removed multiple items from display shelves and left without paying.

Sept. 12

Fernando Castro, 49, of Lombard, was charged with DUI, transportation or possession of open alcohol by a driver, improper lighting and no insurance near E. Madison and S. Myrtle at 9:34 p.m.

Sept. 11

Gregory Martin, 47, of Villa Park, was arrested and charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance/other drug/any amount on the above date for an alleged incident that occurred July 4, 2022.

A 16-year-old female juvenile and 15-year-old female juvenile at Wilbrook High School were charged with aggravated battery to a police officer, aggravated battery in a public place and aggravated resisting arrest at noon and were released to their parents.

Sept. 10

A complainant at a store in the 900

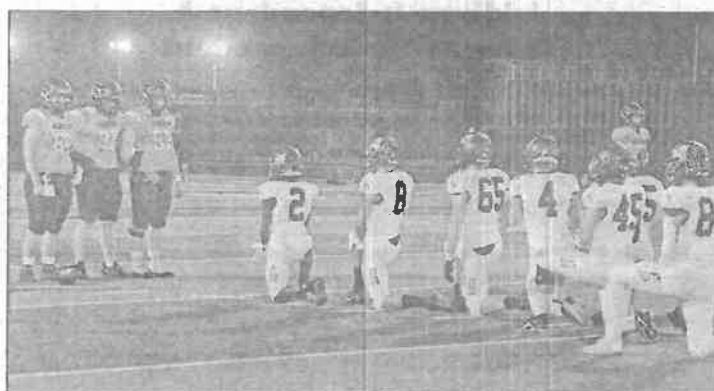
block of S. Route 83 reported that suspects were under-scanning items while at the self-checkout. The complainant does not want to press charges and only wants the suspects trespassed.

Sept. 7

A complainant in the 300 block of N. Illinois reported at 7:03 p.m. that a suspect threatened them while they were walking.

Fraud, identity theft

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



CHRIS FOX PHOTO/SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Honoring a Warrior

Willowbrook High School junior Sean Presley died on Sunday, Sept. 17. Presley was a Villa Park resident and a lineman on Willowbrook's football team. His family attended the team's homecoming game against Hinsdale South on Friday. Everyone in attendance observed a moment of silence before the opening kickoff. Members of Presley's family then joined Willowbrook students in releasing red balloons into the air. (Red was Presley's favorite color.) One photo (above), from just before the game's first play from scrimmage, shows members of both teams honoring Presley. The Warriors defeated Hinsdale South 37-34 in Friday's high-scoring contest in Villa Park.



Sean Presley



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

The Growing Place celebrates 50 years

The Growing Place pre-school and Community Presbyterian Church, servicing the greater Lombard and Villa Park area, celebrated 50 years of excellence in pre-school education on Sept. 17. Despite inclement weather, over 250 people came out to enjoy lunch, concerts, face-painting, crafts, and as the sun came out, a bouncy house. Parents, current students, grandparents and alumni were all in attendance. Some parents even admitted they had been students many years ago. Many attendees relished seeing old friends and reminiscing about their days at the school. Also in attendance were Jean Nelson and Carolyn Johnson, both of whom were instrumental in founding The Growing Place. Other retired teachers, including Betsy Bell, Linda Tyne, Mary Brabec also attended and met some of their former students.

Sports

Rams pound Streamwood 41-7

Glenbard East scores five first-half touchdowns to build a 34-0 halftime lead; the 4-1 Rams play their homecoming game this Friday

The Glenbard East football team raised its record to 4-1 with Friday's 41-7 Uptate Eight Conference win at Streamwood.

The Rams led the Sabres 34-0 at halftime. Glenbard East scored a touchdown in the first minute of the second half. The Rams added the extra-point kick to push their lead to 41-0. The lead of at least 40 points triggered a running clock for the rest of the game.

Streamwood, which fell to 1-4 following Friday's loss, scored its only touchdown of the night with less than 20 seconds to play.

The Rams will play their homecoming game this Friday in Lombard. They will face Elgin (1-4) in a conference contest. Three of the Maroons' 2023 losses have come against teams Glenbard East has already faced this season—East Aurora, Streamwood and West Chicago. Before beating Streamwood on Friday, the Rams beat West Chicago 48-6 (on Sept. 8). Glenbard East defeated East Aurora 49-6 on Sept. 15.

Senior Matt Larson scored the Rams' first touchdown of Friday's game at Streamwood. Larson's 4-yard run into the end zone gave Glenbard

East a 6-0 lead with 9:29 left in the first quarter. Senior Ryan Snell made the extra-point kick to move the Rams' lead to 7-0.

Larson broke a 65-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter. Snell, who made five extra-point kicks during the game, added the conversion kick to raise the lead to 14-0.

Larson delivered his third touchdown of the night on a 3-yard run with about eight minutes left in the second quarter. Senior quarterback Blake Salvino threw a 33-yard touchdown pass to senior Gianbiagio Brusca with about four minutes remaining

in the first half. Snell made the extra-point kick to push Glenbard East's lead to 28-0.

Salvino and junior receiver Amon-te Cook connected on a 60-yard touchdown pass with a little more than one minute left in the first half. The Rams didn't convert the extra-point kick after that touchdown.

Senior Dailen Zollicoffer scored a defensive touchdown for the Rams early in the third quarter of Friday's game. Zollicoffer recovered a fumble and ran 47 yards into the end zone to boost the Rams' lead to 40-0. Snell made the extra-point kick to move the

lead to 41-0.

Larson rushed for 145 yards and three touchdowns on only seven carries during Friday's win. Salvino completed seven of 10 pass attempts for 155 yards and two touchdowns.

South Elgin and Glenbard South are tied for first in the Uptate Eight Conference standings with identical records of 5-0. Those two teams will square off this Friday in South Elgin. Glenbard East, which sits alone in third place in the conference standings with its 4-1 record, will face Glenbard South in Lombard Oct. 13.

Broncos improve to 5-0 after beating Marian Catholic

Carbonara fires four touchdown passes to help Montini secure its first playoff berth since 2019

The Montini Catholic football team moved to 5-0 with Friday's 35-26 victory at Marian Catholic in Chicago Heights. The Broncos virtually locked up an IHSA playoff berth with the win. Montini made its last post-season appearance in 2019.

The Broncos trailed Marian Catholic 13-0 in the first quarter. Montini senior Alex Marre delivered his team's first score of the night when he returned a kickoff 85 yards for a touchdown in the closing seconds of the first quarter. Senior Cole Stumbaugh made the extra-point kick to cut the Spartans' lead to 13-7.

Marre has now returned two kickoffs for touchdowns this season. On Sept. 8, he returned the game's opening kickoff 91 yards for a touchdown in the Broncos' home battle against Nazareth Academy. Montini went on to earn a 24-23 victory in that contest.

After scoring a pair of first-quarter touchdowns against Montini, Marian Catholic (2-3) added two more touchdowns in the second quarter. The Spartans held a 20-7 lead after scoring their third touchdown of the night in the middle of the second quarter. The Broncos cut into that lead when junior quarterback Gaetano Carbonara threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to junior Santino Florio. Stumbaugh added the extra-point kick to reduce the Spartans' lead to 20-14 with less than four minutes to play in the first half.

Marian Catholic pushed its lead to 26-14 with a 17-yard touchdown run with under two minutes left in the opening half. Less than one minute later, Carbonara and Florio connected on a 46-yard touchdown pass. Stumbaugh's extra-point kick dropped the Spartans' lead to 26-21 with 50 seconds remaining in the first half.

Montini took its first lead of the game when Carbonara threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to junior JoJo James with about four minutes left in the third quarter. Stumbaugh's extra-point kick gave the Broncos a 28-26 lead.

Montini added to its lead on a 65-yard touchdown pass from Carbonara to senior George Asay in the final minute of the third quarter. Stumbaugh made his fifth extra-point kick of the night to close out the scoring.

"It was a crazy game," said Montini coach Mike Bukovsky while discussing the Broncos' win at Marian Catholic. "They [the Spartans] were a nice test for us. They have some great talent. They started pretty fast, and we started a bit slowly. Our offense really picked it up. Our defense made some big plays to shut them down in the second half."

Carbonara completed 18 of 32 pass attempts for 272 yards and four touchdowns in Friday's victory. He didn't throw any interceptions.

Marre rushed for 147 yards on 18 carries in the Broncos' win over the Spartans. Asay made eight receptions for 157 yards, while Florio provided six receptions for 74 yards.

The Broncos intercepted three Marian Catholic passes during the fourth quarter. Junior Sean Hubeny provided Montini's first interception of the quarter. The turnover stopped a Marian Catholic drive in Montini territory.

Junior Jeremiah Peterson made Montini's second interception of the fourth quarter. Junior Max Bell sealed the Broncos' win when he made the team's third interception of the quarter.

Montini will try to run its record to 6-0 when it faces Providence Catholic (3-2) this Friday in New Lenox.



Seniors Lukas Czapla (No. 7) and Josue Roman (No. 9) of the Glenbard East boys soccer team are pictured during Saturday's 4-0 non-conference win at Willowbrook. Roman scored a first-half goal during the match against the Warriors. He also contributed an assist during Saturday's victory. Glenbard East improved its overall record to 4-3-2 with Saturday's win. After beginning their season with three straight losses, the Rams went 4-0-2 in their next six contests. Three days before beating Willowbrook, Glenbard East earned a 3-0 Uptate Eight Conference win over East Aurora in Lombard. Roman provided one goal and one assist in the Rams' Sept. 20 victory over the Tomcats.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS/Rock Valley Publishing

Rams keep rolling with a win over Willowbrook

The Glenbard East boys soccer team moved its overall season record to 4-3-2 with a pair of victories last week. The Rams beat East Aurora 3-0 in an Uptate Eight Conference match in Lombard on Sept. 20. Glenbard East then beat Willowbrook 4-0 in Saturday's non-conference match in Villa Park.

Since losing their first three matches of the season, the Rams have gone 4-0-2.

"We're really making some good strides and starting to play some good soccer," said Glenbard East coach Josh Adler after Saturday's victory over the Warriors. "We're defending well and setting ourselves up to have some success."

The Rams scored three first-half goals in last week's conference win over East Aurora. Junior Gerardo

Figueroa scored two goals for Glenbard East, which ran its conference record to 2-2-1 with the victory over the Tomcats. Senior Josue Roman added one goal. Roman assisted one of Figueroa's goals.

Junior Josh Roimicher provided one assist for the Rams in their Sept. 20 win. Junior goalkeeper Cooper Woodridge made three saves for Glenbard East.

The Rams built a 3-0 halftime lead over Willowbrook in Saturday's match in Villa Park. Senior David Hernandez, Roman and Figueroa scored one goal each in the first half. Senior Gio Guzman scored Glenbard East's fourth goal of the day with about nine minutes left in the second half.

Roman, senior Aidan Kraft and junior Reece Dialektakos contributed one assist each in Glenbard East's

victory over Willowbrook. Woodridge made three saves for the Rams.

Glenbard East's schedule this week includes a conference match at Streamwood, along with this Saturday non-conference home battle against Glenbard West.

Saturday's result added to a rough stretch for Willowbrook, which has lost several matches in a row. The Warriors have been depleted by multiple injuries this season.

Willowbrook began last week's season with a 2-1 loss at Wheaton Academy on Sept. 19. The match was tied at 1-1 in the closing seconds. Wheaton Academy scored the winning goal with eight seconds to play.

The Warriors' schedule this week includes a West Suburban Gold Conference match at Hinsdale South and non-conference battle at West Chicago