

Court grants state's motion to detain pre-trial man charged with supplying fatal dose of fentanyl

DuPage County DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and West Chicago Chief of Police Colin Fleury announced last week that Judge Joshua Dieden granted



Habibe Jacob

the State's motion to detain pre-trial a West Chicago man charged with supplying fentanyl to a West Chicago woman resulting in her fatal overdose. Habibe Jacob, 26, appeared at First Appearance Court and is charged with one count of drug induced homicide (Class X felony) and one count of delivery of a controlled substance—fentanyl (Class 2 felony). On June 25 at approximately 8:24 p.m., West Chicago police officers responded to a call in the 400 block of W. Washington St. for a call of a female who was unresponsive. Upon entering the residence, officers observed a female lying unresponsive in a bed. The woman was pronounced dead at 8:35 p.m. When processing the residence, officers located a blue powdery substance, later identified as fentanyl, on a coffee table near the kitchen area.

Following an investigation into the death, it is alleged that on June 24 at

approximately 10:30 p.m., a male, later identified as Jacob, went to the victim's residence and supplied her with a fatal dose of fentanyl. It is further alleged that the victim ingested the fatal dose of fentanyl Jacob supplied to her. On Oct. 1, West Chicago police officers arrested Jacob. According to the pathology report, the victim died of a combination of fentanyl and 7-aminoclonazepam toxicity. The victim had been prescribed 7-aminoclonazepam.

"The tragic death of the victim in this case is yet another terrible reminder of the extreme danger illegal narcotics, particularly fentanyl, continue to be in our communities," Berlin said. "According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, fentanyl is up to fifty times stronger than heroin and one hundred times stronger than morphine. Last year, more than 81 thousand overdose deaths were reported nationwide, with Illinois contributing 3,272 to that total.

"This senseless loss of life must stop and one way to stop it is to hold those who supply fatal doses of narcotics responsible. A dealer, a friend or even a family member may think twice about supplying this poison knowing that they will be looking at a significant amount of time behind bars if they are the proven source of a fatal overdose. I offer my sincerest

condolences to the victim's family and friends as they continue their lives without the love and friendship she once provided them. I thank the West Chicago Police Department and the DuPage County Metropolitan Enforcement Group for their outstanding work in the identification and apprehension of the defendant in this case."

"This is a tragic and senseless loss of human life," Fleury said. "It cannot be said enough how dangerous fentanyl is. Health departments, law enforcement agencies, and the media have issued numerous warnings to the public, and they have frustratingly appeared to go unheard. So, it

is worth repeating, Fentanyl is being added to street drugs to include fake prescription drugs consistently, and those who use drugs or who purchase or use what they believe to be prescription drugs that they were not prescribed or received directly from their doctor or pharmacist are taking their lives into their own hands. The work done by the investigators in this case was outstanding, and the City of West Chicago will continue to investigate overdose cases as more than just a tragedy but also as a criminal act by those involved."

Jacob's next court appearance is scheduled for Oct. 28 for arraignment in front of Judge Brian Telander.



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Hussain named 88's Best for September

Willowbrook High School senior Ashar Hussain was recently named his school's recipient of the 88's Best award for the month of September. Hussain was honored during the District 88 Board of Education's Sept. 23 meeting. He is pictured (right) at that meeting with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause (left). The District 88 Board of Education and administration created the 88's Best award to recognize students at Willowbrook and Addison Trail high schools for their achievements in and out of the classroom. Nine Addison Trail students and nine Willowbrook students receive the 88's Best award each school year. Krause noted during the recent board meeting that Hussain first became a Willowbrook student as a seventh-grader, when he took an honors level class in geometry. Hussain has excelled academically during his time at Willowbrook. He is especially accomplished in mathematics, and earned a perfect score on the math portion of the SAT. Krause read comments from some of Hussain's teachers during the board meeting. Those teachers described Hussain as incredibly intelligent, kind, conscientious, hard working and helpful. Hussain is an Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar with Distinction, and he's been named to Willowbrook's Distinction Honor Roll in each semester of his high school career. Hussain is a member of every honor society at Willowbrook, including the National Honor Society. He's a standout member of the school's Scholastic Bowl and math teams. During the summer, he provided math help to students in summer school. Additionally, Hussain is a member of the Warriors' boys track and cross-country teams. He will attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where he plans to study mathematics.



MIKE SANDROLINI PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Annual CROP Hunger Walk a success

Several teams of walkers from various churches and community organizations throughout the area took part in the annual Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday afternoon. The 3-mile walk stepped off from First Church of Lombard and followed a route along the Prairie Path and Great Western Trail to raise awareness about the need for food assistance around the world and right here in our own communities. Funds raised by each team will benefit Disciples Food Pantry, Villa Park; The Outreach House, Lombard; Community Table, Lombard; United Community Concerns Association, Elmhurst; and Food for the Soul Food Pantry, Addison. Last year, walkers raised \$27,000. A group from Christian Church of Villa Park (shown here) participated in Sunday's walk. They are, clockwise from left to right: Betty Prorak, Dan Carter, Christian Church of Villa Park Pastor David Holston and Tina Marie Amodeo.

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CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Fantastic finish

Willowbrook High School's boys cross-country team battled Montini Catholic and Fenton in last week's meet at Lombard Common. Montini sophomore Nino Pesola and Willowbrook senior Adriano Quintero ran side-by-side during the closing stretch of the 3-mile race on Oct. 1. Pesola edged Quintero at the finish line to win the individual title. Quintero (left) and Pesola (right) are pictured as they approach the finish line. Pesola completed the race in 15 minutes, 31.05 seconds, while Quintero turned in a time of 15 minutes, 31.13 seconds. Montini senior Nolan Ferris (15:44.91) finished third. Willowbrook senior Kasen Blain (15:56.73) placed fourth, while junior Mikeku Branch (16:07.17) of the Warriors claimed fifth. Willowbrook freshman Legend Alka (16:35.12) ran to a seventh-place finish, while junior Angel Perez (16:35.60) placed eighth. Sophomore Adriel Garcia (16:45.81; 11th), sophomore Gavin Conway (16:48.52; 14th) and senior Conor Kaefer (16:51.78; 15th) rounded out Montini's top five finishers in the race. Willowbrook won the meet's team title with its score of 26. Montini finished second with its total of 40, while Fenton (76) placed third. Four days after racing against the Broncos and Fenton, the Warriors ran in Saturday's Solorio Sun Warrior Invitational at Marquette Park in Chicago. Willowbrook won the team championship in the 17-team event with its score of 43. Branch won the individual title in the 3-mile race, which he completed in 15 minutes, 24.0 seconds. Quintero (15:41.7) placed third, while Blain (15:54.8) finished sixth. The Broncos competed in Saturday's Pat Savage Invitational at Niles West in Skokie. Montini finished 12th in the overall team standings of the Invite, which included 39 teams. Pesola led the Broncos with a 27th-place finish in the 3-mile race, which he completed in 15:47.76. Glenbard East junior Mason Hephner (15:29.03) finished 13th in the overall individual standings of Saturday's event at Niles West. The invitational featured more than 500 finishers.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Two Broncos move on to the sectional

The Montini Catholic boys golf team hosted last week's IHSA Class 2A regional at the Village Links of Glen Ellyn. The Broncos placed fifth in the team results of the nine-team regional. The Oct. 2 regional's top three teams (Wheaton Academy, Saint Viator and Nazareth Academy) advanced to this week's Lemont Sectional at Wedgewood Golf Course in Plainfield. Two Broncos—juniors Liam O'Dea (left) and Charlie Paciga (right)—earned individual berths in the sectional. The top 10 individuals at the regional who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams advanced to the sectional. O'Dea posted an 18-hole score of 78 at the regional. Paciga turned in a regional score of 84.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Warriors battle the Broncos

Willowbrook's girls cross-country team faced Montini Catholic, Morton and Fenton in last week's meet at Lombard Common. Montini junior Sydney Gertsen (above left) earned the individual victory in the 3-mile race, which she finished in a first-place time of 17 minutes, 47.75 seconds. Willowbrook senior Amelie Ojeda (above middle), who held the lead for a significant portion of the Oct. 1 race in Lemont delivered a second-place time of 17:54.61. The Warriors edged the Broncos in the battle for the team title. Willowbrook earned a first-place score of 36, while Montini compiled a second-place total of 40. Morton (81) and Fenton (83) finished third and fourth, respectively, in the team standings. Montini junior Ashlynn Lindt (above right) (18:45.98) raced to a third-place finish in the individual competition. Senior Holly Harris (20:55.51) of Willowbrook landed in sixth place, while junior Mariangela Popoca (20:51.51) provided the Warriors with a seventh-place finish. Montini sophomore Rosie Callaghan (21:20.82) placed eighth. Willowbrook junior Allyson Stefani (21:24.49) finished ninth. Senior Annalee DeFeo (21:41.11) of the Broncos placed 11th, while Willowbrook freshman Juliet Oddo (21:41.61) finished 12th and completed the Warriors' scoring lineup. Montini freshman Gia Csoke (22:52.61), who placed 17th, completed the team's scoring lineup. Willowbrook and Montini joined numerous other teams at Saturday's Pat Savage Invitational at Niles West High School in Skokie. Gertsen won the Invite's individual title, finishing the 3-mile race in 17:06.83. Ojeda (17:19.17) turned in a second-place overall effort and set a new Willowbrook girls cross-country program record for a finishing time in a 3-mile race. Lindt (18:28.34) landed sixth place, while Glenbard East senior Elena Kosorog (18:39.56) finished eighth. Saturday's invitational featured more than 400 female competitors.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Broncos advance to sectional

The Montini Catholic girls golf team earned the first sectional berth in program history last week. The Broncos earned a third-place finish in the 11-team IHSA Class 1A Providence Catholic Regional, which took place at Woodruff Golf Course in Joliet on Oct. 1. The top three teams at the regional advanced to this week's Byron Sectional at Prairie View Golf Club in Byron. Senior Annika Bartell led Montini's regional effort with her 18-hole round of 82, which tied for the second-best individual score at the event. Senior Lily Spanos (96), junior Ava Mendez (99), freshman Annie Paciga (108), senior Lauren Jaskler (109) and junior Eleanor Neal (119) completed the Broncos' regional lineup. The team's three seniors—(left to right)—Jaskler, Spanos and Bartell—are pictured before last month's Senior Night event.

•Broncos (Continued from page 15)

Abrams threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to junior CJ Harkins later in the second quarter. Harkins caught the ball at Carmel's 30-yard line and raced down the middle of the field to cross the goal line. Berberich added the extra-point kick to move Montini's lead to 21-3.

Carmel drove the ball to the Broncos' goal line in the closing minute of the first half. The drive ended with Montini making a goal-line stand, stopping the Corsairs at the 1-yard line on a fourth-down play. The defensive stop helped the Broncos to a 21-3 halftime lead.

Carmel opened the second half with a 61-yard scoring drive that ended with a 22-yard touchdown pass. The extra-point kick cut the Broncos' lead to 21-10 with about 10 minutes left in the third quarter. Montini maintained that 21-10 advantage for the rest of the quarter.

The Broncos produced a 55-yard touchdown drive in the fourth quarter to raise their lead to 28-10 with 6:38 to play.

Senior Jeremiah Peterson closed out the drive with a 3-yard touchdown run. Berberich tacked on the extra-point kick.

Carmel turned the ball over on downs later in the fourth quarter. Montini's offense began its ensuing drive at the Corsairs' 18-yard line. Senior Santino Tenuta finished the drive with an 8-yard touchdown run to 4:12 to play. The Broncos missed the extra-point kick.

Carmel scored the game's only touchdown with 2:14 left in the game. The Corsairs threw an incomplete pass on the two-point conversion attempt.

"We came out very strong, and got a big stop at the end of the half," said Montini coach Mike Kovsky after Friday's victory. "We had a bit of a letdown early in the third quarter, but then we came strong."

Abrams completed 18 of 25 attempts for 271 yards and 1 touchdown. Harkins made five conversions for 97 yards and one touchdown. Peterson contributed 66 yards and one touchdown on carries.

Senior Jaxon Lane and junior dy Boyer provided 10 tackles each for Montini's defense.

"This is one of the best defeat games against a quality team we've played in awhile," added Kovsky on Friday. "We've put very complete games together but to-back. This is what we expect to see this year. It's nice that we're finally getting to that point."

Warriors crush Proviso East 51-0

Willowbrook scores seven first-half touchdowns to sink the Pirates

The Willowbrook football team moved to 3-3 overall and 3-1 in the West Suburban Gold Conference following Friday's 51-0 victory over Proviso East in Villa Park.

The Warriors led the winless Pirates 49-0 at halftime. Willowbrook scored three touchdowns in the first quarter and piled on four more touchdowns in the second quarter against Proviso East, which dropped to 0-6 overall and 0-4 in conference play.

Willowbrook received the game's opening kickoff and drove 69 yards for a touchdown. The drive ended with junior quarterback Jahonise Reed throwing an 18-yard touchdown pass to senior KJ Rhodes. Senior Dean Romano added the first of his seven extra-point kicks of the night to give the Warriors a 7-0 lead.

Willowbrook's next scoring drive featured only one play—a 60-yard touchdown run by junior Anthony Leo. The Warriors' third offensive series of the game ended with an 8-yard touchdown run by senior Aidan Kuehl.

Reed and Rhodes connected on a 43-yard pass play at the end of the first quarter. On the first play of the second quarter, Reed threw a 23-yard

touchdown pass to senior Jesus Gomez.

Proviso East fumbled the ball on the first play of its subsequent drive. Senior Micah Lewis of the Warriors recovered the fumble and ran seven yards for a touchdown—the Warriors' second touchdown in the first 23 seconds of the quarter. Romano's extra-point kick raised Willowbrook's lead to 35-0 with 11:37 left in the quarter.

Senior Troy Wisner made a 37-yard reception on the Warriors' next drive. On the following play, Reed threw an 18-yard touchdown pass to Gomez.

Willowbrook scored its seventh and final touchdown of the night on a one-play drive—a 56-yard run by junior Rashad Morrison. Romano added the extra-point kick to give the Warriors a 49-0 lead with 2:40 left in the first half.

Willowbrook senior Derrick Boyd intercepted a Proviso East pass late in the first half. The Warriors' half-time lead of at least 40 points triggered a running clock throughout the second half. Willowbrook scored the only points of the second half on a safety late in the third quarter. The

Pirates lined up to punt the ball from deep in their own territory. The snap sailed over the punter's head and out of the back of the end zone for the two-point safety.

Willowbrook's season continues with this Friday's game at Oak Park

and River Forest of the West Suburban Silver Conference. The Huskies fell to 1-5 after losing 49-14 at Lyons Township on Friday. The Huskies have a losing record, but two of their losses have come against undefeated teams (Downers Grove North and

Lyons Township are both 6-0), and another loss came against York (5-1).

Willowbrook will finish its regular season with a conference home game against Morton (on Thursday, Oct. 17) and a conference battle at Leyden on Oct. 25.



CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Sectional qualifiers

The Glenbard East and Willowbrook girls golf teams competed in last week's IHSA Class 2A Hinsdale Central Regional at Willow Crest Golf Club in Oak Brook. The Rams finished eighth in the team standings of the nine team regional, while Willowbrook finished ninth. The top three teams at the regional (Hinsdale Central, Downers Grove North and Downers Grove South) advanced to this week's Sandburg Sectional at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park. Glenbard East sophomore Lilly Penfield (above left) and Willowbrook senior Paige Dehnke (above right) earned individual berths in the sectional. The top 10 individuals at the regional who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams advanced to the sectional. Penfield claimed a sectional berth with her 18-hole regional score of 98. Dehnke qualified for the sectional after shooting a 99 at the regional.



CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Sectional qualifier

Willowbrook's boys golf team competed in last week's IHSA Class 3A Hinsdale Central Regional at Willow Crest Golf Club in Oak Brook. The Warriors finished seventh in the team standings of the nine-team regional. The Oct. 2 regional's top three teams—Hinsdale Central, Wheaton Warrenville South and Wheaton North—qualified for this week's Oswego Sectional at Blackberry Oaks Golf Course in Bristol. Willowbrook senior Austin Coppersmith (above) earned an individual berth in the sectional by placing among the regional's top 10 scorers who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams. Coppersmith posted an 18-hole regional score of 78 on Willow Crest's par-70 layout. Junior Charlie Roelle fired a regional score of 85 for the Warriors. Junior Ben Rattana carded an 87, while Junior Tommy Roelle shot an 89 to round out Willowbrook's sectional team total of 339.



Race champions

Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley held its annual Run for the Kids: Superhero Hustle 5K Run/2-Mile Walk on Saturday morning. The 5-kilometer (3.1-mile) run and 2-mile walk benefited the mission of Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley to ensure that children with disabilities and their families are empowered. The start/finish line for the run/walk was right in front of the Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley facility at 830 S. Addison Ave., Villa Park. More than 200 people participated in the run/walk. Josh Stephenson (2484 (top left) of Villa Park finished first in the 5-kilometer run. Victoria Lantz (2454 (left) of Lombard was the run's female champion. Stephenson and Lantz are pictured as they approach the finish line. All of the participants in the run/walk were encouraged to dress as their favorite superhero. Another photo (above right) shows some of the supporters who cheered on the runners and walkers as they approached the finish line.