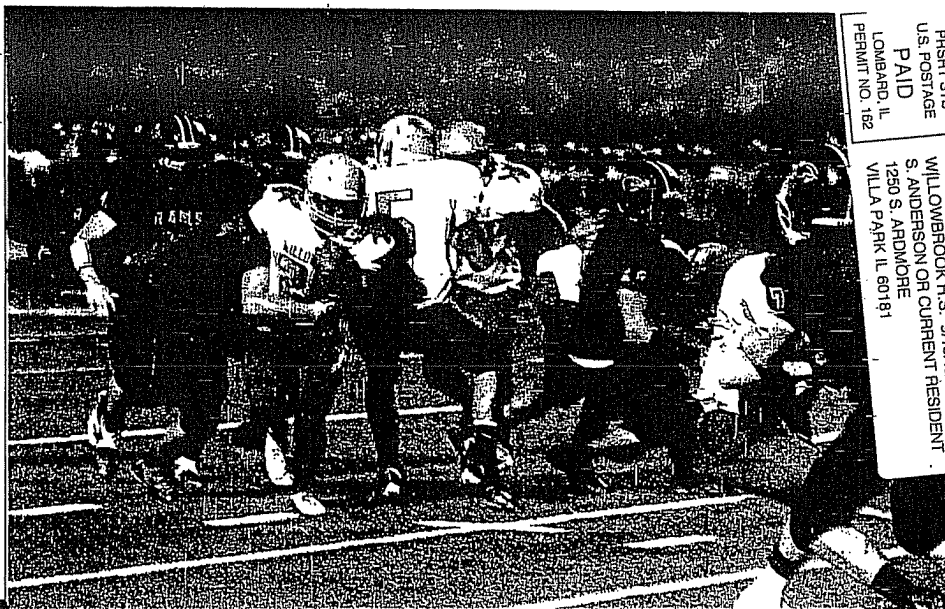


Season opener...

THE WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL football team opened the 2013 season with Saturday night's game against Glenbard East in Lombard. The game was originally scheduled to take place Friday, but lightning throughout the area postponed the game until Saturday. The two teams were tied at 14-14 at halftime. Glenbard East held a 28-14 lead early in the fourth quarter, but Willowbrook scored a touchdown to reduce the Rams' lead to 28-21 with about 10 minutes to play. The photo on the right shows Willowbrook senior Jeremy Barnes carrying the ball during his team's fourth-quarter touchdown drive. Glenbard East hung on to beat the Warriors 28-21. Willowbrook's season continues with this Friday's game at Lyons Township. The Warriors will open the West Suburban Gold Conference season at Hinsdale South on Sept. 13. Willowbrook, which finished the 2012 season with an overall record of 6-4 and qualified for the IHSA Class 7A playoffs, will play its first home game of 2013 on Sept. 20 against York. For more about the Warriors' season-opening game against Glenbard East, see Page 14.



Photos by Chris Fox

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VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

Vol. 54 No. 36

Wednesday, September 4, 2013

Price 60¢

Assessment outlines problems at both Villa Park pools

by Chris Fox

An architectural firm provided its assessment of Villa Park's two public pools during the Aug. 26 Villa Park Village Board meeting. The assessment, which was conducted by Williams Architects Ltd. of Itasca, detailed major problems at both Lufkin Pool, located at 1000 N. Ardmore Ave., and Jefferson Pool at 341 N. Harvard Ave.

The village hired Williams Architects Ltd. to conduct the surveys of both pools to give an evaluation of their present condition and to assist in planning for future repairs or replacements. The firm presented its findings during the committee-of-the-whole portion of the Aug. 26 meeting. The village board did not make any votes regarding Villa Park's pools during the meeting.

Tom LaLonde and Richard Klarck of Williams Architects Ltd. delivered the presentation during the meeting. LaLonde noted the age of both of Villa Park's pools: Lufkin Pool opened in 1954, while Jefferson Pool opened in 1966. LaLonde said Lufkin Pool has a capacity of 725 bathers, while Jefferson Pool can accommodate up to 895 bathers.

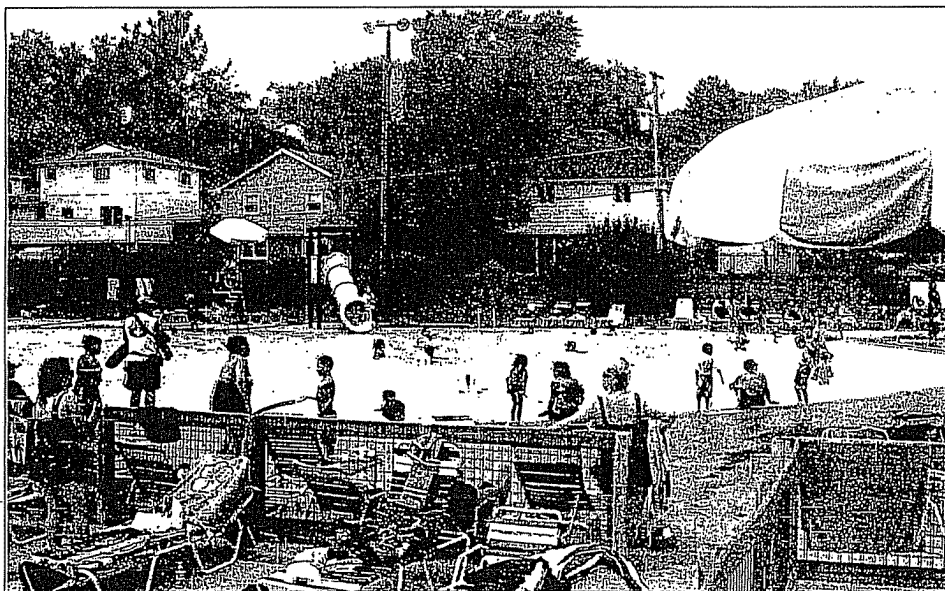
"Lufkin Pool is quite old," stated Klarck. "You can see some problems with the structure. The pool's structure itself is deteriorating rapidly."

Klarck said that Lufkin Pool's liner, which was last replaced in 1997, is approaching the end of its useful life. He said a liner typically lasts for 10 to 15 years. Other problems at the pool include cracks that are forming under the decks and an aging piping system and filter building.

"The filter building needs some significant repairs," said LaLonde. "It's at a point where it's really way beyond its life expectancy. We would recommend a major renovation or replacement of the building."

Major issues at Jefferson Pool, according to the firm's assessment, include piping problems that result in significant water loss, insufficient deck drainage, chipped and cracking paint, and a design structure that leads to poor distribution of chemicals throughout the entire pool.

LaLonde stated that both pools fail to meet current code requirements, but they are still



Repairs required at Lufkin Pool...

VILLA PARK'S LUFKIN POOL (above) closed for the 2013 season following Monday's Patron Appreciation Day. The above photo shows patrons at the pool on Monday afternoon. A survey recently completed by Williams Architects Ltd. outlined the condition of Lufkin Pool and Jefferson Pool. Major needs at Lufkin Pool include repairing the concrete structure and replacing the liner.

allowed to operate because they were built under previous codes.

The architectural firm's survey includes prioritized recommendations at each facility. The recommendations with a priority level of 1 required attention within the next year. The levels extended from 2 to 5, with level 2 requiring attention within 3 years.

The level 1 priorities at Lufkin Pool include removing the pool liner and repairing the concrete structure, which would cost anywhere between \$160,000 to \$320,000, according to the survey. Another level 1 priority is replacing the liner, which would cost \$80,000 to \$90,000.

"It's difficult to price things specifically in these categories," said LaLonde. "We are giving you at least some ideas of budget ranges."

The level 1 priorities at Jefferson Pool include replacing the liner, which would cost between \$90,000 and \$120,000; repairing the leaks in the piping at an estimated cost of \$76,000 to \$115,000; replacing the existing perimeter gutter with a new stainless steel gutter (\$143,000 to \$184,000) and replacing the existing main drain and its piping to the mechanical room (\$30,000 to \$50,000).

"It's our professional opinion that a lot of these things have deteriorated to the point

where you're going to want to be looking at some pretty immediate repairs," said LaLonde. "The longer you wait to do something, things will continue to deteriorate to a point where they would need complete replacement."

One of the questions from the residents who spoke during the discussion about the village's pools pertained to the average life expectancy of a public pool.

"Typically we would put a 30- to 40-year life expectancy on a facility," responded LaLonde.

Villa Park Trustee Donald Kase asked the representatives from Williams Architects Ltd. (Continued on the next page)



Sports

LOMBARDIAN
VILLA PARK REVIEW

Rams defeat Willowbrook 28-21 in season opener

There was electricity in the air for Friday night's season-opening football game between Glenbard East and Willowbrook. So much electricity that the game would be delayed for about 24 hours. The lightning show that cancelled high school football games throughout DuPage County on Friday night cleared the area by Saturday evening, leaving the Rams and Warriors to take the field for their neighborhood battle in Lombard.

Glenbard East edged Willowbrook 28-21 in a hard-fought battle that was undecided until the waning minutes of the fourth quarter. The two teams were tied at 14-14 at halftime, but the Rams scored two second-half touchdowns to take a 28-14 lead early in the fourth quarter. The visiting Warriors cut the deficit to 28-21 with about 10 minutes to play. The Warriors had two more offensive drives during the period. Both drives ended with turnovers in Glenbard East territory, including a fumble near the Rams' 30-yard line with a little more than two minutes left in the game. Junior linebacker Mickey Farnham of the Rams forced the decisive turnover when he stripped the football from a Willowbrook opponent. Glenbard East's offense proceeded to earn one first down on its way to running out the clock.

"Our kids battled tonight," said Glenbard East coach John Walters after the game. "We told them at halftime it was a streetfight. It's Willowbrook and Glenbard East. It's a great game every year. It's a great rivalry. Our guys did a nice job of responding."

Glenbard East junior quarterback Drake Pusateri turned in a solid performance in his varsity debut. Pusateri delivered two touchdown runs and one touchdown pass in the winning effort.

"I was nervous; I'm not going to lie," said Pusateri of his first varsity contest. "But I settled down after that first drive."

Pusateri said he was disappointed not to play on Friday night, when lightning all over the area led to

postponement of the game. The decision to move the battle to Saturday was announced at about 7:50 p.m. on Friday. The original announcement set Saturday's kickoff for 2 p.m., but that time was moved back five hours following Saturday morning's heavy rain.

"I went home last night in pure anger because we could not play under the lights," said Pusateri, a Lombard resident who attended Glenn Westlake Middle School and played several seasons with the Lombard Falcons. "I knew I had to do everything I could, because I'm never going to get another chance to beat Willowbrook on my field. [The two teams will meet in Villa Park next season.] I'm at a loss for words."

The Warriors opened Saturday's scoring when senior quarterback Brian Johnson fired a 4-yard touchdown pass to senior receiver Devin Childress with 2:42 remaining in the first quarter. Johnson kept the scoring drive alive moments earlier when he ran for 12 yards on a fourth-and-eight play from the Rams' 33-yard line. Willowbrook made an unsuccessful run on the conversion attempt after the touchdown.

Glenbard East gained the lead on its ensuing offensive drive, which ended with a 1-yard touchdown run by junior Dominic Wilbertson. A pass from Pusateri to sophomore Joey Moore on the previous play set up the scoring run. Junior Jack Difino made the extra-point kick to give the Rams a 7-6 lead with 23.9 seconds left in the opening quarter.

Johnson and Childress provided their second touchdown connection of the evening on a 31-yard pass play with five minutes left in the second quarter. A penalty on the ensuing conversion attempt drove the Warriors back to the 17-yard line. Johnson passed to Childress, who made a 2-point catch in the corner of the end zone to give the Warriors a 14-7 lead.

Glenbard East evened the game with 29.3 seconds left in the first half, when Pusateri bulled his way into the



Impressive debut...

Photos by Chris F

GLENBARD EAST JUNIOR quarterback Drake Pusateri (above) breaks into the open field for a 38-yard gain during the third quarter of Saturday's season-opening football game against Willowbrook. Pusateri's run gave the Rams a first down at Willowbrook's 9-yard line. Glenbard East completed the drive with Pusateri's short touchdown run on a fourth-down play. The touchdown broke a 14-14 tie in the battle between neighborhood rivals. Glenbard East defeated Willowbrook 28-21 in Lombard. Playing in his first varsity game, Pusateri delivered a pair of touchdown runs and one touchdown pass.

end zone on a 5-yard touchdown run and Difino added the extra point.

Pusateri's 38-yard run down to the Warriors' 9-yard line put the Rams in position for the go-ahead touchdown early in the third quarter. Pusateri ran across the goal line on a 2-yard touchdown burst on a fourth-and-goal play with about eight minutes left in the third period.

Glenbard East extended its lead in the opening minute of the fourth quarter on Pusateri's 19-yard touchdown pass to junior Alex Ciszewski, who made a leaping catch in the end zone on a third-and-seven play. Difino's extra-point kick moved the Rams' lead to 28-14 with 11:16 left in the game.

"I've played with Alex since I was

six," said Pusateri. "I trust that kid with my life, so if there was one person I was going to go to, it would be him. He came through."

Glenbard East's 14-point lead lasted for less than two minutes, as Johnson's 7-yard TD run and junior Paul Yacoub's extra-point kick trimmed the Rams' edge to 28-21 with 9:49 to play.

A sack by Willowbrook junior Robert Cerdas helped to push the Rams to a third-and-32 hole on the ensuing offensive series. The next two plays—a pass interference penalty on Willowbrook and a completion from Pusateri to Joey Moore—gave Glenbard East a first down. The Rams fumbled the ball on the next play, and senior defensive back Jaquise

Williams made the recovery for the Warriors, who took possession at their own 19-yard line with about eight minutes remaining.

The Warriors pushed the ball across the 50-yard line in just a few plays, but one of those plays ended with a fumble. Glenbard East senior defensive back Javon York recovered the loose ball at the Rams' 26-yard line with 7:26 to play.

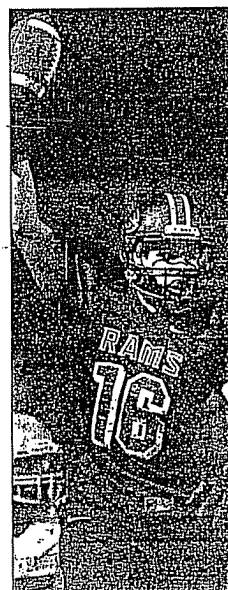
Glenbard East picked up one first down on the ensuing drive before punting the ball away. Willowbrook began its final drive at its own 4-yard line with 3:19 left. The Warriors were once again able to move the ball, but Farnham's strip and recovery with about two minutes to play all

(Continued on the next page)



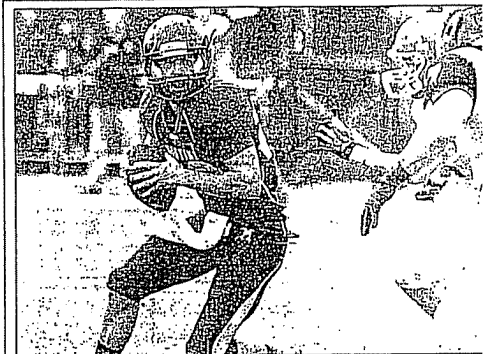
Under pressure...

SENIOR QUARTERBACK Brian Johnson (above) of the Willowbrook football team unloads a pass during the first quarter of Saturday's game against Glenbard East. Senior defensive end Mike Allen (right) applies pressure to Johnson on the play. Johnson threw two touchdown passes to senior receiver Devin Childress in the first half. He added a 7-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. Glenbard East defeated the Warriors 28-21 in Lombard.



Big catch...

JUNIOR ALEX CISZEWSKI (above) of Glenbard East celebrates after his 19-yard touchdown reception during the fourth quarter of Saturday's game against Willowbrook.



Big play for the Broncos...

MONTINI SENIOR Tyler Tumpane (above) runs for a first down on a fake field goal play during the second quarter of Saturday's season-opening football game against Maine South in Lombard. The four-time defending IHSA Class 5A state champion Broncos edged Class 8, power Maine South 21-19 in a battle that went down to the final play. Tumpane—the holder on what appeared to be a field goal attempt—took the snap and ran to his right for a first down. Junior Terrance Savai scored on a 3-yard run moments later. Junior Mason Weissenhoff kicked the extra point to tie the score at 7-7 with about five minutes left in the first half. The Broncos scored early in the third quarter on a 2-yard touchdown run by senior Nile Sykes. The visiting Redhawks scored late in the quarter but missed the extra point, leaving Montini with a 14-1 lead. The Broncos took a 21-13 lead after Tumpane's 8-yard touchdown run later in the third quarter. Maine South scored a touchdown with about three minutes to play but failed on the 2-point conversion pass. The game ended when the Redhawks passed the ball into the end zone from near Montini's 22-yard line. Senior Derrick Curry of the Broncos intercepted the pass in the end zone to end the game.

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Dylan Domek passes away

**Young man
who missed his
graduation from
AT succumbs
to injuries from
accident**

By Dee Longfellow
For The Addison Independent

ADDISON — Last week, the Addison Independent learned the sad news that Dylan Domek, a 2013 Addison Trail senior who missed his high school graduation due to an accident, had passed away on August 30. The wake is scheduled for Wednesday, September

4 from 3-9 p.m. at Salerno's Rosedale Chapel, 450 W. Lake St. in Roselle. The funeral will be held on Thursday, September 5 at 10 a.m. at St. Philip the Apostle Parish, 1233 W. Holtz Ave., in Addison.

Dylan, 19, was set to graduate with the rest of his class at AHS before he was hit by a car while running across Lake Shore Drive in downtown Chicago early in the morning of Sunday, June 9. According to reports, Dylan and friends stepped over a guardrail and attempted to run across the northbound lanes in the 1300 block of North Lake Shore Drive, when Dylan was struck

See DOMEK, Page 3

Addison Trail to host open house on Sept. 5

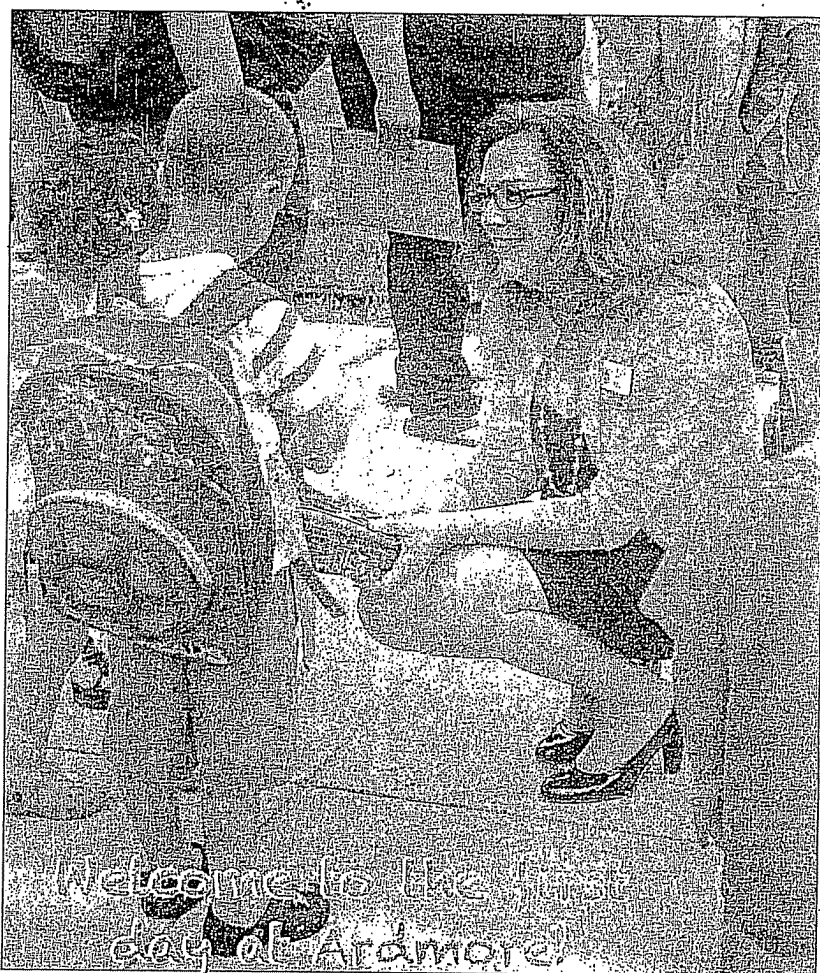
ADDISON — On Sept. 5, Addison Trail will host its annual Open House for parents and students.

Students will be dismissed at 1:40 p.m. to allow staff time to prepare for the evening's activities.

The evening will begin with a general meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. After that meeting, parents are encouraged to follow their child's daily schedule in an abbreviated school day. Each period will be 10 minutes long.

Parents also are welcome to join Addison Trail administrators, guidance staff and deans for coffee in the Commons area throughout the event.

For more information about Addison Trail's Open House, call 630-628-3300.



courtesy photo
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Donna Haney visits with a few afternoon kindergarten students at Ardmore School—admiring the Ninja Turtle snack bag and backpack—as the students waited outside for their first day of school.

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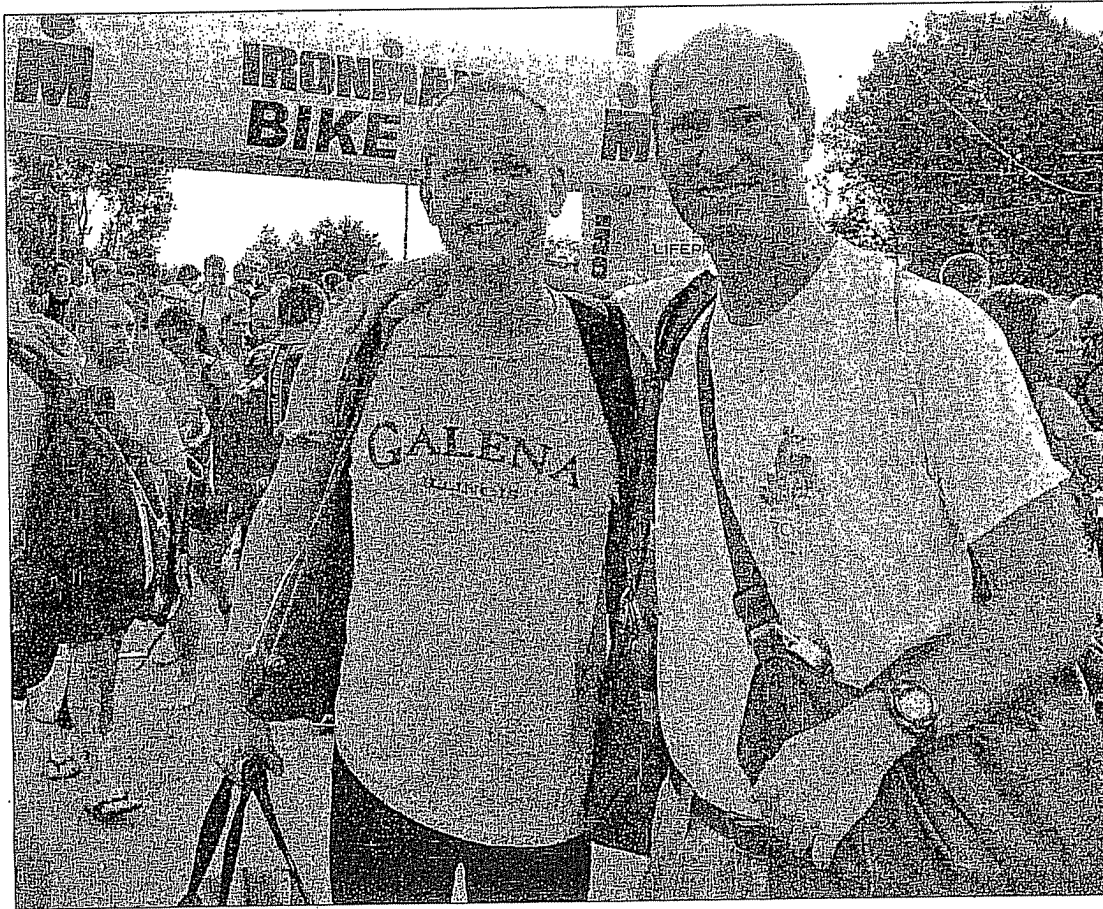


photo provided

St. Pius X parents take part in Ironman

Dave Poirier (l.) and Ken Florey are pictured here at the Racine Ironman this past July, where they took part in one mile of swimming, 56 miles of biking and 13.1 miles of running. The two parents used the event to solicit pledges and raise funds for a new cargo trailer for St. Pius' X Parish School's Cub Scout Pack 140. With a goal of \$5000, the Ironman brought in \$2800 toward the van purchase. Anyone interested in helping the Scouts reach their goal can contact Poirier via e-mail to: poirier531@gmail.com.

Citizens Police Academy begins Sept. 26

Program offers a look inside police operations

ADDISON — The Addison Police Department is now accepting applications for its next Citizens Police Academy course, which begins Thursday, September 26, and residents and business owners are encouraged to participate.

The free 11-week course will meet Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., in the Addison Village Hall, 1 Friendship Plaza. Each class will provide an overview of various areas of law enforcement, and will include presentations by police officers, tours of the facility and explanations regarding the use of police equipment.

Addison Police Department began its Citizens Police Academy in 1999, and dozens of groups have since graduated. The department is committed to the philosophy of Community Oriented Policing and developing partnerships with citizens. The course provides an opportunity for citizens to develop direct lines of communication with members of the Police Department.

Participants must be at least 18 years of age with a clean criminal record, and live or work in the Village of Addison. Applications are available at the Police Department, or can be downloaded at www.AddisonPoliceIllinois.org/crime/citizens.shtml.

Some of the topics that will be covered include: Traffic Enforcement; Community Policing; Hiring and Recruiting; Use of Force; Gang Suppression; and the Consolidated Dispatch Center.

For more information, contact Sgt. Sean Gilhooley at 630-543-3080.

• DOMEK

Continued from page 1

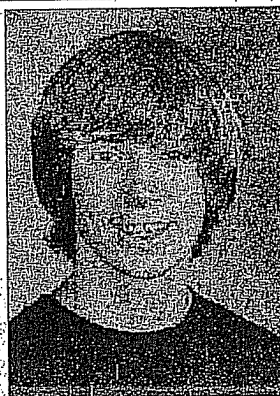
by a late-model BMW325, injuring his head and legs. He was taken to Northwestern Hospital in critical condition.

Since the accident, several fundraisers were held to help his family with medical bills and other expenses. On Saturday, August 30, Dylan died from his injuries.

A linebacker for the Addison Trail football team, Dylan was known as a leader and key contributor to the team. Sadly, he had to miss his high school graduation.

"The Domek family is in our hearts and thoughts," said Addison Trail Principal Adam Cibulka. "Our deepest sympathy goes out to them during this most difficult time."

The Addison Trail Football Team will wear a sticker with his #44 on their helmets to honor Dylan and all he meant



DYLAN DOMEK

to Addison Trail and the community as a whole.

Support services are in place for students, staff members and those who need assistance. To access those services, call 630-628-3300.

Addison schools seek volunteers for mentor program

Community members, business professionals will be matched with students

ADDISON — Districts 88 and 4 are asking community members in Addison to "Make a difference in the life of a student – become a mentor with the Addison Mentor Program."

Founded in 2007, the Addison Mentor Program successfully matches community members and business professionals with students at Addison Trail in District 88 and Indian Trail Junior High School in Addison School District 4.

The purpose of the program is to identify students "on the brink of success," who will benefit from having a positive role model. Adults from the local business community are matched with students and meet once a week for a half hour during the school day, on campus.

To see a video about the program, go to dupage88.net/site/public/videos/?item=38.

To become a mentor, or for more information, contact District 88 Director of Community Relations Dani Schweigert at 630-530-3989 or dschweigert@dupage88.net.

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Dillard-backed bill targeting state's heroin epidemic becomes law

SPRINGFIELD — Targeting what DuPage County State's Attorney Bob Berlin and the Illinois State Crime Commission have called an "epidemic," legislation sponsored by State Sen. Kirk Dillard (R-Hinsdale) was recently signed into law creating a Young Adults Heroin Use Task Force to combat the growing use of heroin in Illinois.

"A recent study by Roosevelt University found that Chicago has the worst heroin problem in the country, and we continue to see evidence that epidemic has spread to the suburbs," said Dillard.

While heroin-related deaths in Chicago have gone down, they are up by 200 percent in the suburbs. In DuPage County, there has been a 48-percent increase in heroin deaths since 2008.

The Task Force would be charged with conducting a study on the heroin use problems in Illinois high schools, and suggesting programs that school administrators and teachers could use to react to the problem—including programs involving local law enforcement agencies.

Sen. Dillard serves on the Board of the Robert Crown Cen-

ter for Health Education (RCC) in Hinsdale, which recently created one of the world's first heroin education and prevention programs. RCC CEO Kathleen M. Burke applauded the Illinois legislature's decision to create a statewide task force to study the issue of heroin abuse among young people.

"We welcome the engagement of state lawmakers, school administrators, law enforcement, educators and parents, as we tackle the problem of heroin abuse in Illinois," said Burke. "For the past several years, we have seen this problem grow

exponentially in our communities."

The Senator noted that a study commissioned by RCC in partnership with the Reed Hruby Foundation and conducted by the Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy found that more than one third of those who participated in the study began using heroin while they were in high school. The same study found that there was a substantial lack of awareness that youth heroin is a problem in suburban counties among parents, schools and the community at large.

District 88 makes gains on PSAE

Student scores increase 4.3 percent in reading, 1.2 percent in math

ADDISON/VILLA PARK — As part of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law, each year Illinois students in grade 11 must be measured through the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE), which is a rigorous standardized test that includes the ACT and Work Keys exam.

District 88 is pleased to announce the district showed gains from last year on the PSAE in reading and math, as well as its graduation rate. As a whole, District 88 students increased by 4.3 percent in

reading and 1.2 percent in math from 2011 to 2012.

District 88's graduation rate is 90.9 percent, which is 5.9 percent higher than the state target. During the last 10 years, District 88 has dramatically increased the amount of academic and social-emotional interventions provided to help students "stay on track" and earn their high school diploma. The district is committed to continuing to implement supports for students to bridge them successfully into post-secondary coursework.

According to NCLB, 92.5

percent of students (both as a whole and in each subgroup) needed to meet or exceed state standards in 2012-13 for a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in reading and math. If that 92.5 percent was not met, AYP could be attained if a school decreased the number of students who did not meet or exceed standards by 10 percent as a whole or in subgroups. Subgroups are defined and tracked for NCLB purposes according to race, ethnicity, poverty counts, disabilities or students with limited English

proficiency. Because of the ambitious standards of NCLB, many schools in Illinois did not make AYP, and Illinois has requested approval for a NCLB waiver, which has not yet been granted.

While Addison Trail and Willowbrook did not make AYP in all required categories (many Illinois schools did not make AYP, as the state target is very ambitious), District 88 did make AYP in several categories.

Because NCLB does not fully measure student success, Illinois is working toward a new assessment program to better align state assessments from kindergarten through grade 12. The new assessments, called Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), will begin in 2014-15 and will involve students in grades nine through 11 being tested twice a year. The AYP formula will contain a value-added growth model that will show actual student growth throughout time, as opposed to the one-time grade 11 "snapshot" of the current AYP formula.

More information about the PARCC assessments can be found at www.parcconline.org and www.isbe.net/assessment/parcc.htm.

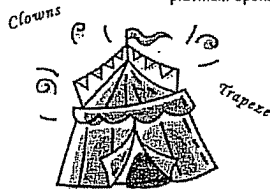
District 88 is embarking on a rigorous curriculum and assessment design process to ensure its assessments are aligned to PARCC and the new Common Core State Standards to prepare students for success and to continue the district's mission that all District 88 students will be college and career ready when they leave District 88.

Old-Fashioned Traveling Circus

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4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

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Group Tickets (12 children or more) may be purchased from the Foundation Office, 630-617-2376.
Group tickets: \$8/child and \$16/adult.
Seats will be reserved for groups.

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Elmhurst Photo Boutique

To purchase by credit card, visit the Webstore at www.elmhurst205.org/foundation_circus

All proceeds help fund educational & developmental grants & programs for Elmhurst Public Schools
For more information, call (630) 617-2376.

Willowbrook to host open house on Sept. 5

VILLA PARK — On Sept. 5, Willowbrook will host its annual Open House for parents and students.

Students will be dismissed at 1:40 p.m. to allow staff time to prepare for the evening's activities.

The evening will begin with a general meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. After that meeting, parents are encouraged to follow their child's daily schedule in an abbreviated school day. Each period will be 10 minutes long.

Parents also are welcome to join Willowbrook administrators, guidance staff and deans for coffee in the Commons area throughout the event.

For more information about Willowbrook's Open House, call 630-530-3400.

• BLAZE

Continued from page 1

injured, a Lombard firefighter injured his knee and a Villa Park firefighter suffered an ankle injury. Both were transported to area hospitals where they were treated and released.

A dog was rescued that resided in the garden apartment and was given oxygen by the firefighters. The dog was released in good condition to his owner.

There was smoke damage

throughout the building and structural damage to the stairwell. Damage is estimated at \$80,000 - \$100,000. The Villa Park Police Department assisted with traffic and crowd control. The fire is currently under investigation for origin and cause by the Villa Park Fire Department, Villa Park Police Department and the DuPage County Fire Investigation Task Force.



all photos by Paul DelGuidice

In the proper equipment...

York Center firefighter/paramedics in oxygen masks stand outside the 16 W. Terrace apartment building shortly after a fire in the structure was doused on Monday, Aug. 26.



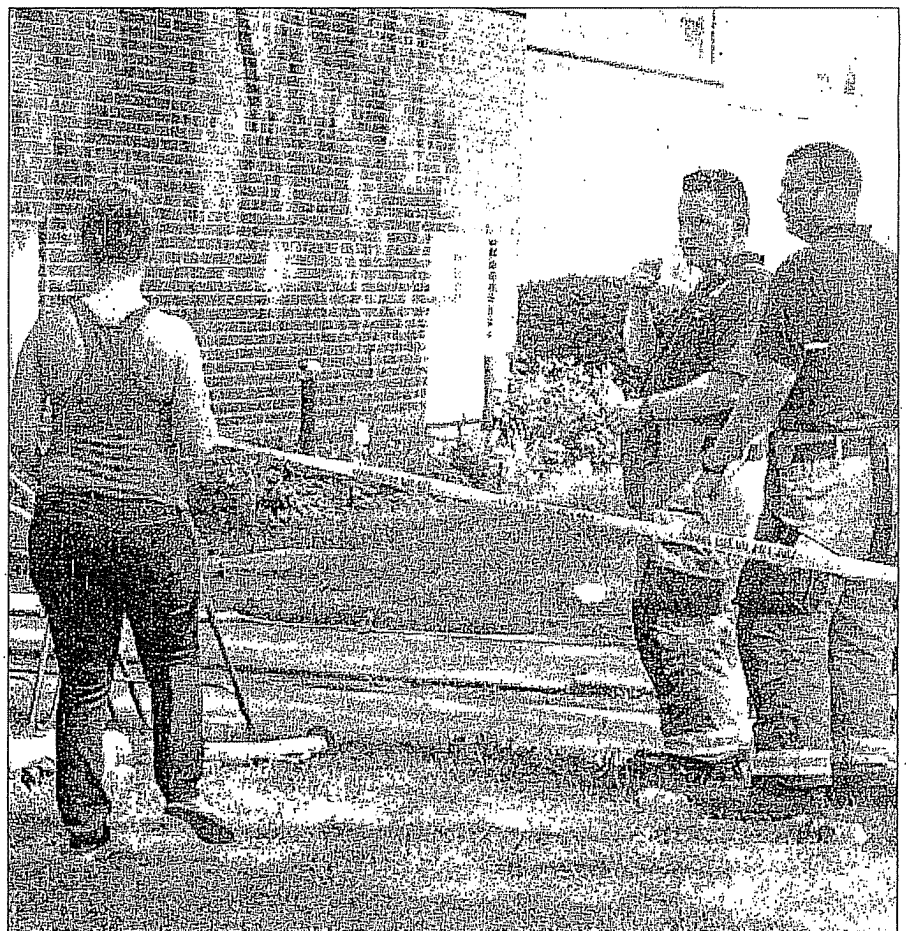
Neighboring communities respond...

Units from Villa Park, Addison, Elmhurst, Oak Brook Terrace, Wood Dale and York Center were called to the apartment fire at 16 W. Terrace in Villa Park on Monday. No residents were injured but two firefighters suffered minor injuries.

Parks & Rec offers free skateboard event

VILLA PARK — Parks and Recreation is offering young skateboarders a free opportunity to use the new state-of-the-art skate bowl without having to compete or share time with older skaters. The skate bowl at the Iowa Community Center will be exclusively available for budding skate enthusiasts. Staff will be on hand to enforce the age restriction.

Little Grinders are invited to come out on Saturdays September 21 & 28, October 12 & 19. Skaters ages 3-5 with parent can use the skate park from 9-9:45 a.m. and ages 6-10 will have exclusive use 9:45-10:45 a.m. Helmets and elbow and kneepads are required.



Talking with a resident...

Villa Park firefighter/paramedics talk with a resident of the W. Terrace apartments shortly after the fire at 16 W. Terrace was extinguished on Monday, Aug. 26.

District 88 earns seven INSPRA 2013 Communications Contest awards

ADDISON — District 88 recently received seven awards from the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association (INSPRA). The district will be recognized for these accomplishments during the 2013 INSPRA Communications Workshop & Awards Luncheon Sept. 20 in Oakbrook. The awards include:

1) Willowbrook Boys Varsity Basketball Team program Award of Excellence
Summary: A program to promote the Willowbrook Boys Varsity Basketball Team.

2) Addison Trail 2012 PBIS video Award of Excellence
Summary: The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program at Addison Trail creates a video each year to demonstrate the

expectations of being a District 88 student. The video is done in an entertaining manner and involves the students, staff and administration working together.

3) PIE Foundation fundraiser flyer Award of Merit

Summary: A flyer to promote the PIE Foundation annual fundraiser.

4) District 88 Newsletter Award of Merit

Summary: The District 88 newsletter was first published on Jan. 6, 2012. It now has about 6,500 subscribers and also has received national awards. The newsletter is published weekly in English and Spanish.

5) "Willowbrook alumna shares her story of courage and perseverance" Award of Merit

Summary: Willowbrook alumna Rachel M. Gibson was recently diagnosed with leukemia. She is undergoing chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant at Comer Children's Hospital in Chicago to treat the leukemia.

6) "Willowbrook alumnus shares his story of finding faith, hope and love in the midst of tragedy in his book, 'The Color of Rain'" Award of Merit

Summary: Willowbrook alumnus Michael Spehn and his wife, Gina, recently published a book entitled "The Color of Rain" about how faith, hope and love helped them through losing their late spouses to cancer.

cer.

7) "Words from a 'true champion': Willowbrook alumnus shares his experiences in his new book" Award of Merit

Summary: Willowbrook alumnus Kirk Mango won the

still rings state title in boys gymnastics in 1975. Mango has been a coach, teacher, motivational speaker and author and recently published a book entitled "Becoming a True Champion: Achieving Athletic Excellence from the Inside Out."



photo provided

Dist. 88 teachers honored for INSPRA communications awards

Addison Trail world languages teacher and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) coordinator Erica Craig (r.) was recognized during the Aug. 26 District 88 Board of Education meeting for winning an award from the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association (INSPRA) for the Addison Trail 2012 PBIS video. Also pictured is Addison Trail math teacher Eric Norberg, who is in charge of filming, directing, editing and writing the script for the 2013 PBIS video.

State Senator Tom Cullerton to host job fair

VILLA PARK — State Senator Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security will host a job fair Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Odeum in Villa Park. The event will open early for veterans of the U.S. military at 10 a.m.

Area job seekers can meet local employers, distribute resumes and apply for open positions.

The fair is co-hosted by the following Chambers of Commerce & Industry: Addison, Bartlett, Choose DuPage, Elmhurst, Glendale Heights, Roselle and Villa Park.

The Odeum Sports and Expo Center is located at 1033 No. Villa Ave. in Villa Park. For more information, call Cullerton's district office at 630.903.6667.

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Village offers Route 53 project updates as of Aug. 27

ADDISON — Due to the extreme heat, the Village of Addison has granted the contractor permission to begin the mainline concrete pour scheduled for Wednesday, August 28th starting at 3:45 a.m.

Updates and sequencing of construction/traffic staging scheduled for the upcoming weeks:

Lochner/IDOT continues to use a traffic signal timing consultant monitor the south mall entrance signals and adjust the timing to maintain traffic flow into and out of the shopping center.

Route 53/Route 20 intersection work: Lake Street is scheduled to begin staging for construction the week of Aug. 26 pending the completion of the storm sewer installation from the southwest corner of the intersection, west to I-355.

The intersection staging will begin before the north/south bound Route 53 lanes are completed leading to through intersection. Estimates are the intersection will take 16 weeks to complete which will place the construction through the Christmas shopping season.

Work near Route 53 and Route 20 intersection: The contractor has stated that mainline concrete paving will commence Southbound on Route 53 from the I-355 overpass to Lake Street on Friday, Aug. 23. Concrete paving will continue south from Lake Street to Addison Park District facilities, on Tuesday, Aug. 27 or Wednesday, Aug. 28. On the day of the concrete placement south of Lake Street, the north entrance to the shopping center will be closed. This closure may remain

in-place for approximately 1-2 weeks. At the end of this timeframe, the north entrance will be complete and construction will commence on the south entrance. Details regarding the south entrance will be provided in the immediate future.

Work at the Army Trail/Route 53 intersection: Army Trail Rd. traffic patterns will change on Thursday, Aug. 22. Traffic in both directions will be provided two through lanes along the curb line. Southbound Route 53 left turn lane to Eastbound Army Trail Rd. will be relocated west immediately adjacent to the Southbound through lane. This stage will allow for the construction of barrier median on both Route 53 and Army Trail Rd. The contractor remains several weeks from

completion of this intersection.

Contractors are installing street light bases and have begun sidewalk placement on the west side of Route 53. Street light bases installation has begun on the east side of Route 53 from Stone Ave north late.

Drivers should remain very aware that this is a construction zone and should use added caution through the work zone areas. No cell phone use, watch your speed and be cautious.

The widening/reconstruction project of Route 53 will extend from Army Trail Road north to the Elgin O'Hare Expressway, and is expected to be completed in 2013.

Complaints or concerns regarding the project should be directed to the Public Works Department at 630-620-2020.

Addison's Business-Education Partnership Council to reconvene

ADDISON — District 88 students and staff members have benefitted from the positive partnerships with local businesses and organizations through the Addison Business-Education Partnership Council.

The involvement ranges from curricular aspects such as classroom presentations, onsite job shadowing, internships and employment to fundraising opportunities, including benefit nights, sponsorships and donations.

The generosity of community members and business leaders provide District 88 students with the skills and learning experiences they need to be successful.

Launched in 2004-05, the Addison Business-Education Partnership Council meets monthly with local schools and business partners for important discussions about student achievement, parent involvement and community outreach programs.

Mission The mission of the Addison Business-Education Partnership Council is for business professionals and educational leaders to work together to provide opportunities for students in Addison to succeed inside the classroom and beyond through strengthening the relationship and partnership between education and the community.

Meeting information When: 7:30 a.m. the first Wednesday of the month (excluding January, July and August) Where: Republic Bank, 1640 W. Lake St. in Addison For more information, contact Dani Schweigert at 630-530-3989 or dschweigert@dupage88.net.

AAG meeting will feature watercolor demo

ADDISON — The Addison Art Guild will start the new season with a watercolor demonstration by award-winning artist Kay Wahlgren on Thursday, September 12 at 7:30 p.m. in room 1301 of Addison Village Hall. Guests are welcome.

Wahlgren holds a BFA in graphic design from the University of Illinois and has worked for Marshall Field's and as an independent artist. For 20 years, she made paper sculptures which she showed by invitation to the Oak Brook Fine Arts Fair.

When physical limitations forced her to give that up, Wahlgren reinvented herself as a watercolorist. She now teaches watercolor classes at the DuPage Art League where she has served as president and vice-president of exhibits, maintenance and education.

Wahlgren is a gardener and wrote a weekly garden column that was published in 15 suburban local papers. Gardening and garden tours have provided her with a wealth of subjects to paint.

For more information, please call 630-543-4100, ext. 7416.

District 4 schools schedule Curriculum Nights

ADDISON — All of schools in Addison District 4 have scheduled Curriculum Night events during the first three weeks of September. These evenings give parents the opportunity to meet their children's principals and teachers and to learn about the educational plan for the year ahead.

This year, principals will be sharing more information about the Common Core State Standards, which are designed to provide teachers and parent with a common understanding of what students are expected to learn at each grade level. Teacher presentations will focus on specific goals for each classroom.

The curriculum night schedule is as follows:

Wed., September 4 — Fullerton Curriculum Night — 6-7:30 p.m.

Thurs., September 5 — Army Trail Curriculum Night — 6-7:45 p.m.

Mon., September 9 — Indian Trail Junior High Curriculum Night — 7 p.m.

Tues., September 10 — Lincoln Curriculum Night — 6 p.m.

Wed., September 11 — Ardmore Curriculum Night — 6-8 p.m.

Thurs., September 12 — Lake Park Curriculum Night — 6-7:30 p.m.

Tues., September 17 — Wesley Curriculum Night — 6-7:45 p.m.

Thurs., September 19 — Stone Curriculum Night — 6-7:30 p.m.

Representatives of outside agencies, including the District 4 Educational Foundation and the Addison Park District, will also be present at the events to share information about their programs with parents. All District 4 families are encouraged to attend and learn more about what is in store for their children in the 2013-14 school year.

Artist John Walker now on exhibit at ACA gallery

Artist's reception to be held Friday, Sept. 6

ADDISON — The Addison Center for the Arts Gallery is currently exhibiting "Persistent Vision," an exhibition by artist John Walker, now through September 28 at the ACA's gallery located at 213 N. Lombard Road inside Addison Trail High School. (Use the north door to

enter.)

An accomplished professional artist and illustrator with more than 30 years of working experience, Walker has created nationally-recognized work using both traditional and digital media for everything from children's books to major advertising clients. While he continues to work in the illustration field, Walker's focus over the past few years has gradually shifted to the world of fine art. A versatile artist familiar with a wide range of media, most of his tra-

ditional work is painted in acrylics and he has begun to share his knowledge of the medium through demonstrations and workshops. Walker has received many awards, including "Best of Show" in many exhibits.

A reception will be held on Friday, September 6 from 7-9 p.m. The reception and gallery is free and open to the public. For more information, call 620-458-4500 or visit addisoncenterforthearts.com or visit WalkerBrushWorks.com.

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SPORTS

SEPTEMBER 5, 2013 • 24

Fenton girls cross country team aims for repeat state trip

Bison girls volleyball team improved; Dobon leads Fenton boys golf team

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Fenton girls cross-country team is coming off a 2012 season where it qualified for the Class 2A state meet for the first time in school history. The team also took fifth in the Metro Suburban Conference.

Coach Sarah McDougal returns a number of runners from last year's team, including seniors Kandy Mora, Diana Morales, and Alissa Whyte, juniors Lisa Kubica, Samantha Strandberg and Mimi Valois and sophomore Marisol Garcia. Only Garcia was not on the state team last year.

Key newcomers to the team include senior Kayla Kotra, junior Jessica Pacheco and sophomore Michelle Diaz.

"This team has a positive attitude, a commitment to success in the state series again this year, strong leadership by cap-

tain Diana Morales and Alissa Whyte and an impressive work ethic," said McDougal. "We have a close-knit group of runners who feel like a family to one another."

McDougal noted the team has its eyes set squarely on another trip to the state meet.

"We have to stay focused on the state series, train hard while avoiding injury, gradually increase mileage, set individual and team goals for every meet, develop depth amongst the team and the younger and newer runners," she said.

McDougal also has been pleased with the team's mental and physical toughness and its increased confidence level. She cited Garcia, Pacheco and Morales for their work over the summer.

"Marisol, Jessica and Diana trained exceptionally hard over the summer, joining both the girls and boys teams for their workouts," she said. "I am looking forward to watching all the runners progress and improve no matter what their individual running goals are."

Fenton girls volleyball

The Fenton girls volleyball team is coming off a 2012 cam-

paign where it went 11-21 overall and placed fifth in the Metro Suburban Conference with a 4-8 mark.

Coach Josh Payton returns outside hitters Nicole Celarek and Val Andrews, as well as opposite hitter Tina Guarino. Celarek is committed to Central Connecticut.

Setter Giselle Aguirre is one of the team's key newcomers.

"The returning core of seniors has been together on the varsity level for three years working and trying to make an impact," said Payton. "Through their dedication and hard work, we are confident we will continue that push and surprise some teams."

"We will need to bring our best volleyball. All our returners and newcomers have yet to hit their peak and have worked very hard to get themselves prepared for this season."

Payton has made numerous adjustments to the team's lineup this season that he feels will help both offensively and defensively.

"We have some changes to our lineup that have added balance to our attack," he said. "We are confident at this point that we have legitimate threats throughout our lineup and not

just in one or two positions. The changes to personnel and movement that we have had in our rotation should lead to us having a higher success rate (defensively). Our girls have shown improvement in keeping the ball alive and keying on threats on the other side of the net."

Payton also likes the strong chemistry the team has with one another.

"Our camaraderie and team spirit have jumped ahead light years," he said. "This bond is something we haven't had in years past. At this point, it is one component of our team that has the potential to have the highest impact on our success."

Payton likes the direction the varsity program is heading.

"The coaching staff strongly feels we can push above 15 wins this year," he said. "That is a significant buildup from the 1-30 record we had three years ago. That push is possible through the work of our girls and the effort they put in day in and day out. We aim to surprise some people and have the strongest and most competitive season we have had in a long time."

Fenton boys golf

The Fenton boys golf team is

coming off a 2012 season where it won the Metro Suburban Conference championship.

However, Fenton sports a somewhat youthful look this year with nine juniors, four sophomores and 10 freshmen in the program.

"This year we will be rebuilding," said Fenton coach Rick Johnson. "We have no seniors this year."

The Bison do return standout junior Sebastian Dobon, who as a sophomore was the MSC tournament champion and earned all-conference honors. He also won the Class 3A Lake Park regional at Indian Lakes, tied for third at the St. Charles East sectional at St. Andrews and finished tied for 56th place at the rain-shortened Class 3A state finals.

Juniors Brady Pugliese, Victor Sanchez, Mike Perry and sophomore Cory Schwarz have been showing improvements.

"We have some young kids who keep getting better," said Johnson. "We hope for the best, but we realize we are very young."

Looking ahead to the postseason, Fenton is the largest school in Class 2A. Boys golf has three classes in Illinois.

Willowbrook girls cross country team looking for continued success

Warriors' girls tennis team returns many key players

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Willowbrook girls cross country team is coming off a 2012 season where it finished second in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division.

The Warriors return seniors Kathrene Garcia, Britannia Horn and Taylor Burton, along with sophomores Shannon Jones and Danielle Velasquez.

Burton and Velasquez earned all-WSC Gold honors, while Jones won the WSC Gold freshman championship last year.

Key newcomers to the team include senior Tess Marsh, juniors Kayla Denwood and Stephanie Wohnerade and sophomore Jocelyn Rodriguez.

"The girls have worked very hard

Christine Hasler. "It's a tight group. They are strong both physically and mentally."

Hasler said confidence and focus will be keys this season.

"We need to keep our focus throughout the entire race and continue to set new limits throughout the season," said Hasler, who added she's seen a big spike in the team's confidence level. "The top five returning runners have put a lot of time and effort in over the summer to get themselves to the next level."

Willowbrook is hosting the WSC Gold meet this year.

"We are hosting conference and we want to finish strong on our home course," said Hasler.

Willowbrook girls tennis

The Willowbrook girls tennis team is coming off a fourth-place finish in the WSC Gold.

Coach Christy Scardina returns seniors Katherine Hinman (No. 1 singles), Amanda Wendt (No. 2 singles),

Janine Johnson (No. 1 doubles) and Audrey Ding (No. 1 doubles).

Hinman was an all-conference performer at No. 1 singles last year.

"The team will be led by Katherine," said Scardina. "She has been on the team since she was a freshman and has been working hard to improve her game in the off-season. Amanda Wendt has played doubles the last two years, but is doing a great job in singles. Janine and Audrey also are returning seniors and are playing No. 1 doubles for us."

Scardina said lineup depth will be important this season.

"The girls are working hard and improving every day," said Scardina. "Our goal is to at least finish where we did last year in the conference, but we are working hard to move up another spot."

Willowbrook boys golf

The Willowbrook boys golf team moved to 2-0 on the season after recording a 154-160 non-conference win over

West Chicago at par-32 Sugar Creek in Villa Park.

Mike Malito led the Warriors with a 36. Mark Fratto shot 37, while Dominick McDonnell finished with a 39. Sean Keefe rounded out the scoring with a 42.

Willowbrook girls volleyball

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team will host its annual varsity tournament Friday and Saturday.

The tournament is broken into two four-team pools. The Silver pool features Willowbrook, Addison Trail, Walther Lutheran and Mt. Assisi. The Blue pool has West Chicago, Glenbard North, Coal City and Plainfield North.

The tournament starts Friday afternoon and is highlighted by Addison Trail and Willowbrook squaring off at 7 p.m. on the main court. The playoffs will be held Saturday morning starting at 9 a.m. at Willowbrook.

Addison Trail boys golf team downs West Chicago

AVaca, Stuhr shoot under 40 in road win

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

After an up-and-down start to the 2013 season, the Addison Trail boys golf team hit the road and came away with a non-conference win recently at West Chicago.

The Blazers shot 157 at St. Andrews in West Chicago. Zack Vaca led the Blazers with a 36. Tom Stuhr chipped in with a 38. Joey Zuccero shot 40.

"It was a nice win," said Addison Trail coach Tom Hubner. "We should

be in the mid-150s this year. Anything above a 160 with this team and the experience we have coming back...we should not be there."

The Blazers started the season with a fourth-place finish at the St. Ignatius invitational. Vaca shot a 78 to lead the way. Stuhr finished with an 83.

Addison Trail then hosted its own invitational before embarking on a pair of non-conference matches with Niles West and Glenbard North.

In a loss to Niles West at Maple Meadows, Vaca and Stuhr both shot 39s. In a loss to Glenbard North at Oak Meadows, Vaca and Matt Piotrowski each had 42s.

"It's been an up-and-down season so far," said Hubner. "We're getting there.

We should be playing a little better than we are, but our guys are getting back into it. We'll get there."

Addison Trail returns a total of seven golfers from last year's team. Also back are junior Dan Hartnett, senior George Koulogeorgas and Nick Sammarco. Senior Chris Santiago and junior Nick Caparelli are new to the team.

"It's a matter of getting into a good rhythm and playing a little better," said Hubner. "We have a nice group here. We just have to take care of the little things and get them fixed up. We're counting on that experience we have."

Addison Trail was slated to face Hinsdale South and Downers Grove North this week. The Hinsdale match is the first West Suburban Conference Gold

Division match of the season.

Hubner said the Addison Trail invitational gave him some insight into how the WSC Gold race might shape up this year.

"It looks like it will be a four-team race with us, Willowbrook, Hinsdale South and Downers Grove South," said Hubner. "We were all within 10 shots of each other at our invite. Downers was 328, Hinsdale was 331 and us and Willowbrook were 338. It's close enough to where once we get into conference play, it's going to be pretty tight. We haven't won a conference title since like 1987. It would be nice to get one this year, but we know it's going to be a tough conference."

Willowbrook, Addison Trail lose season openers

Grayslake Central downs Fenton football team

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Both District 88 football teams were defeated in their Week 1 contests.

Addison Trail headed to Glen Ellyn where it dropped a 39-21 contest to Glenbard South.

Jim Wislek scored two touchdowns and Mike Rybarczyk added another score.

Addison Trail returns to action Friday in a West Suburban Conference crossover game at Hinsdale Central.

Willowbrook suffered a 28-21 defeat at the hands of neighbor Glenbard East.

Devin Childress caught two touchdown passes from quarterback Brian Johnson.

The Warriors return to action Friday when they play on the road at Lyons Township in a WSC crossover game.

Fenton football The Fenton football team dropped a 29-8 non-conference game at home to Grayslake Central.

The Bison return to action Saturday in Melrose Park against Walther Lutheran in non-conference action.

Week 2 Previews Addison Trail (0-1) at Hinsdale Central (0-1)

When: Friday, 7:30 p.m. at Hinsdale Central High School

Last week: Glenbard South 39, Addison Trail 21; Bolingbrook 17, Hinsdale Central 6

Last year: Teams did not play.

Outlook: Addison Trail will look to get back on track in this West Suburban Conference crossover game in Hinsdale. Jim Wislek led the way for the Blazers last week with two touchdowns. Hinsdale Central is coming off a 2012 season where it went 7-3 and made the playoffs. The Red Devils lost in Week 1 to fellow 2012 playoff qualifier Bolingbrook.

Week 2 Previews Willowbrook (0-1) at Lyons Township (0-1)

When: Friday, 7:30 p.m. at Lyons Township High School

Last week: Glenbard East 28, Willowbrook 21; Warren 42, Lyons 35, 3 OT

Last year: Teams did not play.

Outlook: Willowbrook lost by a touchdown to neighbor Glenbard East last week in a continuation of that longstanding series. Devin Childress caught two touchdown passes for the Warriors, who qualified for the playoffs last year. Lyons Township made it to the state quarterfinals last year and was one of six teams in the West Suburban Conference Silver Division to make the playoffs. The Lions lost their season opener in three overtimes to Gurnee-Warren.

Week 2 Previews Fenton (0-1) at Walther Lutheran (0-1)

When: Saturday, 1 p.m. at Walther Lutheran High School, Melrose Park

Last week: Grayslake Central 29, Fenton 8; Rockford Lutheran 56, Walther 13

Last year: Teams did not play.

Outlook: Fenton hits the road for the second of its five non-conference games to start the season. The Bison are coming off a Week 1 setback to Fox Valley Conference member Grayslake Central. This week, Fenton faces Suburban Christian Conference member Walther Lutheran. The Broncos had a tough go of it in Week 1, losing by 43 points at Rockford Lutheran. Walther went 2-7 last year.

Week 2 Previews IC Catholic Prep (1-0) at Kaneland (1-0)

When: Friday, 7:30 p.m. at Kaneland High School, Maple Park

Last week: IC 47, Chicago Noble Street Charter 6; Kaneland 27, Chicago Brooks 7

Last year: Teams did not play.

Outlook: IC's first game on its refurbished home turf field had a positive result — a 47-6 triumph. The Knights hit the road in Week 2 to face a perennial football powerhouse in Kaneland located in the town of Maple Park just outside DeKalb. The Knights started the season with a 27-7 win over Chicago Brooks. Kaneland won the Northern Illinois Big 12 East Division title last year and finished with a 10-1 overall mark.

Renegades Hockey seeks new skaters

Interested players invited to open skate on Sept. 5 at The Edge

ADDISON/VILLA PARK — The Renegades Hockey Team, with students from the high schools of Montini, Willowbrook, Addison Trail, Fenton and a few from Glenbard East, recently won the 2013 Cougar Cup Championships. Both

the JV and Varsity Renegade teams have made it to the Blackhawk Championships during several of the past years, including a 4th place by the JV team this year.

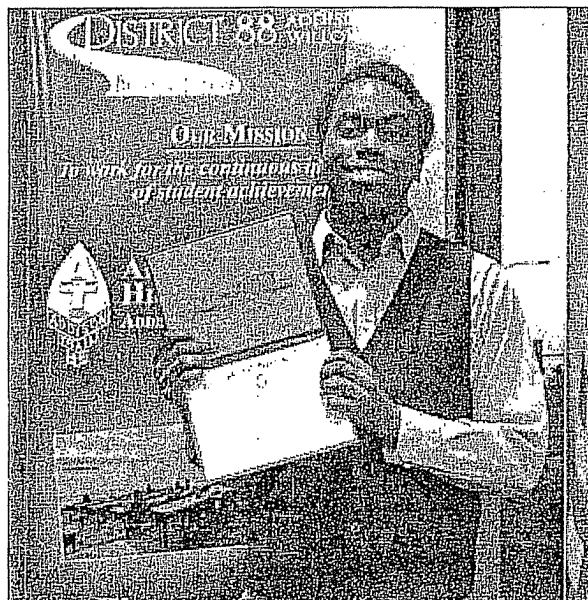
The team is hosting an Open Skate event to all interested players on Thursday, September 5 from 9:10-10:10 p.m. at The Edge ice hockey rink on John Street in Bensenville. For more information, visit renegadeshockey.com or send an e-mail to: renegadeshockey@yahoo.com.

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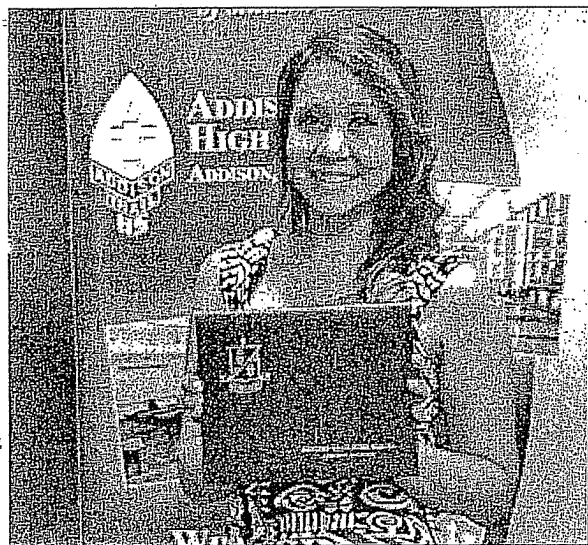


District 88 salutes summer grads

Pictured are District 88 students who were recognized during the Aug. 26 District 88 Board of Education meeting for graduating from the district. Top photo, from left: Mario Garcia from Addison Trail, Guadalupe Hernandez from Addison Trail, Mark Haight from Willowbrook, Clarissa Baeza from Addison Trail and Oliver Jimenez from Willowbrook.



Top left: Thomas Durr from Willowbrook and (bottom left) Jeraldine Rebollo from Addison Trail were also recognized during the Aug. 26 District 88 Board of Education meeting for graduating from the district over the summer months.



Roosevelt professor explores Forgotten Civil Rights Movement

ELMHURST — On Thursday, September 12 at 7 p.m., the Elmhurst Historical Museum presents a lecture by author and Roosevelt University professor Erik S. Gellman on "The Fight to Preserve American Democracy: The Forgotten Civil Rights Movement of the 1930s-40s." The program takes place at the Elmhurst Historical Museum's Education Center, located at 120 E. Park in Elmhurst.

Professor Gellman will discuss the interracial movement in the 1930s to beat back fascism — both at home and abroad — to preserve and expand America's democracy. This talk will focus on the local context of Chicago, including the formation of the National Negro Congress in 1936, the organizing of the area's steel and packinghouse workers, and the artistic Renaissance that took place in the "City of Big Shoulders." In so doing, Gellman will emphasize how this movement accomplished much during its own time and also left an important legacy for the rest of the twentieth century.

Erik Gellman is an Associate Professor of History at Roosevelt University in Chicago. He earned his Ph.D. in History from Northwestern University and his research interests include African American and working-class history, social movements, and comparative ethnic and racial studies. He has recently published two books, *Death Blow to Jim Crow: The National Negro Congress and the Rise of Militant Civil Rights*, University of North Carolina Press, John Hope Franklin series, 2012 and *The Gospel of the Working Class: Labor's Southern Prophets in New Deal America*, coauthor Jarod Roll, University of Illinois Press, July, 2011 (winner of the Southern Historical Association's H.L. Mitchell Prize).

This program is presented in conjunction with the recently-opened exhibit, "Our Lives, Our Stories: America's Greatest Generation," which program participants may view in the Elmhurst Historical Museum gallery prior to the program (from 5 until 7 p.m.). Admission to both the museum and the program is free, and no reservations are required. Limited, free on-site parking is available.

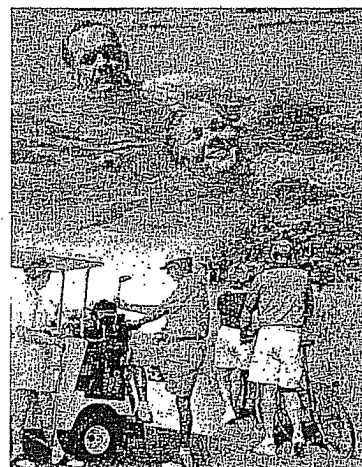
For more information, call 630-833-1457 or visit elmhursthistory.org.

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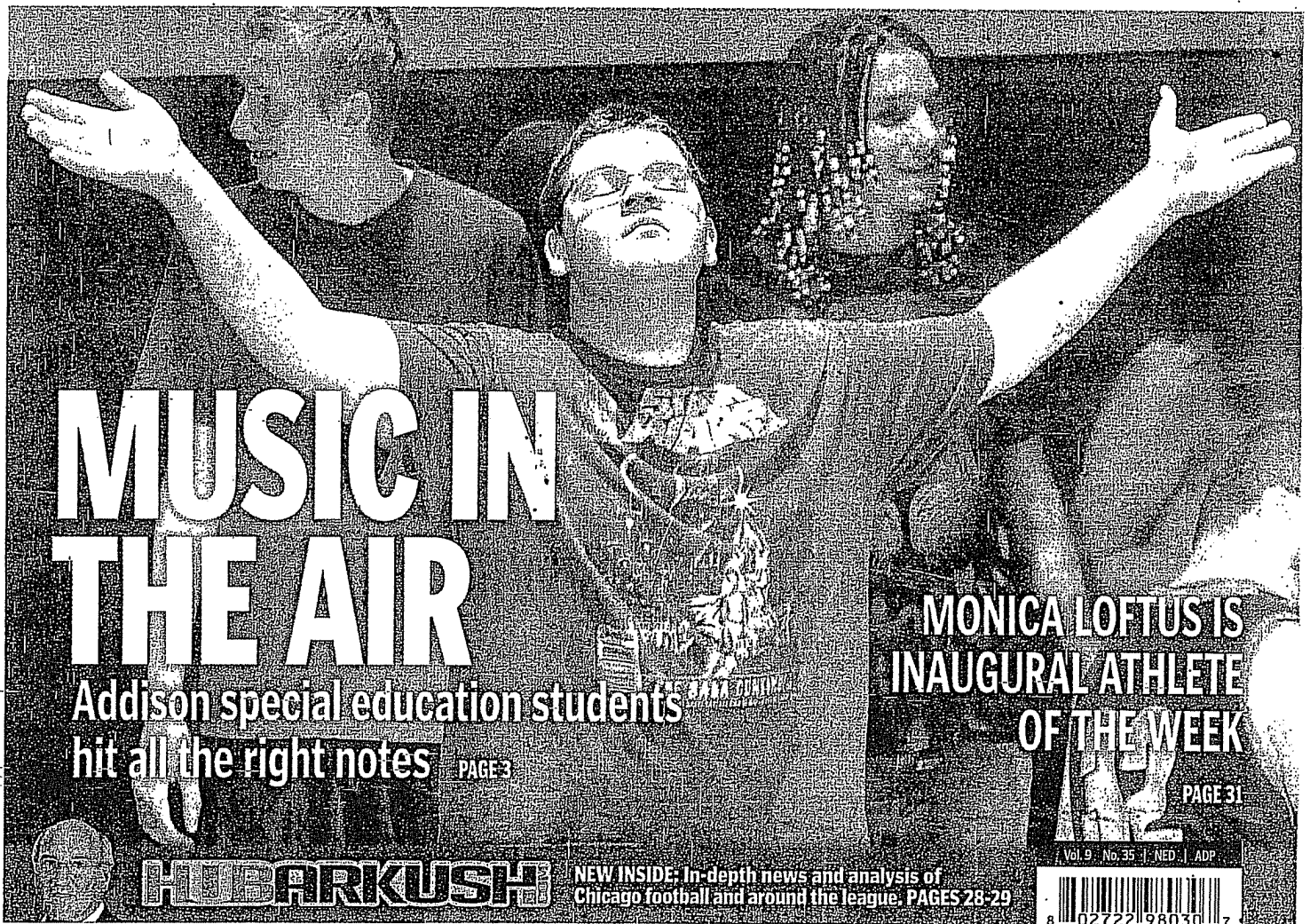
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MUSIC IN THE AIR

Addison special education students hit all the right notes PAGE 3


MONICA LOFTUS IS INAUGURAL ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

PAGE 31

HIDARKUSH NEW INSIDE: In-depth news and analysis of Chicago football and around the league. PAGES 28-29

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Special needs students star in 'High School Musical Jr.'

By SARAH SMALL
ssmall@shawmedia.com

VILLA PARK - Sean Worden was in the audience watching last year when Willowbrook High School presented "The Wizard of Oz."

This year, rather than sitting and watching a musical at his school, Worden took to the stage with friends and peers for a performance of Disney's "High School Musical, Jr."

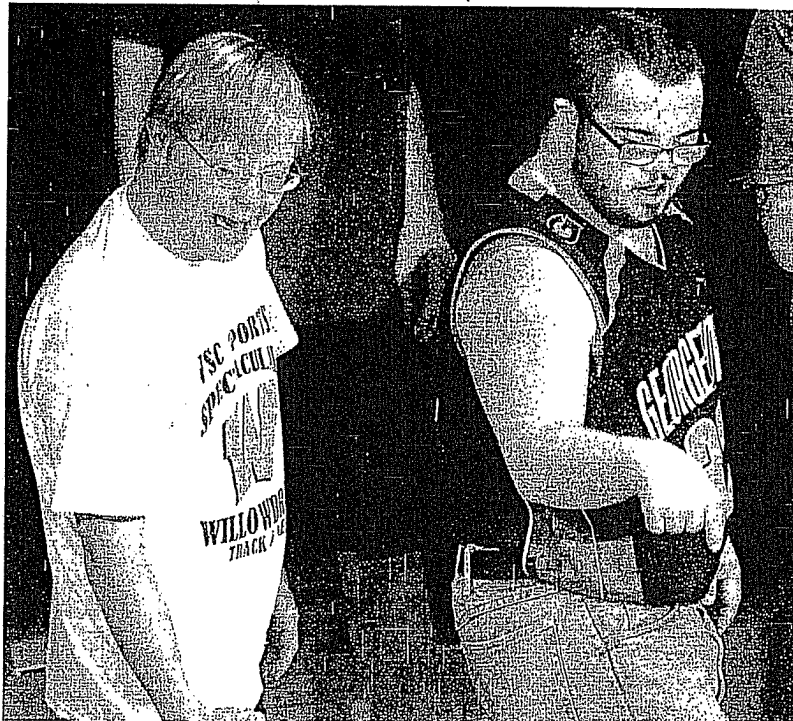
The adapted version of "High School Musical," tells the story of students who reject the common high school cliques and make friends in different social groups. Last week, students from the special needs programs at Willowbrook and Addison Trail high schools came together to perform the musical at Willowbrook for peers, teachers, families and friends.

Worden, 16, of Villa Park played Troy Bolton, one of the leads in the play. He said he got involved when he was approached by faculty at the school and was asked to participate.

"[I like] the fact that I can express myself," Worden said.

The female lead in the play was filled by 17-year-old Laura Mayen of Villa Park who performed the role of Gabriella Montez. She said she was encouraged to give theater a try at the encouragement of Erik Engel, a social worker at the school who produced the show.

During a morning resource period Aug. 29, the cast from "High School Musical Jr." presented an abridged version of their show to nearly 1,000 students, teachers and staff members at Willowbrook. Worden, Mayen and other cast members admitted to being nervous before first appearing on stage,



Members of the cast of "Disney's High School Musical Jr." do some dancing during the show Thursday Aug. 29 at Willowbrook High School. Students from District 88's special education program presented the play that brought the crowd of Willowbrook High School students to their feet for a standing ovation after the matinee performance.

but later were exhilarated by the experience.

"That was awesome," Mayen said.

Worden said it made him feel more confident.

The students later performed the full play during an evening performance at Willowbrook the same day.

Rehearsals for "High School Musical Jr." began in May, but Engel's idea to produce the play had been planted a year earlier. After seeing the

musical at his church, Engel approached the Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause and then contacted the parents of Willowbrook's special needs students to gauge their interest.

Engel said the parents were skeptical at first and had a lot of questions, but as their children became excited about acting, so did they.

When the students at Addison Trail heard about what was happening at Willowbrook, they asked to get involved and

the cast grew.

Caterina Partipilo, 15, of Addison knew she wanted to be part of the musical as soon as she heard about it. Her neighbors and family were impressed after watching the final performance.

"They said that I did phenomenal," Partipilo said.

Partipilo, who played Ms. Darbus, got another Addison student, Anthony Corona, 17, involved as well. He said performing in front of everyone

made him feel a little nervous, but the fun of singing and dancing on stage already has him looking for more opportunities.

"I looked online at the list of junior plays because I wanted to do more," said Corona, who played Zeke Baylor, the morning after their performances.

The students practiced every day during summer school with the help of Engel, district staff and two peers, Addie Maggard and Alex Bardesi, both students at Willowbrook who became devoted to the performance, Engel said. Throughout the entire summer, neither Maggard nor Bardesi missed a single practice.

All of the speaking parts in the play were filmed in advance and shown to the audience on a projection screen with subtitles. When it was time for music, the student-actors jumped up to sing and dance; audience members were encouraged to sing along, too.

As Worden, Mayen and others sang and danced on stage last week, there was a Willowbrook junior in the audience who is very familiar with the school's theater. Olivia Baumann of Lombard has performed in all six of the plays Willowbrook has done during her time at the school.

She said the production was amazing - so amazing that she hopes the school will do something similar again.

"I was just really happy because I saw them and how they were having a good time," she said. "Me and my friends were talking about it at lunch and how happy we were that someone took the time to put this together. We were happy that they got to be in theater."

Reporter Mari Grigaliunas contributed to this report.

YOUR WEEKEND FORECAST

Source: National Weather Service

Friday
High: 83
Low: 65
Mostly sunny, a gentle breeze

Saturday
High: 86
Low: 67
Chance of storms after 1 p.m.

Sunday
High: 81
Low: 65
Partly sunny and very nice

ON THE COVER

Sean Worden, 16, performs the role of Troy Bolton on Aug. 29 in Willowbrook High School's production of Disney's "High School Musical Jr."

Mark Busch - mbusch@shawmedia.com

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

Press



Addison Trail student hit by car in June dies from injuries

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON – Memorial arrangements were made for Dylan Domek, the Addison Trail High School student who died Aug. 30 from injuries sustained when he was hit by a car in Chicago hours before his planned graduation in June.

"The Domek family is in our hearts and thoughts," Addison Trail Principal Adam

Cibulka said in a statement. "Our deepest sympathy goes out to them during this most difficult time."

Domek, a 19-year-old Addison resident, was struck by a car while running across Lake Shore Drive early June 9. He had planned to graduate later in the day. He and a group of others were in Chicago and stepped over a guardrail just after midnight that morning, running across the north-

bound lanes in the 1300 block of North Lake Shore Drive.

Domek stumbled and was struck by a 2003 BMW 325, police said, and taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in critical condition. He suffered injuries to his head and legs in the collision.

The driver of the BMW remained on the scene, and no citations or charges had been

See **DOMEK**, page 19

State's attorney mistakenly names Bensenville resident in drug ring charges

By **MATTHEW HENDRICKSON**
mhendrickson@shawmedia.com

The DuPage State's Attorney's Office issued a statement Aug. 30 correcting their list of individuals charged in connection with an alleged drug ring that spanned DuPage and Cook counties.

In a statement, State's Attorney Robert Berlin announced that Kiara Landin, 21, of Bensenville, was in no way involved in the drug ring, despite her name appearing in a news release sent out on Wednesday in connection to the case.

"Through the course of the investigation regarding heroin

trafficking in DuPage County, Kiara Landin was mistakenly identified as a target in the investigation," Berlin said in a statement. "In fact, Ms. Landin was never a target of the investigation or involved in the alleged trafficking ring in any way. A previously issued arrest warrant for Ms. Landin has been quashed and no further action will be taken regarding Ms. Landin. On behalf of the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office, I apologize for any inconvenience or distress this issue has caused Ms. Landin."

Landin could not be reached for comment.

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Addison Trail High School Assistant Principal Doug Wildes (left) world languages teacher Judie Vitiritti-Lynch and Guidance Counselor Shane Cole pose with the Mayor's Cup trophy they won at the Village of Addison Sister Cities Golf Adventure last month.

Addison Trail staff members win golf fundraiser

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON – A team of Addison Trail staff members won the village of Addison Sister Cities Golf Adventure last month.

Guidance counselor Shane Cole, Assistant Principal Doug Wildes and world languages teacher Judie Vitiritti-Lynch won the Mayor's Cup trophy.

The nine-hole golf outing at Links & Tees Golf Facility in Addison raised about \$1,500 toward scholarships for students who want to participate in the Sister

Cities program. Addison is paired with Triggiano, Italy through the program, and the Addison Sister City committee continues to raise funds for Addison Trail students to travel to Italy. This year, each student in the program will receive scholarship money.

Through that program, Addison

will host about 16 students, the Mayor and other guests from Triggiano in October. In March, about 16 Addison Trail students will travel to Triggiano, Rome, Florence and Venice as part of the exchange program. This is the second year Addison Trail students will participate.

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DERMATOLOGY UPDATE

Presented by **Todd T. Davis, M.D.**

Board Certified Dermatologist



PICK YOUR POISON (PLANT)

Nearly all of us are advised as children to avoid poison oak plants; exposure to which can cause blistering, itchy rashes. Contact with a secretion of allergenic oil or sap triggers an allergic reaction in the skin known as "allergic contact dermatitis," which can appear within two to ten days of exposure. While poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac are most recognized as causing this problem, there are other plants with the same potential. These include flowers such as marigolds, chrysanthemums, poinsettias, and philodendrons, as well as the leaves of tomato plants. While the allergic reaction will usually resolve within ten days, the dermatologist can prescribe topical steroids to help

with the itching and burning sensations.

Skin allergies can take several forms and are due to various causes. If you think you may have a skin allergy, seek medical advice and diagnosis and treatment. For additional information about today's column, **CALL ELMHURST DERMATOLOGY at 630-832-2111.**

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Todd T. Davis, MD

www.elmhurstdermatology.com

Addison Trail welcomes new science teacher

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - A new science teacher joins Addison

Trail High School this year. And, while she may be new, she already has plenty of science and education experience.

rience.

Erin Groth has been teaching for more than 12 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in Zoology from Eastern Illinois University, as well as two master's degrees: one in education from University of St. Francis and the other in educational leadership from Concordia University.

Groth said she chose teaching because it gives her an opportunity to do what she enjoys and have a positive impact on students. She started as a student teacher at Plainfield Central High School,

where she then taught. After Plainfield, she spent 12 years teaching all levels of biology at West Leyden High School.

This year, Groth's goal is to challenge her students to do science, not just memorize it. She wants her students to be problem solvers and have fun while they learn.

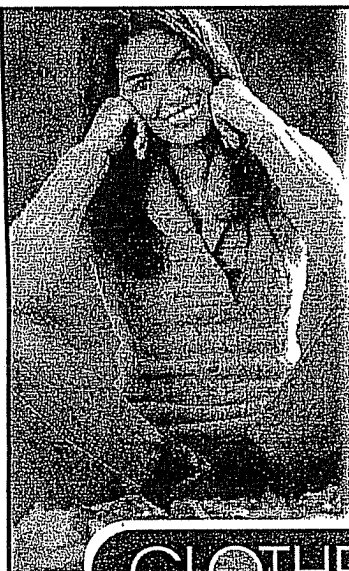


Erin Groth

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Rep. Conroy visits



Photo provided

State Rep. Deb Conroy, D-Villa Park, talks with a fire science student at the Technology Center of DuPage in Addison. The center provides career and technical education programs to high school students in DuPage County to supplement their school curriculum. Conroy visited the Addison campus on Aug. 29 to meet with students and instructors.

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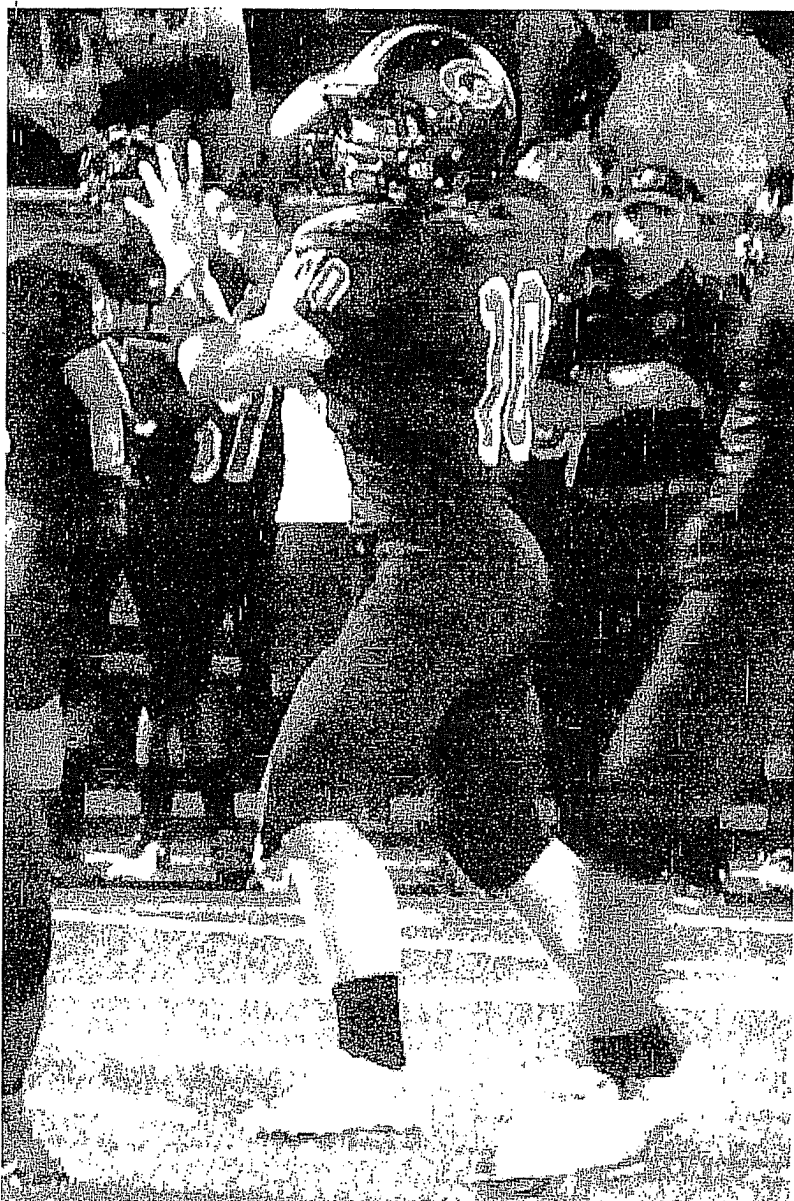
SPORTS

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Comments?

Contact Sports Editor Jason Rossi,
jrossi@shawmedia.com or 630-427-6271

Pusateri helps push Rams past Warriors



By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

**Glenbard East 28,
Willowbrook 21**

LOMBARD — Glenbard East football hasn't had a lot to cheer about in recent years, but after a season-opening win over rival Willowbrook there is optimism around the program.

Junior quarterback Drake Pusateri had an impressive varsity debut to lead the Rams to a 28-21 win over the visiting Warriors Saturday night.

The game got rescheduled twice due to weather before finally settling on a 7 p.m. start, which meant the game was played under the lights and provided a proper stage for Pusateri.

"I went home [Friday] night in pure anger because we could not play under the lights," Pusateri said. "As soon as they rescheduled this game to Saturday I knew that I had to do everything I could because I'm never going to get the chance to beat Willowbrook on my field again under the lights."

Pusateri said his nerves settled down after the opening drive and it showed. He totaled 332 yards of offense, doubling as both the Rams' top passer and rusher on the day, and accounted for three touchdowns.

With the score tied at 14-14 at halftime, Pusateri came out and passed for 146 yards and ran for 70 yards more in the second half alone.

"Drake has grown up in this system and program," said Glenbard East coach John Walters. "It's nothing different, just that it's [varsity] now. He played a heck of a game and did a great job managing the game."

Key returners for Willowbrook, quarterback Brian Johnson and wide receiver Devin Childress, connected

Passing leaders: GBE — Drake Pusateri 12-for-20, 224 yards, TD. WBK — Brian Johnson 15-for-28, 165 yards, 2 TD

Rushing leaders: GBE — Pusateri 15 car., 108 yards, 2 TD. WBK — Jeremy Barnes 15 car., 105 yards; Johnson 9 carries, 69 yards, TD

Receiving leaders: WBK — Devin Childress, 8 rec., 105 yards, 2 TD. GBE — Joey Moore, 4 rec., 104 yards; Alex Ciszewski 3 rec., 66 yards, TD

for two first-half touchdowns to give Willowbrook a 14-7 lead.

The Rams rattled off the next three touchdowns, two runs by Pusateri and a 20-yard pass from Pusateri to Alex Ciszewski. Johnson ran in a 7-yard score to bring the Warriors within 28-21, but two fourth-quarter turnovers in East territory did in Willowbrook.

"Defensively a bunch of third downs, missed assignments and lack of execution and that's what happens," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth. "Offensively we don't finish drives early and we turn the ball over late. You're not going to beat anybody doing that."

The Rams were able to celebrate on the big 'G' logo at midfield after the game.

"It's a thrill any time you win a high school football game," Walters said. "When you've worked as hard as our guys have it's awesome, but we're not looking into the past. We're looking more towards the future and that's what we have going on at Glenbard East. We played a good game tonight, but we have a ways to go to get better."

Glenbard East's Drake Pusateri looks downfield for an open receiver in the Rams' Week 1 win over Willowbrook.

Dan Santaromita — dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

Suburban Life

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



MONICA LOFTUS

Montini | Junior | Volleyball

Why Loftus was selected:

Loftus won tournament MVP at Wheaton North's Blue and Gold Invite to help Montini to a season-opening title.

Montini junior outside hitter Monica Loftus led the Broncos to the title at Wheaton North's Blue and Gold Invite over the weekend. The Broncos went 5-0 in the season-opening tournament, swept all five opponents and currently hold a 6-0 record. Loftus, who plays club ball for 1st Alliance, was one of three Broncos on the all-tournament team and took home MVP honors. The Lombard resident already has three Division I scholarship offers and hopes to commit soon. Loftus, the Oak Trust Credit Union Athlete of the Week, spoke with sports reporter Dan Santaromita about her and the Broncos' hot start to the season.

What has been the key to the team's hot start to the season?

It's been a good year for us because now all of us are seniors.

and juniors. Last year we were a young team, but we've definitely progressed and now we're showing that we're better.

Has the recruiting process been more stressful or fun?

Definitely stressful. I just want it to be over with because it's just so much. All of these schools are emailing me. I had to call everyone and I hate talking on the phone. It's just really stressful, but I'm glad that it's almost over.

What are your goals for the year?

I would say a team goal is to at least get to state and hopefully win. I can see us winning. That's not what I said last year, but this year we definitely have a shot.

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► PREP ROUND-UP

BOYS SOCCER Glenbard East

The Rams bounced back from a 2-1 loss to Downers Grove South in the season opener with a 4-0 win over Proviso West on Tuesday. Hugo Aguilar scored East's lone goal in the loss to DGS.

Addison Trail

After beginning the season with two losses, the Blazers picked up a 1-0 win over Curie on Tuesday thanks to a goal from Trey Smith and a 10-save shutout for Jonah Moran.

Willowbrook

The Warriors are 0-3 heading into Saturday's match at the Addison Trail Invite. After losing to Maine West and Illiana Christian earlier in the invite, Willowbrook fell at Glenbard West 1-0 on Wednesday.

York

The Dukes opened the season with a 3-0 loss at the hands of Conant in the opener of the Lake Park Invite on Aug. 29. York also lost to Huntley 3-0 on Tuesday.

Timothy Christian

A 4-0 win over Lisle started the season the right way for the Trojans. Tyler Vlasak, last year's leading scorer, netted twice. Christian Bravo and Jon Cuomo also scored. Over the weekend Timothy traveled to Peoria Christian for a tournament and returned with a 1-1-1 record. The Trojans beat Chicago Christian 3-1, tied Peoria Christian 2-2 and lost to St. Thomas Moore 4-3.

BOYS GOLF Glenbard East

The Rams took third place out of four teams at the Ram Scramble Invite at Glendale Lakes Golf Course on Aug. 29. Glenbard South won the invite by shooting 6-under-par. Glenbard East was 3-under.

Montini

The Broncos edged past Chicago Christian 160-164 in a Suburban Christian dual match on Wednesday. Montini is now 4-1 in duals on the season.

Willowbrook

A 166-251 West Suburban Gold win over Proviso East on Tuesday gave Willowbrook its third straight dual win. Michael Lev was the medalist by shooting a 40.

York

The Dukes opened West Suburban Silver play with a dual match win over Downers Grove North on Tuesday. Jordan Less and Will Gunst each shot 36 to medal in the 152-163 win.

IC Catholic

The Knights have had an up and down start to the season, but Anthony Clementi has been a bright spot. He put up team best scores of 44 in a loss to Chicago Christian and a 45 in a loss to Francis Parker. Grant Hennessy carded a 37 in a win over St. Joseph.

GIRLS GOLF St. Viator

Addison resident Dana Gattone committed to play golf for the University of Illinois next fall.

York

The Dukes split the first four matches of the season. After losing to Hinsdale South, York beat Addison Trail 168-192 on Aug. 28 with Meg Grasse scoring a 36. The next day York split a triangular match, losing to Main South and beating Willowbrook. Megan Backman carded a 40. On Tuesday the Dukes lost to Loyola 148-167 despite a 37 from Kerri Carlquist.

GIRLS TENNIS Glenbard East/ Willowbrook

The Rams topped the neighboring Warriors 6-1 in a dual on Wednesday. Freshman Priscilla Palermo has stepped in at No. 1 singles and won her match 6-0, 6-0.

York

York is 2-1 on the season with dual wins over Batavia and Wheaton Warrenville South. On Tuesday the Dukes dropped a 4-3 match to Homewood-Flossmoor. Annie Rivera is 2-1 at No. 1 singles and the No. 1 doubles team of Blaire Porter and Angela Avgerinos have the same record.

Timothy Christian

After dropping a 4-3 match to Lisle on Aug. 28 the Trojans rebounded with two wins. Timothy beat Elk Grove 6-1 the next day. The No. 1 doubles team of Annika Zeilstra and Sarah Dirke won in straight sets. On Tuesday the Trojans beat Walther Lutheran 5-0.

-Suburban Life Media

IC in mix for finals

By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

ELMHURST – A drop from Class 3A to Class 2A makes IC Catholic a legitimate state title contender this fall.

Senior leaders Kim Martino, Delaney D'Amore and Rory Manion form a solid core. Martino is a three-year all-conference pick while D'Amore and Manion are also all-conference returners. Martino and Delaney were AAU All-Americans as juniors.

"This year's team has very competitive athletes who have a good team chemistry and a strong desire to be successful," said IC coach Jean Field, who is in her 39th season coaching IC.

Molly Manion and sophomore Kerry Mulligan will lead the Knights' defensive effort. Newcomers Frannie Cervone, Hannah Hartnett and Claudia Koch should be in the mix for playing time.

"I think the seniors are going to get a lot of

IC Catholic

Conference: Suburban Christian Blue
Home court: IC Catholic, 217 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst
2012 record: 21-12 overall, 5-5 Suburban Christian Blue

Coach: Jean Field

Top returners:

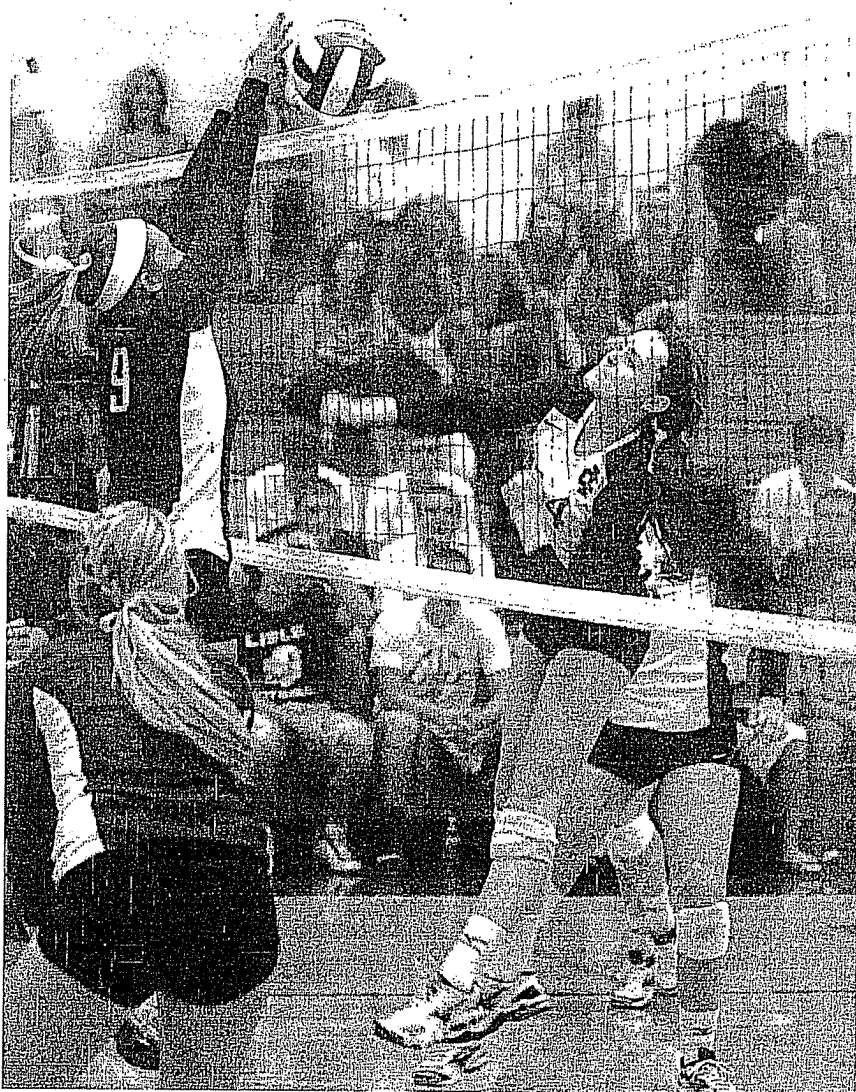
Delaney D'Amore, sr. OH
Brianna Hernandez, jr. OH/MH
Molly Manion, jr. DS
Rory Manion, sr. OH/MH
Kim Martino, sr. S

Top newcomers:

Frannie Cervone, jr. OH/S
Hannah Hartnett, jr. OH
Claudia Koch, so. OH/S

the publicity, but it's how well the other kids do in raising their level," Field said. "They're all very capable of doing that."

The Suburban Christian Blue has plenty of top level talent, starting off with nationally ranked St. Francis. After that one of IC's goals was to beat out Chicago Christian, Rosary and Marian Central for second place in the conference.



Immaculate Conception Junior Hannah Hartnett hits a shot during a match at Lisle on Aug. 29.

Matthew Piechalak - mpiechalak@shawmedia.com

Young Blazers show potential for new season

By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

ADDISON – Catching perennial conference powers Downers Grove South and Hinsdale South will be tough, but Addison Trail has a young team that will hope to show its potential throughout the season.

The Blazers have two key seniors in Christina Capuani, who led the team in assists and aces last season, and outside hitter Juliana Selvaggi,

who is moving to the outside after playing in the middle last fall. Sophomore Nina Capuani is another returner. She was second on the team in kills in 2012.

Defensive specialist Abby Meinen is another senior who makes for three on the roster. Four underclassmen join the roster including sophomore Jessica Mell, who joined the varsity team in the second half of her freshman year.

Freshman Sarah Petrbok and

sophomore Nicole Pudlo are part of the potential that has head coach Dan Styler excited about the future of this group.

"We have a dynamic group of attackers that jump well and are athletic," Styler said. "It helps having multiple setters on our team that have experience running the offense."

The young Blazers are struggling to settle in so far this season. So far AT is 0-3 with losses to Lake Park, Glenbard South and St. Charles North.

Addison Trail

Conference: West Suburban Gold
Home court: 213 N. Lombard Rd, Addison
2012 record: 20-14 overall, 4-2 WSG
Coach: Dan Styler

Top returners: Christina Capuani, sr. S/DS;
Nina Capuani, so. S/OH; Juliana Selvaggi, sr. OH

Promising newcomers: Jessica Mell, so. MB; Sarah Petrbok, fr. OH; Nicole Pudlo, so. OH

www.chicagotribune.com/sports/highschool/football/ct-spt-0908-prep-foot-helfgot-notes-20130907,0,7824838.story

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Saturday evening quarterback | Willowbrook's Johnson throws for state-record 675 yards

By Mike Helfgot, Special to the Tribune

8:14 PM CDT, September 7, 2013

Willowbrook coach **Nick Hildreth** sidestepped the notion that his team's 62-49 upset of Lyons on Friday night turned a team that went 0-9 two seasons ago into the favorite to win the West Suburban Gold. advertisement

But if **Brian Johnson** manages just half of his Friday night production on a weekly basis, the Warriors will be the team to beat.

Upon further review of game film, Johnson did not throw for a state-record 660 yards against Lyons, as was initially reported.

He threw for a state-record 675 to go along with seven touchdowns. The former record of 590 yards was set by former Rochester quarterback **Wes Lunt** in 2011. Johnson also sits fifth on the national all-time list, according to the National Federation of State High School Associations.

"I had no idea it was that many yards," said Johnson, who was 40-for-52. "I knew we were moving the ball well, but I didn't expect to hear that. When I heard after the game that I broke the record, it was, 'Holy Cow.' I wasn't thinking about anything like that."

Johnson, whom Hildreth described as "an awesome kid," was quick to credit his teammates and coaches.

Hildreth said the yardage was a combination of downfield passes and bubble screens that went for big plays.

"The line was doing a really good job," Johnson said. "It just came down to the line, and the coaches got us really prepared for that game. We just executed perfectly."

Hayden Adams had 15 catches for 263 yards and two touchdowns.

Tough break: After scoring six touchdowns in the first six quarters of the season, Benet running back **Porter Ontko** suffered what appeared to be a serious knee injury Friday night in the No. 13 Redwings' 41-12 victory over South Elgin.

"We're waiting to hear the results of the MRI, but it doesn't look too good," Benet coach **Pat New** said.

"The doctor usually assesses these things right, and he was thinking it's a torn ACL and MCL. The thing that really kills me is he is one of those kids who loves to play and dedicates himself to being great."

Ontko, who played a key role in Benet's breakthrough 2012 season, was the star of the Redwings 21-0 Week 1 victory over Downers Grove South. He's being recruited by colleges from various levels and has a scholarship offer from North Dakota.

"If it is an ACL tear, the bright side is technology these days is amazing," New said. "He will play (college football) somewhere."

Three early showdowns: Warren raised eyebrows by rallying for a 42-35 triple-overtime victory over Lyons in Week 1, then scoring 35 by halftime of its 42-6 victory over New Trier on Friday night.

The Blue Devils would really make a statement if they could match that production in an early season North Suburban Lake showdown against Lake Zurich on Friday night.

The Bears are coming off consecutive shutouts, as is Downers Grove North, which will host Glenbard West in West Suburban Silver action Friday night.

Wheaton Warrenville South will not get a breather after opening the season by beating Glenbard West and Maine South. The Tigers will host their biggest rival, Wheaton North, in a game that undoubtedly will impact the DuPage Valley Conference race.

No offense: Fifth-ranked Lincoln-Way East hasn't lost a Southwest Suburban Blue game since 2009, but the Griffins may need to find more offense if they're going to finish ahead of Bolingbrook and Homewood-Flossmoor for the fourth consecutive year.

Last year's Class 7A runner-up did not score in the first half of their 17-12 victory over Lincoln-Way Central on Friday night after going scoreless in the first half of its 17-7 victory over Carmel in Week 1.

The Griffins' two touchdowns against Central came on a 91-yard return of the second-half kickoff and a 1-yard QB sneak following a blocked punt.

0 and who? Maine South, Stevenson and Cary-Grove posted a combined record of 32-5 last season, are a stunning 0-6 between them after two weeks.


While all three are still good bets to make the playoffs based on their schedules, Lyons and Carmel are going to have tougher times recovering from 0-2 based on the strength of their conferences.

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Athlete of the Week: Brian Johnson

09/09/2013, 9:30pm CDT

By Mike Clark | mclark@suntimes.com | @mikeclarkpreps

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On Friday in a win against Lyons, Willowbrook QB Brian Johnson completed 40 of 52 passes for 675 yards and seven touchdowns — breaking the single-game record of current University of Illinois QB Wes Lunt (590). For his effort, Johnson is the Sun-Times Athlete of the Week.



Since being harassed by Leyden's Will Napler last season, Willowbrook's Brian Johnson has set a state record. | Jerry Daliege/for Sun-Times Media

Football used to be an afterthought for Brian Johnson, whose experience was limited to backyard games before he got to high school.

"When I was a kid, I'd play with my brother and friends," the Willowbrook senior said. "In high school, I thought it would keep me in shape for baseball."

Funny how life turns plans like that around.

A receiver when he came to Willowbrook, he soon switched to quarterback. On the freshman B team to start out, he was soon promoted to the freshman A squad. He was the Warriors' sophomore quarterback in 2011 and the varsity starter last fall when they made the IHSA playoffs for the first time since 2007.

Now he has something really impressive to add to his resume: the state single-game passing record.

On Friday, Johnson completed 40 of 52 passes for 675 yards and seven touchdowns — breaking the record of current University of Illinois quarterback Wes Lunt (590 yards vs. Springfield in 2011) — as the Warriors held off host Lyons 62-49. For his record-setting effort, Johnson is the Sun-Times Athlete of the Week.

No one on the Willowbrook sideline realized history was being made because players and coaches alike were so caught up in the moment.

"We were just doing what worked," Johnson said. "The pass game was open. I didn't realize [the record was broken]. I was just worried about the scoreboard."

"You don't anticipate throwing for 675 yards to win a game," Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth said. "It was back and forth, it wasn't till late in the fourth [quarter] we were able to extend [the lead] to two scores."

Johnson has no intention of taking all the credit for his big night.

Three receivers — Hayden Adams, Jeremy Barnes and Devin Childress — all had more than 100 yards in catches. And Johnson had plenty of time to throw behind the offensive line of sophomore center Kyle Martyniuk, senior guards Jimmy Marcello and Jake DePaul, senior tackle Adrian Abrams and junior tackle Christian Chavez.

"He's a selfless kid," Hildreth said of Johnson, a 6-3, 190-pounder. "He'll be the first kid to give credit to everybody else. He's not worried about his numbers."

There was another concern for Johnson, though, after a 28-21 opening loss to Glenbard East. "I did not want to start 0-2."

The Warriors didn't, and they have Johnson in large part to thank for that.

The big night has brought plenty of praise from the Willowbrook community and it might get him on the radar of college recruiters, who had not previously shown much interest.

Though Johnson still plays baseball as well, he's hoping his college path will lead him to a football field somewhere. In the meantime, though, he has some more pressing business to attend to.

"My main goal was to get a conference championship and get us into the playoffs," he said. "I got an injury and couldn't play in that [2012 postseason] game."

With a passing night that is more than some teams put up in a whole season, he's more than making up for lost time.

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Football | Willowbrook's Johnson a record player

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By Mike Helfgot, Special to the Tribune

September 12, 2013

The kid who threw for more yards in a game than any player in state history last week is the proverbial boy next door, right down to the name, Brian Johnson.

Joe Catanese is not the next-door-neighbor of the boy next door, but they did grow up one street apart.

Johnson's youth football experience involved hockey pads and, to hear Catanese tell it, a game that more resembled crash-test dummies.

Catanese takes credit for convincing Johnson to try out for a more organized version of the sport as a Willowbrook freshman.

Johnson thanked Catanese, Willowbrook's freshman A-team quarterback for three games in 2010, by taking his job.

"I went out there with no idea what wanted I to play," Johnson said. "I just thought it would be fun and would keep me in shape for baseball. I said I would try receiver. The coaches knew I played baseball and said, 'Why don't you throw the ball a little?'"

"I was on the B team for about three games and they moved me up. I would have felt bad but (Catanese) started finding his own at receiver."

The transition from B team to 675 yards and seven touchdowns against Lyons, a team that reached the Class 8A quarterfinals each of the last three seasons, didn't happen overnight.

Catanese said there was no tension with his longtime friend even though, "when he first started, it was ugly. The kid had no idea what he was doing."

The process began slowly, with instructions to key on one receiver, and if he wasn't open, tuck it and run.

Though he was fully entrenched as the starter by sophomore year and won the varsity job last summer, most of his high school career elapsed before he truly felt comfortable with the position.

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"Sophomore year was weird for me," Johnson said. "I was still trying to get used to playing football. I still didn't really know what I was doing. Now, looking back on it, it wasn't good at all.

"Even junior year to this year is a big difference. I watch film from last year sometimes and it is just, 'Oh no.' "

The yeses outweighed the nos.

Johnson threw for 2,000 yards and 17 touchdowns last season as Willowbrook went 6-4 and reached the playoffs for the first time since 2007 under second-year head coach Nick Hildreth.

The film was more than enough to attract interest from Division III colleges, but as far as Johnson is concerned, things still hadn't start clicking yet.

He spent the offseason studying and working with noted quarterbacks coach Jeff Christensen. He attended Illinois, Indiana State and Elite 11 camps.

He made up for lost time — and then some.

"Not that we couldn't trust him last year, but it has grown so much more," Hildreth said. "He is making checks at the line now. He is a part of our game-plan process, which is something you don't get at the high school level.

"With his intelligence, knowledge of the game and ability to read coverages, we can trust him with the flow of the game. At the same time, he's 6-3, 190 pounds and athletic. He plays shortstop on the baseball team. All those things just add to it. I am more blown away by the mental piece of it."

The recruiting system works against breakout seniors, especially quarterbacks. Football has replaced baseball as his sport of choice, and Hildreth is certain he can play on the FCS level.

The boy next door exudes a quiet, care-free confidence, and it's easy to believe him when he says the college stuff is not weighing on his mind.

"I don't know if there's pressure now," he said. "If it's pressure, it's more about pressure for the team and trying to help the team win. That is my goal.

"I just need to be consistent. That's the biggest thing. I feel like that wasn't just one game. I'm not saying we're going to break a record again, but if we're consistent everything else will take care of itself."

In the books

Illinois single-game passing yards

1. **675:** Brian Johnson, Willowbrook, 2013
2. **590:** Wes Lunt, Rochester, 2011
3. **589:** Tim Brasic, Riverside-Brookfield, 2001
4. **587:** John Rhode, Montini, 2011
5. **574:** Wil Lunt, Rochester, 2007

SOURCE: ihsa.org

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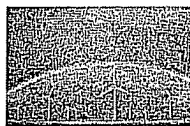
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