

# THE ELMHURST INDEPENDENT

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## Former York student, 19, found dead

By Dee Longfellow  
Editorial Coordinator

Last week, the Independent learned that a former player for the York Hockey Club was found dead of an apparent heroin overdose in the parking lot of a Walgreen's store in the western suburbs.

According to police, the body of Kevin Power, 19, of Elmhurst, was found in a truck at about 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 28. Based on evidence found in the vehicle, which was parked at 840 No. Main Street in Glen Ellyn, police believe Power likely died of a heroin overdose.

Glen Ellyn Deputy Chief Bill Holmer reported that Power's mother had called police when no one had heard from Kevin. He had been at a friend's house earlier that afternoon.

Police could not confirm the official cause of death without a report from the DuPage County Coroner's Office, but sources indicated there was evidence of

heroin in the automobile and that there was no sign of apparent force or trauma. An autopsy was to be performed on Monday, November 29, but the Coroner's office was reportedly awaiting results of pathology and toxicology tests.

Adults and teammates involved with York hockey spoke with the Independent but had little information about Power. He played hockey for the Elmhurst Chiefs as a youth, one said, then played for the York hockey club for a while, before joining a regional hockey traveling league. He reportedly participated in wrestling as well. According to school officials, Power attended York High School through January of 2009, but did not graduate.

Power's father is John F. Power, a partner in the law firm of Power & Cronin, Ltd. A call to Power's office confirmed that no funeral or service information was available as of press time Monday morning.

## Resident arrested with 195 lbs. of marijuana in car

By Dee Longfellow  
For The Elmhurst Independent

An Elmhurst man is facing charges of unlawful delivery and unlawful possession of marijuana after police in Lake In The Hills found and confiscated about 195 pounds of marijuana from his vehicle on Tuesday, November 23. The drugs have a street value of \$1.76 million.

Police said they noticed a suspicious vehicle on the 3200 block of Chadwick Lane in Lake In The Hills at about 6:30 p.m. Before officers could approach the driver, he fled the area on foot. Police eventually found the suspect but he said he had no access to the

vehicle in question and he was consequently released.

Later, a K-9 unit from the Crystal Lake Police Department was dispatched to the area and the dog indicated there were drugs inside the automobile. The police entered the vehicle and found the marijuana.

A warrant was then issued for Anthony V. Occhipinti, 33, of 633 S. Spring Road in Elmhurst. Occhipinti surrendered on Wednesday to the McHenry County Sheriff's Office and was charged with unlawful delivery of marijuana and possession of marijuana. Occhipinti was processed and released after posting 10 percent of his \$75,000 bond.



photo by Paul DelGuidice

### Painting a pretty face...

Erika Andreshak, 3, of Downers Grove, has her face painted by Elf Genet at the Special Kids Day holiday party held at the Wilder Mansion on Wednesday, December 1. The annual celebration is an opportunity for special needs children and their families to enjoy holiday music, food and fun, visit with Santa Claus and take home a goodie bag of treats. More photos inside.



photo by Dee Longfellow

### Sounds of the season...

The combined Middle School Brass Ensemble, pictured here, performed Christmas music at the Wilder Park tree-lighting held on Thursday, December 2. The evening included the illumination of the circle of trees, each sponsored by community groups and organizations, as well as a chance for kids to chat with Santa Claus.

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# Scenes from Special Kids Day 2010

Wednesday, December 1 was the annual celebration of Special Kids Day, a special event spearheaded by Rich Rosenberg and supported by many volunteers including those from Elmhurst College. It is a day when special needs

kids and their families are invited to their own holiday party complete with music and singing, all kinds of food, including Christmas cookies, a visit with Santa Claus, numerous other activities and a goodie bag full of treats to take home.

all photos by Paul DelGuidice



Jack Shea, 10, has a "tattoo" painted on his hand by volunteer Trisha Rhea.



Volunteer Elf Joe Kleinhans offers a cookie to Jayla O'Neal, 10.



Johnathan Hofer, 10, used his balloon guitar to jam with the band at the Special Kids Day party.



Jermyah Bolden, 6, lets Santa know what presents she wants under the tree this year.



Reindeers Amanda Montes and Rachel Kean greeted partygoers at the door on Tuesday.