

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

Volume 25
Number 36

"IF I WERE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A NEWSPAPER OR A NEWSPAPER WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT, I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO CHOOSE THE LATTER." THOMAS JEFFERSON

50 cents
January 15, 2020

Local library offers
winter diversions
See Page 3

Sabres girls hoops
on winning streak
See Page 8

U-46 calendar set for 2020-21 academic year

By Seth Hancock

The 2020-2021 school year in School District U-46 will start on Wednesday, Aug. 12 under the calendar proposal presented to the Board of Education at its meeting on Monday, Dec. 16.

Pre-school would start a week later on Wednesday, Aug. 19. The final day of classes is set for Monday, May 24, or Tuesday, June 1 is all five emergency days are used, and high school graduation is set for Saturday, May 29.

In total, there are 176 instructional days for students and 184 teacher attendance days with eight days designated as institute days.

U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said the calendar is a "very similar calendar structure as we've had in prior years," and this would be the eighth straight year of earlier starts despite overwhelming

opposition from the public which has supported later starts in surveys. No survey was done this year.

The earlier start began in the 2013-2014 under former Superintendent Jose Torres who said he wanted to look into yearlong schooling. Since then, the reason given by the district for the early start was to allow high school students to take finals before the Christmas break.

Sanders has previously admitted the district's own data shows that "it's not made a significant impact over these past few years academically" having finals before the break and students are "going to have that stress whether it's before winter break or after winter break."

In a memo response to a question from Sue Kerr, the board's president, the dis-

trict stated: "Although some teachers may give an end of the semester assessment, we have worked to eliminate traditional 'finals' as a practice."

The district also provided attendance data which Sanders claimed "demonstrates that starting before Labor Day has not had an impact. We still have our highest attendance rate that first couple days, first week of school, and then it slowly tapers off a little bit."

However, that data only provided attendance rates for the current school year and last year, both which had the earlier start dates. No data was provided for attendance from when there was a later start date.

Thanksgiving break would start next year on Wednesday, Nov. 25 with students returning on Monday, Nov. 30. The first semester would finish on Friday, Dec. 18 and Christmas break would start on Monday, Dec. 21 with students returning on Monday, Jan. 4.

Spring break is set to start on Monday, March 29 with students returning on Tuesday, April 6 after a spring holiday on Monday, April 5 which is the day after Easter. This aligns with area school districts according to Sanders.

Board member Kate Thommes said that the spring break does not align

with Elgin Community College and "a lot of students at ECC are parents in U-46," and board member Melissa Owens said this would affect dual-credit students from U-46. Sanders said those dual-credit students who attend classes at ECC would follow ECC's calendar while Josh Carpenter, assistant superintendent for teaching and learning, said they would look further into it.

Owens asked about making Columbus Day (Monday, Oct. 12) an attendance day or changing the focus of the day. Columbus Day has been made a national issue by various left-wing activists in recent years.

Sanders said it's "a state legal holiday and it's also recognized in multiple contracts," and it would require more work for the board and administration to negotiate with union groups. Suzanne Johnson, deputy superintendent of instruction, said other districts have changed the name which could be an option in order to avoid offending.

U-46 does not list major Christian holidays, such as Christmas and Easter, but has in the past recognized the holidays of other religions on its calendar.

Various items approved at U-46 board meeting

By Seth Hancock

Two items totaling \$5.6 million were presented and approved at the same Dec. 16, 2019 meeting under discussion/action with 7-0 votes by the Board of Education in School District U-46.

Included was a \$3.6 million bid, to be paid through the operations and maintenance fund, with Mechanical Concepts of Illinois, Inc. for chiller replacement projects at Elgin and South Elgin high schools. The current chiller at Elgin was installed in 1998 and in 2004 at South Elgin according to the proposal.

"The absorbers, which are critical components of those chillers, are currently close to the end of their projected useful life, which is estimated to extend between 20-25 years," the proposal states. "These chillers are taxed by the local water quality and the consequent treatments needed to optimize their operation. As a result, both chillers require extensive maintenance to get them to operate properly."

The replacement work is expected to be complete by May 1 the proposal states. The district originally planned the projects to be done over the summer.

Board member Melissa Owens asked if it was presented under discussion/action "to get this work started during winter break" to which Sheila Downs, director of plant operations, said "the units failed in the fall" and the quick approval will give them a chance to "use valuable time over winter break in order to do some of the work that will be invasive."

Also approved was a new three-year electrical power supply contract with Direct Energy, U-46's current provider, costing 4.63 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for an estimated \$1.9 million to be paid through the operations and maintenance fund.

The current contract will expire next month and the district used Belden Energy Solutions as a consultant to secure the contract.

"Because electric prices, capacity costs, and transmission charges change daily, administration is re-

questing approval to lock in proposed pricing," the proposal states. "Thus, we are presenting this proposal as a Discussion/Action item in order to secure the current rates."

The contract represents a 23 percent reduction from the current 6.052 cents per kWh which amounts to about \$445,000 annually the proposal claims.

Board member John Devereux said it was "good to see... it indicates a 23 percent reduction from our current cost." He added: "Well done, I guess, on getting that done."

"I don't control the market, but I'll take it," Downs responded.

The board also approved by 7-0 votes \$16.1 million in itemized bills, a settlement agreement and general release in the Kulasik v. School District U-46, et. al. case and release of all claims in the same case. No information was provided on that lawsuit.

Additionally, the board approved of \$148,813 in expenditure items under the consent agenda by a 7-0 vote.

The largest item was a two-year contract costing \$73,750, paid through the education fund, with International Baccalaureate (IB) to provide professional development to Elgin High School staff as a redesign is being proposed for its gifted academy.

According to the proposal, data from Elgin's academy "shows that the admission process does not reflect a culturally competent educational environment" while IB works with schools to create programs that "encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right."

The board approved of a \$44,000 bid, from the operations and maintenance fund, with Enger Vavra, Inc. to demolish a cooler and freezer at Bartlett's Eastview Middle School.

"Eastview Middle School was previously used as the Food Services Commissary for School District U-46. During the summer of 2018, the Food Ser-



On a course to victory

Streamwood's Richard Santiago dribbled past West Chicago's Alex Resendiz during the Sabres victory over the Wildcats on Friday, Jan. 10. For story and more photos see page 4.

(Examiner photo by Caroline Hollis)

See U-46 meeting, pg. 3

Being positive while enjoying life at any age

I remember writing my very first article for the newspaper about life after 40. My hubby had said that life begins at 40 and at the time I thought he was nuts. He'd say, "Honey, you look as good as the day I met you." Was he kidding? That was about 20 years and 10 pounds ago but that was then and believe me there's a huge difference in a span of 20 years. Now as we've aged a few more years I realize that turning 40 was a breeze compared to now.

Over the past few years my doctor has talked to me at appointments using words such as, "As we age." This has always bothered me because I have shoes older than he is. He continues to tell me all of the changes I have to make to my lifestyle because when we get aches and pains we need to take more medication and exercise. Hubby said a beer works just as well to make you feel better. Of course we have to take our daily dose of medications like calcium to strengthen our teeth and bones. We also have those frequent urges more often during the night than we used to, and they amount to about three to four visits to the bathroom which keeps us awake. Our dentist suggests that I will need a bone graft for an implant. The only implants I know of are on the chest of our next door neighbor who shows them off proudly on a regular basis.

Putting on shoes in the morning has become a nuisance because trying to worm inside of them is like having your back put into traction and once you bend down it is difficult to get back up. Getting in and out of the car is an effort because when you've had knee replacements they don't bend very well. Sometimes I feel like my Aunt Martha who's 99 years old and using a wheelchair to get around after she received two new hip replacements along with a new knee after a fall in her 80s and feels fit as a fiddle. People are always willing to open the door for her because of her age and condition but she is a jolly old gal with tons of energy.

Most people aren't too distraught about aging as long as they are healthy and many elderly folks try to keep active and enjoy being alive. Sometimes, however, things become a bit complicated like when your driver's license needs to be renewed and the written test or driving test need to be taken which scares me because it has been many years since I last took it. I hope that the person who will accompany me for the test is a nice person who doesn't make me nervous. Maybe he or she might not notice I'm a wreck when I try to parallel park. I hope the person will be kind and understanding because even though I spent time studying the rules of the road I may not remember all of the questions.

Even though there are negative things about getting older there are also many positive things for those over age 50 or 60 that will benefit us as part of the aging generation. Think about the fact that if you are living longer then there are years when hot flashes due to menopause are a thing of the past. No more worrying about getting pregnant (imagine that). You'll notice a sudden attitude change in people when someone opens a door for you like at a restaurant unless, of course, they are automatic doors opening on their own. I remember a time when someone didn't bother opening the door for younger people and would let the door slam in their face. You'll get lots of senior discounts, senior bus rides and most people will treat you kinder and let you get ahead in line. They will also most likely vacate their seat for you on a crowded bus.

Aging can be a difficult thing, especially when you dread it and focus on the negatives but there are positive things about getting older. Getting older and growing wiser is important and exciting and when you reach those twi-


light years remember it isn't the end. You still have a lot of living to do so enjoy every minute.

Congratulations to Jason Allen of Streamwood who recently graduated with a bachelor of science degree in finance from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

Tidbits...

By Rachel

tidbits@examinerpublications.com



Congratulations to Nicole Durso, Andrea Greter, Miles Juarez and Thomas Radomski of Streamwood who were named to the dean's list for the 2019 fall semester at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois.

Congratulations to William Troman of Streamwood who was named to the dean's list for the 2019 fall semester at Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois.

Congratulations to Dane Crouse, Cara Johnson and Nicole Pisarek of Streamwood who were named to the dean's list for the 2019 fall semester at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Congratulations to Ryan Som and Tony Yang of Streamwood who were named to the dean's honor list for the 2019 fall semester at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Poplar Creek Library offering program, event

By Kristin Carreno

Registration is underway for the Winter Reading Challenge and Escape the Starlight Lounge, two free events open to all ages at the Poplar Creek Library, 1405 S. Park Ave.

According to Public Relations and Programming Coordinator Mary Hauserman, the Winter Reading Challenge began on Jan. 6 and run through Saturday, Feb. 28. Poplar Creek Library card holders may come to the library during regular hours, Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. after registering to participate.

"One thing I'd like patrons to know is that all reading counts," said Hauserman. "You can read a book, magazine, graphic novel or even listen to an audiobook. Patrons will get a prize just for signing up. For every 150 minutes read you will earn a raffle ticket for the chance to win one of our grand prizes."

Escape the Starlight Lounge will be held at the library on Saturday, Jan. 25

Congratulations to Rebecca Daley of Streamwood who was named to the dean's list for the 2019 fall semester at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

The Streamwood Blood Commission holds its next blood drive in the Training Room of the Streamwood Police Department, located at 401 E. Irving Park Road on Wednesday, Jan. 22 from 1 to 7 p.m. Anyone who is at least 17 years old, weighs at least 110 pounds, is in good health, and has not given blood in the past 56 days is eligible to donate. To schedule an appointment, please use the Vitalant mobile app or register online at www.vitalant.org and use the sponsor code SW98. You may also contact Vitalant at 877-543-3768. Walk-in donors are also welcome.

Mike Nowak, of WGN Radio will speak at Tri-Village Garden Club of Bartlett, Hanover Park and Streamwood on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Poplar Creek Public Library at 1405 S. Park, Streamwood. His hilarious presentation will be "Everything You Know About Gardening is Wrong: Myths, Misinformation and Well-Meant, but Inaccurate Advice from Mom, the Intertubes, and Beyond." Gardeners are generally trusting souls. Sometimes too trusting. For instance, a neighbor offers you a plant and says "You'll really like this." When the plant covers your garage and holds your dog hostage, you wonder if it was such a good idea. Nowak walks his audience through some common misconceptions about plants, gardening remedies and even insects and why you need to check your sources before you grab your shovel. For additional information, please contact Wally Groble 497-1958 or Sandy Swenson 837-0281 or visit their website at www.trivillagegardenclub.org.

with 45-minute sessions beginning at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. and on Sunday, Jan. 26 at 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Hauserman said there is a limit of eight participants per session.

"This is the library's first escape room," Hauserman said.

According to Hauserman, participants will find themselves inside an underground jazz club set in the 1920s and not allowed to leave without the secret password. People will have 45 minutes to unlock the trunk that holds the password to return to the present.

"Library staff have been busy writing the script and planning all of the props and decorations to help transport participants back in time," Hauserman said. "We're very excited to give our patrons a fun experience that they would not typically do in a library."

Registration for the Winter Reading Challenge can be done in person or online at <http://pclib.readsquared.com>.

To register for Escape the Starlight Lounge call 483-4910.

move these units to allow for more storage," the proposal states.

To be paid for by the nation's taxpayers through Title I funds, the board approved of a \$31,063 contract with Group Travel Planners to send 48 students and five adults from Elgin's Larkin High School on a spring break out-of-state college trip in March.

Also approved under the consent agenda was a personnel report and workers' compensation cases which included one new position, a paraeducator.

Applications are now being accepted by the Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF) for the 2020 Conservation Achievement Scholarship program. The ICF annually awards scholarships to outstanding high school seniors in Illinois who demonstrate effective, voluntary, long-term dedication to the preservation, protection or enhancement of the state's natural resources. Four scholarships of \$2,000 each are available for the current school year. One of the scholarships is earmarked for a qualified applicant who is a dependent of a current employee of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Applicants must be an Illinois resident and a senior in an Illinois high school. Applications must be received by the ICF by March 1. Detailed instructions and the 2020 application form can be accessed through the ICF website at www.ilcf.org. Contact the Illinois Conservation Foundation at 217-785-2003 or dnr.icf@illinois.gov for more information or to make a donation to support the Conservation Achievement Scholarship program.

Take time to give back to your local community by joining the Streamwood Woman's Club. Enjoy fellowship with members who work on local philanthropic projects to help the community become a better place to live. They meet at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month, September through May, at the Streamwood Police Station. Membership is open to any woman who is 18 years and older. Not restricted to Streamwood residents. Contact Anita at 247-2359 for more information.

The Tri-Village Garden Club of Bartlett, Hanover Park and Streamwood holds general meetings at the Poplar Creek Public Library at 1405 S. Park, Streamwood, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month from February through November. For additional information, please contact Wally Groble at 497-1958 or Sandy Swenson at 837-0281 or visit the web site at www.trivillagegardenclub.org.

In the days before the American Revolution, patriots would gather in local taverns to discuss the issues of the day and consider remedies to their grievances. Continuing on this tradition, West Suburban Patriots invites you to Patriots' Pub. This is a casual get together with no guest speaker or structured program, just an opportunity to gather with like-minded citizens. Cash bar and pub food available for purchase. Patriot's Pub Nights will be held every other Tuesday at Chrissy's, 552 N. Gary Ave., Carol Stream from 7 to 10 p.m. For more details, see westsuburbanpatriots.com.

The Examiner

Published every Wednesday at:
4N781 Gerber Road, Bartlett, Illinois 60103
With additional offices in
South Elgin and Streamwood



Randall Petrik • President & Publisher
Bruce Leighty • Editor

News and Ads call (630) 830-4145
news@examinerpublications.com
www.examinerpublications.com
Single copy price 50¢.
Internet subscription rate \$24 per year.
For circulation call Sharon (630) 830-4145
Or email to brkids@examinerpublications.com
©2020 Examiner Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Illinois State Scholars named from Dist. U-46

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 had 202 high school seniors named Illinois State Scholars by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

From 726 schools in the state, over 17,000 students earned the recognition based on exam scores and their class rank after their sixth semester. The scholars represent “approximately the top 10 percent of academic achievers among the Class of 2020 at each participating high school,” according to a U-46 press release.

“We are so incredibly proud of our students for this achievement,” Lela Majstorovic, assistant superintendent for secondary schools, said for the release. “Their hard work and dedication has earned them the recognition they deserve. We are grateful to our parents, schools, and communities for supporting them along their journey.”

Of the 202 U-46 students, 138 are from schools in *The Examiner* coverage area including 76 from Bartlett, 47 from South Elgin and 15 from Streamwood.

From Bartlett: Margaret Arendt, Ishika Ashta, Victor Becerra, Lucy Beck, Allison Belliveau, Ryan Blake, Shreya Boyapati, Christopher Brumbaugh-Cayford, Samuel Burch, Ariel Byun, Kelli Carlos, Riyana Chacko, John Chang, Apoorv Chauhan, Ian Corsiga, Ishan Desai, Madelyn Donnelly, Ritwick Dwivedi, Anuj Gandhi, Nicolas Gomez, Kailey Halterman, Stephanie Hayes, Brian Hodge, Abigail Hultquist, Ashwin Jacob, Andrew Kasper, Sydney Kelly, Jack Kline, Krystian Kresso, Cameron Kunzer, Ryan Leo, Andrew Long, Miguel Luna, Sahithi Manne, Allyson Marchese, Anna Martucci, Victoria Martynko, Zev Meyer, Sharon

Nguyen, Raj Parikh, Adesh Patel, Dev Patel, Jhil Patel, Mahir Patel, Pooja Patel, Rayna Patel, Sudip Patel, Urja Patel, Darien Perkins, Madelyn Polly, Jesse Purice, Ahmad Rajwany, Garrett Raver, Ethan Reif, Sharliz Reyes, Suleika Ruiz, Samuel Sampey, Julia Savov, Adam Schoenrade, William Schultz, Kaushik Selvakumar, Garima Shah, Priya Shah, Riya Shah, Rushabh Shah, Sareena Shah, Sonia Shah, Mikolaj Sordyl, Shriya Srikanth, Samra Syed, Jason Thompson, Tommy Ton, Jacob Anthony Valdez, Sean Watson, Jake Weihe and Dillon Williams.

From South Elgin: Yusra Ahmed, Thomas Alakkatt, Julius Andres, Jocelyn Aranda, Kira Baasch, Derryl Barnes, Kaitlyn Borgardt, Dominick Caldron, Ryan Cruthers, Tristan Cruz, Allison Cuniffe, Mahima Dave, Kristin Delaney, Nicholas Delsi, Jayme Fortino, Haley Frazer, Zachary Gutierrez, Ryan Harvey, Andrew Jo, Penny Kapadoukakis, Pranav Khare, Rachel Kirby, Ryan Kuchta, Kaleigh Larue, Elijah Lopez, Arif Mahmudi, Kennedy McDonald, Makenna Metoyer, Samuel Miller, Emma Morano, Sophia Moreno, Angelina Negrón, Meghan Niziolek, Ayush Patel, Dilan Patel, Kaitlyn Petratos, Paula Romanowski, Joshua Serpico, Daniel Skrzypshak, Sophia Smyth, Brandon Snipe, Alexandra Spires, Haley Szymczak, Kelly White, Trevor Wills, Anna Winterhalder and Emily Zozokos.

From Streamwood: Zoe Becker, Tyler Garza, Abril Gomez, Samuel Harris, Peyton Hedger, Chloe Herby, Sophia Inorio, Dominika Kedzior, Mikaela Koehler, Victoria Kopko, Jenna Manzano, Sonya Padilla, Charles Marvin Palapala, Ariana Ruth Vega and Angelo Santos.

Bartlett Fire District issues fireplace safety information

When using a fireplace, be it in a family room or sitting by a fire under the stars, the Bartlett Fire District stresses that safety should be everyone’s first priority. Follow these helpful tips to keep safe when using fireplaces and wood stoves:

“Have your fireplace and wood stoves inspected before you begin using them each year,” said Deputy Chief Brian Becker. “Have the chimney cleaned to remove creosote, which can ignite and start a chimney fire.”

Use a tempered glass or metal screen over the fireplace opening to keep sparks inside. Never use papers, trash or liquid fuel. Burn only wood in fireplaces and wood or wood pellets in wood stoves. In addition, never burn treated wood products such as lumber or pallets indoors.

Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from fireplaces and wood stoves. The openings can get hot enough to burn skin, so keep children and pets far away from them. When finished with a fire, put it out before leaving home or falling asleep.

When cleaning up, place the ashes inside a metal can with a lid. Store the can outside, away from the home, until the ashes are completely cold.

Follow these safety tips to prevent injury around fire:

- Never leave children unattended around fire.
- Prevent burn injuries by keeping children at least three feet away.
- Store matches and lighters out of children’s sight and reach.
- Never let children see other members of the family play with fire.

“Stay alert,” Becker said. “Watch children closely. Help them if you are roasting marshmallows or hot dogs over the coals. And remember, once cooked they will be hot enough to burn a child’s skin.”

For additional fire safety information, please visit www.bartlettfire.com, visit us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, or contact the fire district headquarters.



Bari Beef

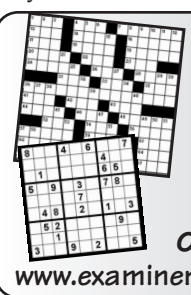
Chicago's authentic Italian style sliced Beef & gravy *Fresh!* NOT FROZEN READY IN 10 Minutes

Italian Beef • Italian Sausage Meatballs Pre-Cooked
Cooked and Sliced • Heat and Serve
Wholesale Prices


Party Orders are our Specialty!
FREE GRAVY with purchase of Beef

710 Schneider Drive • South Elgin
Route 31 to Sundown by Burger King,
west on Sundown to the first street,
Schneider Dr. North to 2nd Building on west side.

Hours: Monday-Friday 7 a.m.-3 p.m.
Call Ahead for Information
847-695-7555



Sudoku and Crossword Puzzles
NOW AVAILABLE
on our website
www.examinerpublications.com




RE/MAX Suburban

Mike Dybas
CRS, GRI, e-PRO

847-985-7050
847-334-6400
MikeDybas.com

YOUR BARTLETT
“RESIDENT EXPERT”




JUST LISTED

BARTLETT TOWN CENTER

WALNUT HILLS BARTLETT

Built in 1990, 3+ bedrooms, 2.5 bath on over ½ acre corner lot. First floor home office perfect for you work-at-homers! Luxury master bedroom/bath. Family room with fireplace and vaulted ceiling. Updated kitchen with granite. New heat and ac, new driveway and walks. Picturesque fenced yard and paver patio.



SEE IT ALL AT WWW.MIKEDYBAS.COM



OPEN 8 DAYS A WEEK

DUPAGE ROCK SCHOOL
Carol Stream

DuPage Rock Music School
'A music school for all ages'

MUSIC LESSONS
drums . bass . piano . vocals . guitar . technology

\$60 FOR 1 HR LESSON OR \$30 FOR A HALF HR LESSON
CALL 630 687 7787
456 randy road carol stream 60188 . DuPageRockMusicSchool.com

**New Year,
New Benefits.**

**Schedule your
appointment today.**



Angela Bogacki Skidmore, DDS



Cheryl Nakfoor, DDS

BARTLETT DENTAL OFFICE
630-289-4288
988 S. Bartlett Road
Bartlett
**We Always Welcome
New Patients**

Press Clippings 01/15/20

---The Courier-News---01/15/2020

Big jump in number of U-46 discipline cases, with freshman infractions up 20%

By: Rafael Guerrero



School District U-46 officials present information on student discipline and safety issues Monday at the school board meeting.

The number of U-46 student disciplinary cases last year jumped by more than 5,000 over the previous year, district officials told the school board Monday night.

And of the 45,187 cases handled during the 2018-19 school year, more than a fifth involved freshman — up 20% from 2017-18, when 7,325 freshmen cases were among the 40,254 that required disciplinary action, data shows.

Most of the infractions stemmed from acts of defiance or disrespect, attendance problems or physical altercations, according to Student Discipline Coordinator Robin Barraza. Discipline ranged from detentions and administrative conferences to interventions and in-school and out-of-school suspensions.

“The ninth-grade jump is indicative of a disengagement from the school environment,” Barraza said. “Kids have more freedom, less supervision and more responsibilities. Improving our communications with students and parents more with that (middle-to-high school) transition are some things we are working on.”

The transition from middle school to high school is a significant shift for many students, she said. It is not unusual for most high schools to have high number of disciplinary cases in their freshman classes, she said.

In U-46, freshmen also make up the largest enrollment group of all grade levels in the district, Barraza said.

If current numbers hold, the statistics for the 2019-20 school year will be similar, School Safety and Culture Director John Heiderscheidt said.

Board member Melissa Owens said she was troubled by the fact that not only was there such a high count in the ninth grade but that the gap between students getting in trouble in eighth-grade vs. ninth-grade was significant — about 2,000 more cases as the students graduated from one school level to the next.

“From looking at it, one could make the argument that we’ve moved away from exclusionary discipline models and at the same time our incident levels have gone up,” she said. “I think it’s reasonable to say there’s a correlation there and it’s concerning.”

Data was broken down by grade levels, ethnicity and types of punishments handed out.

Among other findings was black students were disciplined at a higher rate than other students. While black students make up less than 10% of the district’s enrollment, they made up about 25% of the students disciplined. About half of cases in 2018-19 involved Latino students, who make up a little more than half of the district’s student enrollment.

It’s important to note, Barraza said, that about 90% of U-46 students did not require any discipline last year or committed just one infraction. The remaining 10% were students who had multiple cases of discipline, she said.

The use of in-school and out-of-school suspensions as a means of discipline increased slightly from one year to the next, from 9,160 suspensions in 2017-18 to 9,208 in 2018-19. Student conferences are the most common form of discipline, used more than 16,000 times last school year and nearly 14,000 times the previous year, data showed.

Barraza said the district has adopted several ways to address student discipline and to prevent future problems. Teachers and administrators completed mandatory cultural competency and racial bias training in the fall, and training in areas like trauma-informed care is available to staff, she said.

The student code of conduct was also recently revised to improve consistency and students in sixth- through 12th-grade and families now have the option of doing online intervention courses, she said.

“As we move forward and implement restorative practices in a more structured and consistent way, we expect to see a reduction in referral data,” Barraza said.

U-46 board adopts 2020-21 calendar with earlier start, last day

By: Rafael Guerrero

Despite some concern about an earlier start date and a lack of public input, the District U-46 School Board unanimously adopted a 2020-21 school schedule Monday that has students starting two days earlier than this year and ending a week before Memorial Day.

The first day of classes will be Aug. 12 and the last day May 24, 2021, barring any emergency or snow days. Winter break would run from Dec. 21 to Jan. 1 and spring break from March 29 to April 5.

Board member Melissa Owens called the Aug. 12 start date “really early,” a point she also raised when the calendar was first presented in December, but ultimately voted for it.

“The feedback I’ve been getting consistently is on that first day start and how early it is,” Owens said.

The U-46 calendar is aligned with other area school districts, although it does vary from Elgin Community College.

A few years ago, the district surveyed parents on schedule options but ultimately rejected the school start date most popular with those who participated. Board member Donna Smith said a flaw in that survey was it did not point out the drawbacks of choosing one date over another.

“We did bring the results back in ... but this board was very insistent on having the winter break be truly a winter break and come back and start fresh with the second semester,” CEO Tony Sanders said of those calendar discussions. “If you want to do that then you’re going to have adjust that start of the school year to being earlier. You can’t have both, it’s just not possible — and people want both.”

“Some of this is also just a matter of making sure the community feels their voice is heard,” board member Kate Thommes said. “This is a good calendar. As a parent of high schoolers, it’s really nice to have a calm winter break not stressing over homework. But we still need to listen to everyone’s voice.”

SPORTS

---Daily Herald---01/10/2020

Glenbard East's pressure frustrates Elgin

By: Jerry Fitzpatrick

Forcing turnovers tends to spark the Glenbard East running game.

One per minute did the trick in a 57-34 Upstate Eight win at Elgin Tuesday.

The UEC coleading Rams had already used a combination of first-half defenses -- 2-3 and 1-3-1 zones, man-to-man and full-court pressure -- to force 7 turnovers in forging a 16-point lead.

Glenbard East (11-5, 7-1) played with renewed defensive intensity in the third quarter and forced 8 more miscues in as many minutes. Multiple breakaway layups helped the Rams outscore Elgin 24-6 and take a 55-21 lead through three quarters.

"It's exciting," said senior guard Deon Cook, who scored 10 of his game-high 17 points in the third quarter, mostly on breakaways. "This game was about executing and putting them away rather than letting them linger around."

Elgin (5-13, 1-7) tied the Rams 8-8 on a bank shot by senior guard DionT Rodgers with 3:18 left in the first quarter.

The Rams then broke clear with a 17-2 run fueled by 4 fast-break baskets. Cook, junior forward LaDonis Rogers and junior guard Joe Hamilton each notched transition buckets in that span.

"We just wanted them to make mistakes and play our defense the way we can play," said Hamilton, who had 5 points and 3 steals.

The Maroons were outscored 42-13 in the middle two quarters when they shot 3 of 20 from the field and 1 of 9 from 3-point range.

"Obviously, turnovers have been a big thing for us this year," first-year Elgin coach Todd Allen said. "We have to get better. I know they can make the plays. We're just not executing. It's a matter of digging down deep and finding a way."

Junior Jeffery Lomax finished with 11 points and 9 rebounds for Elgin, which played without junior guard Xavier Bonds, who did not dress. Junior Emmanuel Hernandez scored 8 fourth-quarter points off the bench.

Senior Daron Hall scored 16 points and hauled down 8 rebounds for Glenbard East. Rogers and junior forward Jack Rivas contributed 6 points apiece.

"At this point after Christmas we're just working on getting better," Glenbard East coach Scott Miller said. "I think we showed our offense is not just Daron Hall. We have a lot of guys who can shoot it."

Streamwood overtakes Bartlett in 2nd half

By: Allen Oshinski

Bartlett and Streamwood are getting to know each other. The U-46 rivals played for the third time this season Tuesday night, with the Sabres pulling away for a 77-70 boys basketball victory.

Lorenzo Coney broke a 66-all tie with a 3-pointer and Zach Marquez made 4 key free throws down the stretch in the Upstate Eight matchup in Streamwood.

Coney and Marquez each finished with 17 points for Streamwood (11-7, 6-2). Kyle Maybrun added 16. Maybrun and Coney each grabbed 9 rebounds.

Coney scored 7 points in the fourth quarter, including a breakaway dunk that got the crowd going.

Bartlett led most of the way but could never put away the Sabres whose quick pace and ability to hit from long range allows them to make up deficits quickly.

For example, Bartlett opened its biggest lead at 30-21 in the second quarter, but the Sabres quickly reeled off an 11-2 run, tying the game on Luke Pentecost's 3-pointer.

Streamwood trailed 41-38 at halftime, but better execution in the second half led to the comeback.

"Every time we'd do something right, it seemed like we'd do 2 or 3 things that were wrong," said Streamwood coach Kent Payne. "And then once the fourth quarter started, we made a little better play after better play after better play."

"We just kept working hard. We came out a little sloppy and got some bad turnovers," said Coney. "We just kept working. We forced some turnovers, just kept playing as a team, and working together."

The visiting Hawks were able to keep Streamwood's snipers in check in the first half, but the Sabres eventually got some open looks and started to knock them down. They hit 6 from long range in the second half after making just 3 before the break.

"I thought we did a great job in the first half of taking them out of their offensive rhythm for the most part," said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith. "I thought we did a much better job in the first half and in the second half we struggled a little bit getting in position to stop their shooters. I really thought they out hustled us to loose balls and rebounds, a lot of hustle plays there."

George Betevis led all scorers with 23 points for Bartlett. Conrad Luczynski had 12 points and 13 rebounds. Hayden Angell added 10 points and 10 boards, and Nick Kantzavelos chipped in 9 points for the Hawks.

Jakobe Strong scored 11 of his 13 points in the first half for Streamwood, while Pentecost finished with 9 points on three 3-pointers.

---The Courier-News---01/15/2020

Plain to see for Lane

Sitting out with an injury makes impression on South Elgin's McVicar

By: Paul Johnson



South Elgin's Lane McVicar (23) puts up a shot during the second quarter of a Class 4A sectional semifinal game March 6 against Harlem.

Sophomore forward Lane McVicar recently missed four games for South Elgin with an ankle injury, but he definitely gained a new perspective.

“It helped him understand what it’s like to be on the bench and be a coach,” Storm coach Brett Johnson said. “He made the comment to me during one of the games, ‘This is a lot harder than it looks.’”

“Yeah, you see a lot more. In the game, you don’t see it. But now, the sophomores have done a good job of working together as young leaders. We’ve made that turn a little bit now.”

McVicar was a key part of last season’s regional championship team.

With the graduation of standouts Vincent Miskiewicz and Drake Montgomery, however, McVicar has been thrust into a leadership role.

McVicar returned to the court Friday against Bartlett and helped South Elgin (8-11) pick up weekend wins over the Hawks and Romeoville.

“I feel great now,” McVicar said. “(Last year’s experience) makes us leaders as sophomores, which is really crazy to think about. We’re helping out the team, showing them the flow of the game and how varsity works.”

South Elgin is the rare team where the youngest players have the most varsity experience.

Guard Drew Cwik is one of the key sophomores who played last season, and he’s grateful for that time.

“It was very valuable,” Cwik said. “(The newcomers) are starting to pick up the speed now, and you can see that with how we’re playing. I feel like we’re starting to jell and it’s showing in our results.”

Johnson is hoping the success of last week, with two wins and a one-point loss to Glenbard East, will start a late-season run.

Last season, the Storm lost three of four during this stretch but responded with nine straight wins en route to a trip to the sectional final.

“It was nice to have a weekend where we were successful,” Johnson said. “It finally clicked. It’s the same moment last year where it clicked. They needed something positive, and we got it.”

Finally healthy: Considering its youth and lack of size, Larkin knew it was heading into a difficult season. What Royals coach Deryn Carter couldn’t have seen coming, though, were the injuries.

Friday’s convincing 66-45 victory at crosstown rival Elgin was only Larkin’s second win of the season, but there’s reason for hope.

It was only the second time all season the entire 12-player roster was at Carter’s disposal.

Sophomore point guard Damari Wheeler-Thomas felt that made a big difference.

“I think that’s really what helped us have the energy,” Wheeler-Thomas said. “All 12 guys dressed and were ready to go. I think this is the start. It’s a big win. We just have to keep it going.”

Sophomore guard Fernando Perez Jr. is one of the Royals who missed time. He scored 12 points Friday.

“Perez is a good player,” Carter said. “He’s starting to understand it starts with energy and effort. Once he really learns that, he’ll be as good as anybody in the area.”

Close call: Cary-Grove took control of the Fox Valley Conference race Friday with a 60-49 win over Hampshire.

Hampshire (11-5, 5-2) was in a logjam entering the week, but losses to the Trojans and Burlington Central snapped an 11-game winning streak and dropped the Whip-Purs behind Cary-Grove (14-2, 7-0).

Huntley (13-3, 6-1) remains a game back. The Red Raiders lost 63-53 to Cary-Grove on Dec. 6. Huntley is 9-1 in its last 10 games, however.

Dundee-Crown (8-6, 4-2) is still in the mix after road wins at Crystal Lake South and Jacobs. The loss to Dundee-Crown dropped Jacobs (10-6, 4-3) in the standings.

Burlington Central (10-6, 3-5) is behind in the conference race, but the Rockets have shown their influence with wins over Dundee-Crown and Hampshire.

Hawks topple Storm as Hare tops 1,000 points



After pulling up off a drive, South Elgin's Megan McClure releasing a jump shot against Bartlett.



Alexis Sinclair in the process of hitting a second-half jump shot for Bartlett over South Elgin's Raina Yang.

By Seth Hancock

In the battle of undefeated Upstate Eight Conference rivals, the Bartlett girls basketball team came out on top of South Elgin in a 56-45 game on Friday, Jan. 10 at South Elgin.

The Hawks (15-7, 10-0 UEC) got plenty of contributions to shake off a slow start while Mackenzie Hare, only a sophomore, reached a career milestone at 1,000 career points.

The Storm (15-6, 8-1) came out strong behind the arc as Ella Winterhalder (nine points) hit three treys, Caroline Croft (10 points) two and Megan Mc-

Clure (nine points, 16 rebounds) one of her three on the night to build a 21-9 lead early in the second quarter.

Hare, who hit three treys herself and scored a game-high 19 points, was held to just three points in the first half and Lexi Sinclair (15 points, 12 rebounds) six, but Bartlett coach Joe Eirich said his team got huge contributions from Trinity Reyes (nine points) and Cierra Thomas off the bench on defense that helped put his team on top. Even down early, Eirich said Thomas' defense gassed South Elgin.

"Lexi and Mac, they're awesome, but

Cierra won us that game," Eirich said. "Her defense, just going after everything, that was her first game where she stepped up and was the player we all know she can be."

Eirich added: "[South Elgin was] tired. They were up and they looked defeated at times. It was a great game all around."

The Storm still led by eight late in the first half, but in the final minute Reyes hit a pair of threes to pull Bartlett to 26-24 by the break.

South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack said that was one of two key moments in the game adding a stretch in the fourth quarter where his team missed some layups and four straight free throws that could have pulled the Storm at least within five late in the game.

"We would have been up eight at halftime, and now it's two," Mandernack said. "We won that first half by more than two points, but at the end of the day it's still two points."

Bartlett trailed 29-26 early in the third quarter but went on 12-0 run, led by four points from Sinclair and capped by Danielle Hedeem's second trey of the night, for a 38-29 lead with 2:12 left in the frame. The Hawks led by at least six and as much as 12 the rest of the night as Hare scored 16 points in the second half with her free throws in the final 12 seconds getting her to the career milestone.

"Our confidence level changed," Hare said. "In the first half, we weren't very confident in ourselves and we were missing our shots. We just came

out strong in the second half."

Of the milestone, Hare said: "It's pretty cool. I'm thankful for my teammates and coaches, they definitely helped me through this from freshman to sophomore year."

Raina Yang added 10 points and Madison Waichunas seven for the Storm.

South Elgin was coming off a 52-44 UEC win over Glenbard East on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at Glenbard East.



Madison Waichunas closing in on the Bartlett basket for the Storm who took a large early lead over the Hawks only to see it evaporate in the second half.



The Hawks' Trinity Reyes driving on the South Elgin hoop.



Following Bartlett's win over the Storm, Mackenzie Hare celebrated with her teammates in commemorating her 1,000 point milestone with a banner highlighting the occasion. The sophomore hit the mark late in the game with a free throw that helped cement the win.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Storm rally sparks win over rival Hawks 49-46

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin boys basketball team shook off an 11-point deficit after one quarter to defeat rival Bartlett 49-46 in Upstate Eight Conference play on Friday, Jan. 10 at South Elgin.

The win snapped a six-game losing streak for the Storm which included a loss to the Hawks in the Jacobs Christmas Tournament.

"It just took a lot of passion and fight out of us to just get this," said Kendis Wiley who led the Storm with 12 points. "This was a big one for us. It means a lot to us. Obviously, they're our rivals, and we take this game very seriously."

Bartlett's Conrad Luczynski scored seven of his game-high 13 points in the third quarter allowing the Hawks to build as large as a nine-point lead in the frame, but the Storm scored the final seven points including five straight from Wyatt Steurer (10 points) to pull to 37-35 entering the fourth and Dylan Marquis (five points) made it 37-37 to start the final period.

The Hawks still had not trailed in the game when Clark Lewis (six points) hit a three with 3:21 remaining for a 46-42 Bartlett lead, but the Storm then scored the final seven points of the night. John Aaron Wafford (seven points) hit a trey with 1:23 left for South Elgin's first lead of the night at 47-46 and

Drew Cwik (11 points, three treys) later hit a pair of free throws to seal the win.

"This is a very big confidence boost for us," Steurer said. "We've been losing a bunch of games in a row, but today we just came out fighting and we just wanted it more in the second half."

George Betevis got Bartlett started strong hitting back-to-back threes for a 6-0 lead and he added a third trey in the frame for all of his nine points on the night as the Hawks led 20-9 after one quarter of play. The Storm went on to win each of the final three periods.

Hayden Angell added seven points and Nicholas Bucaro five for the Hawks.

"I thought we let the emotion of the game kind of overtake us," said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith. "We drove out of control, we dribbled too much trying to make the fancy play instead of just moving the ball like we did in the

first quarter. Kudos to South Elgin for playing tight all the way down the stretch and hitting the big shots."

Bartlett (6-12, 3-4 UEC) was coming off a 65-59 conference win over Elgin on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at Elgin.

South Elgin (7-11, 3-4) was coming off a 43-42 UEC loss against Glenbard East on Tuesday at South Elgin. The Storm ended the week with a 54-41 win over Romeoville in the Downers Grove North Winter Classic on Saturday, Jan. 11.



John Aaron Wafford leaving the floor to trigger a shot in the first half for South Elgin against Bartlett.



The Hawks' Cameron Kunzer, left, battling for possession of the ball with the Storm's Dylan Marquis.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Following a fourth quarter drive along the baseline, the Hawks' Hayden Angell put up an underhanded scoring effort against South Elgin.

Medicare, most insurance plans,
private pay accepted



This guy can take a tumble in the snow and turn it into a yoga pose. You're probably not so limber!
That's where Clare Oaks comes in.

- Our individualized therapy, offered seven days a week, can speed your recovery
- Our physical, occupational and speech therapists successfully treat medically complex patients
-and admission is available 24 hours, every day

Call 630-483-3905 to arrange a tour before your surgery

Falls account for nearly 3 million injuries to seniors every year. At Clare Oaks, our expert therapists will help you spring back before the snow melts.

Clare Oaks continues to earn its 5-star CMS rating in all categories, and was awarded a high performance ranking for Short-Term Stay Rehab by U.S. News & World Report



825 Carillon Drive | Bartlett, Illinois 60103
630-372-1983 | ClareOaks.com

Independent Living | Short-Term Rehabilitation
Assisted Living | Memory Care | Skilled Nursing Care

Hawks cruise through consecutive night wins

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett girls basketball team dominated Elgin to earn a 56-27 Upstate Eight Conference win on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at Bartlett.

Mackenzie Hare nearly single-handedly outscored Elgin with a game-high 26 points, and Lexie Sinclair followed with 13 points for the Hawks.

That one-two punch also carried Bartlett to

a 56-37 nonconference win over St. Charles East on Monday, Jan. 6 in St. Charles. Hare had 24 points and Sinclair 21 while each added six rebounds and hit three three-pointers in the game.

“We just have to play for each other,” Sinclair said. “We have to find ways to get each other open, and we’ve been looking for new ways to find each other open.”

“We just did a good job with ball movement, so that was nice,” Hare said. “If we’re too worried about stats and we’re not playing basketball, it doesn’t look too good. It was nice to just go out and play.”

Just a minute in, Hare had hit back-to-back threes and Sinclair added another from behind the arc for a 9-0 lead, and Hare had eight points during a 12-2 start as Bartlett led for good.

Hare had 15 points in the first half as the Hawks took a 29-14 lead into the break, and Sinclair scored 10 points in the third quarter as their lead grew to 43-25. Bartlett led by as much as 25 points in the fourth quarter.

“When we play loose and we play free, that’s the type of team that we are,” said Bartlett coach Joe Eirich. “When we clamp up and worry about our opponent, that’s when we struggle.”

Eirich added: “Today was the first time in a long time that we all just played relaxed. We all just finally let the lead out, got the weight of our shoulder and just played basketball and it was really fun to see.”



With an open look, Bartlett’s Kayci Regalado releasing a jump shot during the Hawks victory over Elgin.
(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



The Hawks’ Marina Vasquez pulling down a rebound off the offensive boards between the Maroons’ Jessica Nino, left, and Lily Genel.

Setting the record straight for coyote hunting in state

It seems from all the information circulating through the various media these days that some serious misconceptions exist regarding the rules governing coyote hunting. For example, one misconception is that coyotes are a protected species, which is totally false.

The below data, from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is the authoritative source for hunting coyotes in Illinois.

- Coyotes can be hunted 24 hours a day through midnight on March 15. During the rest of the year, hunting hours for coyotes are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- Hunters do need a hunting license and habitat stamp unless exempt.
- Coyotes may be hunted on private property using dogs, archery devices, any type and caliber of handgun, any type of legal rifle including large capacity semi-automatic rifles, and shotguns using any type of shell. During firearm deer seasons, coyotes may be harvested only by hunters with valid, unfilled deer permits using the same types of firearms that are allowed for deer. When hunting with a shotgun, magazines must be fitted with a plug which makes the shotgun incapable of firing more than three consecutive shots.
- Electronic calling devices are legal for coyote hunting.
- It is legal to bait coyotes for hunting as long as any wild game used was legally harvested.
- Illinois does not restrict the type of sights or scopes used for coyote hunting (including laser sights and night vision scopes).
- Lights with any color of lens can be used while hunting coyotes as long as the lights are not used from or connected to any vehicle or conveyance (in-

cluding ATVs and horses).

- It is unlawful for a coyote hunter to wantonly allow a dog to hunt on another person’s land without first obtaining permission of the landowner or tenant. If a hunting dog crosses onto property in which the coyote hunter has no permission to hunt, the hunter has no legal right to follow the dogs. Illinois Animal Control Laws or other local animal control ordinances could apply to dogs running at large.

- Coyote hunters are required to keep their guns unloaded and in a case while in a vehicle or on a conveyance (including but not limited to ATVs and horseback) unless exempt by special IDNR permit.
- Guns must remain unloaded until the hunter is clear of the road and right-of-way alongside the road.
- Deer hunters with an unfilled firearm deer permit may hunt coyotes during the first and second firearm deer sea-

sons, but must wear a cap and 400 square inches of solid blaze orange or solid blaze pink outer clothing when hunting.

- Before coyote hunting at public hunting areas, check with the site office for site specific regulations.
- It is legal to hunt coyotes while using or possessing a tree climbing device.

It should also be noted that there are no limits set for how many coyotes may be taken while hunting in Illinois.

FURBEARER HUNTING			
SPECIES	DATES	HOURS	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon Opossum Fox <i>(Red and Gray)</i> Bobcat	10 Nov 2018–15 Feb 2019 Closed 16-18 Nov and 29 Nov– 2 Dec 2018 in counties with firearm deer hunting.	Open 24 hours and season begins 1/2 hour before sunrise on 10 Nov 2018 and closes 1/2 hour after sunset 15 Feb 2019. *see archery restrictions	During Archery Deer Season bow hunting hours for raccoon, opossum, fox, coyote and striped skunk will be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Limit one bobcat per person per season. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of harvesting a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
Woodchuck <i>(groundhog)</i>	1 Jun 2018-31 Mar 2019. Closed 17-19 Nov and 30 Nov- 3 Dec in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	Hunters with unfilled firearm deer permits may harvest coyotes during firearm deer season by shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader or handgun from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
Coyote Striped Skunk	Year round Closed 16-18 Nov and 29 Nov– 2 Dec 2018 in counties with firearm deer hunting.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No time restriction 10 Nov 2018–15 Mar 2019	There is no limit on foxes, coyote, opossum, raccoon, striped skunk or woodchuck.

Hunting rules from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Sabres win streak at six as they topple WeGo

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood boys basketball team came out strong to defeat West Chicago 74-41 in Upstate Eight Conference play on Friday, Jan. 10 at Streamwood.

The Sabres bolted out to a 24-9 lead after one quarter and 49-17 by half-time allowing them to coast to an easy win in the second half.

The win continues a hot streak for Streamwood which began at the end of 2019 and has carried over into 2020.

In the five-game Jacobs Christmas Tournament, the Sabres were led by Kyle Maybrun (16.2 points per game), Lorenzo Coney (13.8 points), Luke Pentecost (11.8 points, 17 total three-pointers) and Jakobe Strong (11 points). Streamwood went 3-2 and won its last three games, and it then opened its 2020 portion of the schedule with a 73-69 win over Larkin in UEC play led by 23 points from Zach Marquez.

The Sabres extended that four-game winning streak into six straight victo-

ries with a pair of UEC wins capped by the West Chicago game.

“To start the new year like this is an amazing feeling,” Marquez said.

“We’re just going to try to keep getting better,” said Streamwood coach Kent Payne. “Our kids really like competing.”

The week opened with a 67-60 win over Fenton on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at Fenton.

Streamwood is now 10-7 overall, 5-2 in the UEC, and Payne credits his team’s buying into the system for the success.

“We’re going to be good. We have a unique style of play,” Payne said. “We shoot pretty well. We hustle. Their hustle efforts are just fantastic. I think that’s what makes the chemistry work for us. They’re just relentless hustlers.”

Payne added: “The kids kind of bought into it. It teaches them to be aggressive, pressure on defense. We know we have a bench. I think we’re still developing it and growing. It’s never an easy process.”



Streamwood’s Zach Marquez looking for an open teammate while passing West Chicago’s Matt Brotnow.



The Sabres’ Jakobe Strong driving his way to the basket past the Wildcats’ Daniel Roldan.
(Examiner photos by Caroline Hollis)



The Sabres’ Kyle Maybrun taking a jumper over West Chicago’s Alex Resendiz.

State expands senior discounts for license plates, transit

Expanded benefits are being offered to senior citizens under laws that went into effect Jan. 1.

According to a state of Illinois news release, the Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA) is implementing new annual income limits, making it possible for more individuals to qualify for the Secretary of State License Plate Discount, Seniors Ride Free Transit Benefit and Persons with Disabilities Free Transit Ride.

Paula Basta, director of IDoA, thanked legislators for passing the laws.

“These benefits support some of our state’s most vulnerable residents by assisting them in their transportation needs, so we are proud to announce that more individuals will be able to take advantage of this program,” she said.

Area senior citizens are encouraged

to determine if they are eligible to take advantage of the expanded benefits.

Specifically, it will now be easier for some to receive benefits from the Benefit Access Program, the formal name of the program that includes the Secretary of State License Plate Discount, Seniors Ride Free Transit Benefit, and Persons with Disabilities Free Transit Ride.

Any applications submitted Jan. 1, through April 15, will continue to use 2018 income but will be subject to the new income limits. Applications submitted on or after April 16, must use 2019 income to file. Therefore, if an applicant applied in 2019 and was denied based on 2018 income using the current income limits, he or she will be afforded an opportunity to re-apply.

Once approved, the benefits are valid for a two-year period.



Illinois license plate.
(Courtesy photo)

Sabres stay perfect in 2020, win three in week



In tight traffic under the basket, Streamwood’s Peyton Hedger looking to score between Fenton’s Hailey Miller, left, and Sophia Haska.

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood girls basketball team is on a hot streak with a perfect 3-0 week opening with a 72-46 win over Fenton in Upstate Eight Conference play on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at Streamwood.

Mandy Mien led the effort with 20 points helping the Sabres build an early lead and maintain it, and Streamwood finished with three players in double digits and five girls with at least eight points.

“We’ve just gained some composure and we’re on a roll,” Mien said. “As long as we keep our energy up, we’re going to keep on rolling. Everybody has been contributing which has been great.”

The Sabres built their largest lead early in the fourth quarter. Mien hit a three-pointer and had a steal and layup late in the third quarter and Idalyd Ocampo added a bucket for a 65-33 lead entering the fourth, and Vicki Kopko opened the final frame with a bucket for a 67-33 lead for the largest margin of the night.

Streamwood’s depth has been building to take some pressure off of Mien and it showed with Kopko scoring 14 points and Kaylee Angle 12. Sayuri Ishikawa added nine points and Ocampo eight.

“Vicki had a really nice game, and we told her she was going to have an opportunity to score tonight and she did,” said Streamwood coach George Rosner. “She took advantage of it, and that helps a lot when other girls step



Mandy Mien of the Sabres on a quest for a score after negotiating past Fenton’s Adriana Rocha.

up.”

Rosner added: “You always want to get people in as a coach, and there was a lot of good opportunities for that tonight. A lot of them played good minutes for us.”

Against West Chicago, the Sabres earned a 54-34 UEC win on Friday, Jan. 10 at Streamwood. The Sabres then edged out Metea Valley 46-45 in a non-conference win on Saturday, Jan. 11 at Metea Valley.

The wins make Streamwood 4-0 to start 2020, and the Sabres have now won five of their last six games to improve to 6-12 overall, 4-5 in the UEC.

“We’re playing better obviously, and it’s showing in the results,” Rosner said. “They’re doing things better as a team offensively and defensively. We just have to keep the confidence going.”



Streamwood’s Vivian Sumoski battling with Fenton’s Hailey Miller, left, for possession of the basketball along a sideline during the Sabres victory on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Following a fast break, Streamwood’s Sayuri Ishikawa drove on the Fenton basket while pursued by Fenton’s Lisette Rodriguez.