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Six U-46 students to be awarded MLK scholarships

By: Elgin Area School District U-46

Elgin Area School District U-46 will honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. through a variety of events and community programs, including food drives and other volunteer projects in schools, an in-depth discussion on one of Dr. King's famous sermons, and by participating in the Dr. King Youth Leadership Conference.

In addition, six U-46 seniors will receive the scholarship during the City of Elgin's celebrations honoring the civil rights leader.

A number of U-46 staff and administrators will be attending the City of Elgin's 34th Annual Dr. King Prayer Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, at the Elgin Community College University and Business Center, 1700 Spartan Drive, Elgin. The celebrations are organized by the city's Human Relations Commission, and the 2019 theme is "Justice Before Comfort."

This year's celebration will also include the eighth annual Dr. King Youth Leadership Conference, during which U-46 students will participate and scholarships will be awarded. The conference begins at noon Monday, Jan. 21, at the Ed Schock Centre of Elgin, 100 Symphony Way, Elgin.

Jeron Shelton, an inspirational speaker, will serve as the keynote speaker for the Youth Leadership Conference. The scholarship recipients are:

- Jacqueline Zarate (\$1,000 scholarship) attends Bartlett High School and plans on attending Elgin Community College where she will major in business administration.
- Elisa Arce (\$1,000 scholarship) attends Larkin High School and has been accepted into Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago and will major in architecture.
- Andres Dominguez (\$1,000 scholarship) attends Larkin High School and has been accepted into the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he plans to pursue a degree in art education.
- Patrick Stephen (\$800 scholarship) attends Bartlett High School and plans on attending Milwaukee School of Engineering where he will pursue a degree in computer science.

- Travis Farley (\$600 scholarship) attends Larkin High School and plans on attending Florida Atlantic University where he will pursue a degree in business.
- Maritza Renteria (\$600 scholarship) attends Larkin High School and has been accepted into Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. She will major in mechanical engineering.

"We are proud to have them represent Dr. King's legacy in achieving higher education and becoming leaders in our communities now and in the future," said Danise Habun, chair of Elgin's King Celebration Planning Committee. "Their commitment clearly comes through in their interviews, applications and videos."

A number of U-46 schools are also participating in the eighth annual Dr. King Food Drive. Participating drop-off locations can be found at cityofelign.org/mlk.

In the past seven years, more than 65,000 pounds of food has been collected, making it one of the most successful food drives in the Fox Valley area. Food will be distributed on Jan. 19 to eight local food pantries.

Tied to the celebrations of Dr. King, two U-46 middle schools -- Abbott and Kimball -- are hosting "Socratic Cafes" this month during which students will discuss how to apply Dr. King's values and vision to contemporary social and political issues.

A Socratic seminar (in U-46 being organized as "cafes" for 2019) is a collaborative, intellectual dialogue facilitated with open-ended questions about a text and/or topic. The basis for the students' discussions will be a quote from King's sermon "On Being a Good Neighbor" and related to the "Justice Before Comfort" theme: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." Members of the Windy City Bulls, the NBA G affiliate of the Chicago Bulls, plan to attend several of the Socratic cafes.

The AVID College Readiness System Hosted Socratic Cafes:

- Abbott Middle School on Wednesday, Jan. 23. Four sessions from 9 to 9:45 a.m., 9:49 to 10:34 a.m., 11:27 a.m. to 12:12 p.m., and 12:16 to 1:01 p.m.
- Kimball Middle School on Friday, Jan. 25. Four sessions from 9 to 9:45 a.m., 11:27 a.m. to 12:12 p.m., 1:05 to 1:50 p.m., 1:54 to 2:39 p.m.

SPORTS

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Burlington Central sweeps basketball doubleheader

By: Jerry Fitzpatrick

The Burlington Central MLK Classic opened with four games Wednesday and the host school won two of them.

The Rockets played back-to-back games to fill an open slot in what was meant to be an eight-team lineup. They looked just as spry in a 64-37 victory over McHenry in the nightcap as they did in an earlier 73-51 win against Elgin.

Senior Patrick Mayfield scored 24 points against Elgin and poured in 37 in the first three quarters against McHenry, a bit shy of the career-high 42 points he scored against Genoa-Kingston back in November.

"It's tiring, but it's kind of mental at the same time," Mayfield said of playing consecutive varsity games at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. "My coaches were telling me it's all in your head, you can keep going, you can play defense, you can keep talking. That's just effort. It's not anything secret."

Burlington Central (13-4) raced to a 14-0 lead against McHenry (1-18), fueled by 9 points from Mayfield, who entered the doubleheader with a 27.6 point-per-game average.

Central coach Brett Porto liked the way his team handled the situation in the second game against McHenry.

"The quick start took some of the pressure off," Porto said. "We subbed quicker in and out and guys played really hard in those short spurts. I think throwing some defensive looks at them really got that lead going, then Patrick got the offense started as well."

Central likewise enjoyed a fast start against Elgin (5-14), taking leads of 18-9 after a quarter and 36-25 at the half.

Senior Trey Yarber led the Maroons with 18 points while junior guard Xavier Bonds added 15.

"We struggled to make shots and they shot about 60 percent, credit to them," Elgin coach David Hess said. "They are skilled and well coached."

Lyons Township 60, Hampshire 47: Hampshire got the test it wanted on the opening night of the Burlington Central MLK Classic but not the victory.

The Whip-Purs led the Lions 13-10 after one quarter of a game played in Central's new field house, but that lead evaporated due to a lack of rebounding.

Lyons (13-6) led 28-23 at halftime and 48-39 after three quarters.

"In the second half we kind of got beat up on the boards, so they attacked us more on the offensive glass," Hampshire coach Ben Whitehouse said. "We got it down to 6 a couple of times, then they'd get a board and a putback. They're a really, really good team. They push the ball well and have a lot of guards who can play and they're physical. We were excited when we saw them on the schedule. This will make us better in the Fox Valley (Conference). "

Junior Collin Woods led Hampshire (11-8) with 21 points, and 6-3 junior guard Jackson Millison -- who started in place of injured senior guard Kyle Johnson -- finished with 10 points.

Junior guard Grant Niego had 13 points, junior guard Michael Niedermeyer scored 12 points and 6-4 senior forward Matt Sloyan added 11 for Lyons.

Waubonsie Valley 53, Johnsburg 46: The Warriors recovered from a slow start to win their opening game at the Burlington Central MLK Classic Wednesday.

Waubonsie Valley (15-2) trailed 14-5 after a quarter and 22-7 with six minutes left in the second quarter. Then the DuPage Valley Conference co-leader got it in gear.

The Warriors outscored the Skyhawks 22-13 in the second quarter to forge a 27-27 halftime tie, thanks to stronger defense and four 3-pointers.

"We just had to change our mindset, get more aggressive and really execute on offense and the defensive end especially," said sophomore forward Ben Schwieger, who sank a second-quarter 3-pointer.

Junior Marcus Skeete led the Warriors with 21 points, while senior guard Eric Cannon made four 3-pointers and finished with 14 points.

Senior guard Zach Toussaint scored 34 points for Johnsburg (9-7) in a performance that included six 3-pointers.



• Burlington Central's Patrick Mayfield navigates through traffic against Elgin during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



• Burlington Central's Jake Lenschow, left, moves the ball against Elgin during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



• Elgin's Trey Yarber hangs on to the ball against Burlington Central during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



• Burlington Central's Kyle Moring, left, swats for the ball as Elgin's Kejuan Harvey snags a rebound during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



 Burlington Central's Kyle Moring, left, keeps the ball from Elgin's Xavier Bonds, center, and Kejuan Harvey during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



• Burlington Central's Logan Andersen, left, looks for an option under pressure from Elgin's Trey Yarber during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



• Burlington Central's Jake Lenschow, center, shoots under pressure from Elgin's Trey Yarber, left, and Jeffrey Lomax, right, during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



• Elgin's Jeffrey Lomax snags a rebound against Burlington Central during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



 Elgin's Xavier Bonds works through traffic against Burlington Central during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening



• Burlington Central's Edward Wells saves the ball from going out of bounds against Elgin during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.



• Burlington Central's Zac Schmidt, right, pursues Elgin's Z'Kwan Stewart during MLK Classic varsity boys basketball tournament action Wednesday evening.