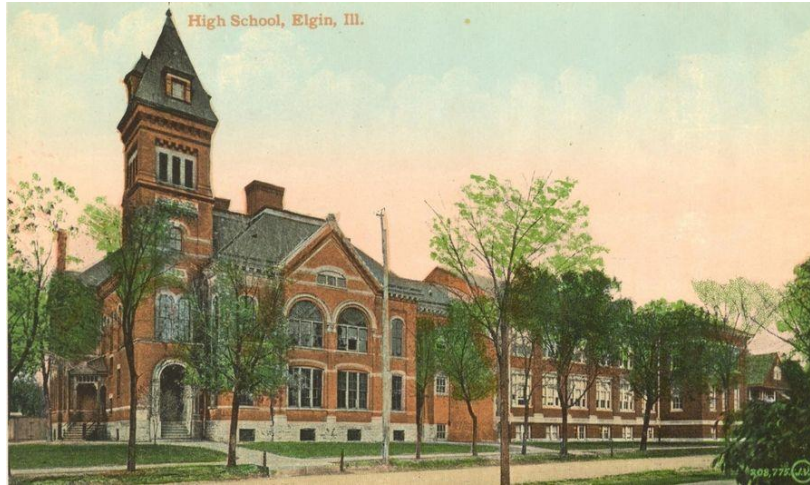


Press Clippings 04/12/2019

---Daily Herald---04/12/2019

Desegregation, diversity from the start: Elgin High marking 150 years with all-class reunion

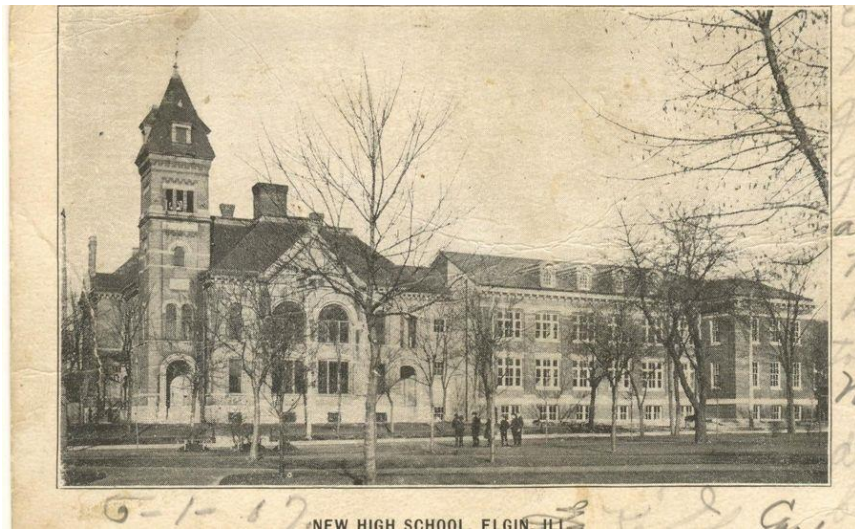
By: Madhu Krishnamurthy



Demolition of the original Elgin High School building, on the left, was delayed in 1910 because students were continually throwing snowballs at the workers. Plans called for an expansion of the new wing on the right, now Elgin Area School District U-46's administration headquarters.



Elgin High School this year marks its 150th anniversary with an alumni reunion.



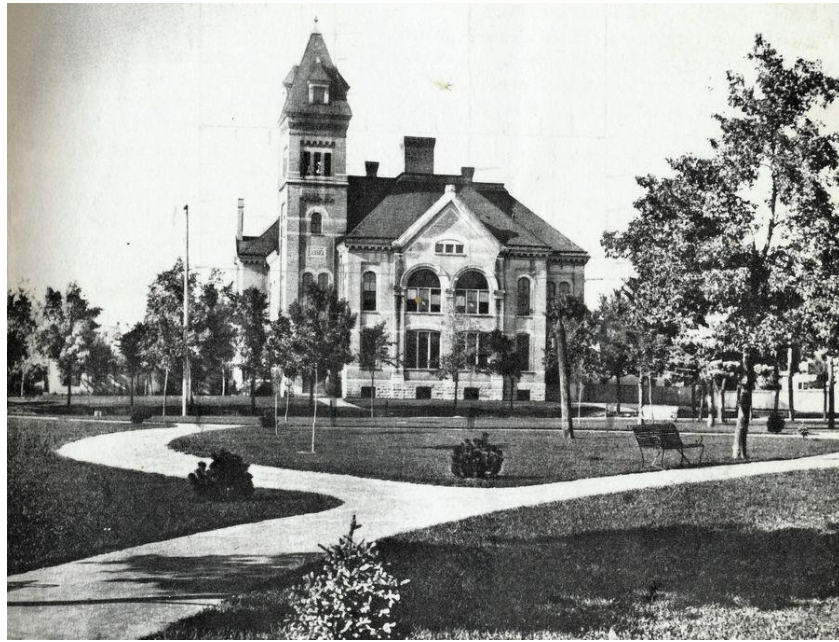
The original Elgin High School building, left, with a newer addition to the right. The older structure was demolished in 1910 and the addition became the new high school building.



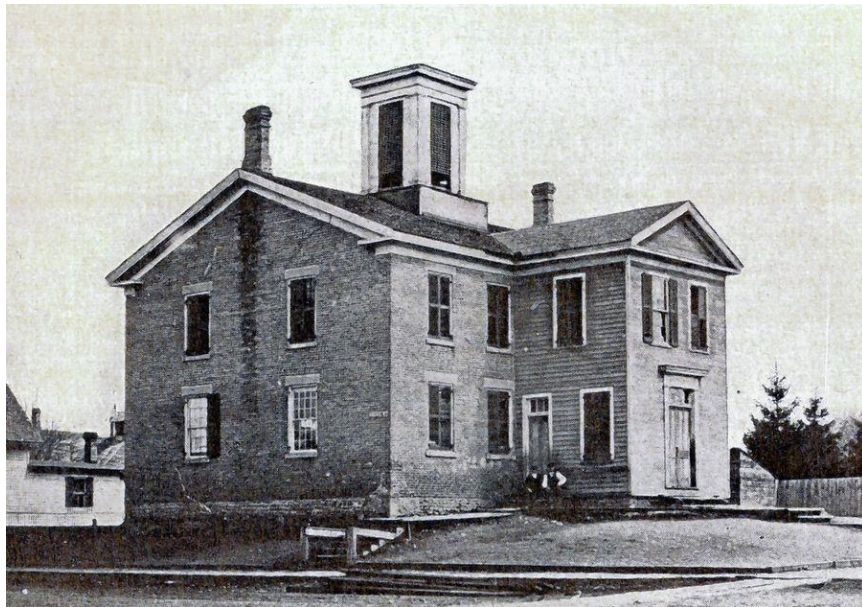
The second Elgin High School building in 1921. The building now serves as Elgin Area School District U-46's administrative headquarters.



Elgin High School students outside the gymnasium addition in 1953.



A picture of the first Elgin High School building taken around 1898. The building served EHS students between 1884 and 1910.



The "Old Brick" building at Kimball and Center streets is where Elgin High School classes were held before the first school was built in 1884.

In 150 years, Elgin High School has earned many distinctions, including embracing desegregation early on and educating a former Nobel Prize winner.

Elgin's first public high school, formed in the fall of 1869, is among Illinois' three oldest public schools and the nation's 100 oldest public high schools. Alumni, retired and current employees, and students will mark the school's anniversary with a "Sesquicentennial Celebration" Saturday.

Attendees will take a walk down memory lane during an "All-Class Reunion" and tour the former high school building at 355 E. Chicago St. -- now Elgin Area School District U-46's administrative headquarters -- and the current school at 1200 Maroon Drive, followed by a program in the school's auditorium.

Highlights include unveiling a granite marker commemorating the school's history and a special NASA presentation in the school's honor.

Education for all

Since its inception, inclusivity has been a hallmark of the school, said John Devine, Elgin High history teacher and 150th Committee chairman.

Elgin High School started with makeshift classrooms in what was known as the "Old Brick" building at Kimball and Center streets. Since then, three dedicated schools were built to house students.

The first class comprised 12 girls its first year. A rising women's movement and demand for women's education drove enrollment. Its first graduating class of 1872 had only three graduates -- all were women. The student population didn't balance out gender-wise until the 1890s.

A growing industrial economy offered jobs without a high school diploma and there was no clear four-year high school plan until 1869, Devine said.

"We've had a graduating class every year since, except 1880," Devine said. "Now, we are over 43,000 graduates since it opened."

Initially, Elgin schools were segregated after the first African Americans arrived out of slavery in 1862. A decade later, segregation ended at Elgin High.

In 1879, school staff members and students would choose Maddie Oates, who arrived with the initial group of former slaves, to be the valedictorian.

"This inclusive spirit at EHS finally worked its way into 'education for all' as the school motto in 1913," Devine said. "EHS has worked continuously to make that aspiration a reality. It's just a welcoming place."

Today, Elgin High's student population is among the most diverse within Elgin Area School District U-46 -- the state's second-largest school district.

Of its nearly 2,600 students, 74 percent are Hispanic, 10 percent are white, nearly 7 percent are black, and 5 percent are Asian. Seventy-five percent of students come from low-income backgrounds and 20 percent are English language learners, according to the [2018 Illinois Report Card](#).

Notable alumni

Inventors, novelists, actors, scientists, athletes, former Elgin public servants, and heads of prominent local and national corporations count among Elgin High's notable alumni with new names added every few years to the school's Hall of Fame.

Among them is Paul Flory, a 1927 graduate and polymer chemist who went on to earn the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1974. Flory is credited with inventing nylon and other innovative work in the field of chemistry, Devine said.

Yet, during his Elgin High days, Flory worked on the school's yearbook covering boys athletics and wasn't even among the Top 10 percent of his class. Classmates joked in the yearbook they expected him to become a "Chevy dealer," Devine said.

"He was just a teenager finding his way," said Devine, adding high school students "perhaps are distracted by the life, culture of school, and their friends and dating relationships. This doesn't spell doom for their academic futures.

"Keep in mind that these young people have a long ways to go to find their way. Graduates who have gone on to be good neighbors and good citizens are just as important as the inventors."

150: Classmates joked graduate who became a Nobel winner would be a Chevy dealer

Notable early Elgin High alumni

1876 -- Frederick Upham Adams, inventor, novelist, reformer

1883 -- Max Adler, concert violinist, vice president of Sears & Roebuck, benefactor of Adler Planetarium

1901 -- William LeBaron, playwright, movie producer of Cimarron, Academy Award winning film

1910 -- Lou North, Major League Baseball pitcher for Detroit Tigers, St. Louis Cardinals and Boston Braves

1920 -- John M. Qualen, character actor in more than 100 films and television

1923 -- James M. Roche, CEO of General Motors Corp.

1927 -- Paul F. Flory, polymer chemist and recipient of the 1974 Nobel Prize in chemistry

1932 -- William M. Brandes, vice president of Elgin National Watch Co.

1935 -- William E. Rauschenberger, mayor of Elgin (1971-1975)

1945 -- Charles "Chick" Peterson, world class watercolor artist

1946 -- Charles E. Swanson, president of Encyclopaedia Britannica

1949 -- John "Jack" S. Shales and Marlene "Kane" Shales, philanthropists and civic leaders

1951 -- Douglas B. Nash, NASA geologist, California Institute of Technology, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Division of Space Sciences

1951 -- John W. Teets, CEO, Greyhound, Dial and Armour

1960 -- Sara Melissa Hart, Miss Elgin 1962, Second City alum and lead in traveling production of "Cabaret," Tony Award-nominated actress

1962 -- Tom W. Shales, television critic for Washington Post and 1988 Pulitzer Prize for Criticism

1963 -- Brian Oldfield, Olympic shot putter and world record holder

For a comprehensive list of notable alumni, visit u-46.org.

U-46 schools marking anniversaries this month

Three Elgin Area School District U-46 schools will mark milestone anniversaries with a party, a reunion and an open house this month.

Bartlett Elementary Bartlett Elementary School celebrates its 90th anniversary in its building, 111 E. North Ave., Bartlett, with a "Spring Fling" from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday. The evening includes a canvas painting opportunity, raffle and silent auction, bingo games, announcement of winner in the "Then & Now" video and poster contests, and a "celebration room" with school memorabilia. Visit u-46.org.

Elgin High Elgin High School alumni and retired employees can attend an "All-Class Reunion" Saturday as part of celebrations to mark the school's 150th anniversary. Current Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, and the previous school building -- now, the district's Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago St. -- will be open for visits, noon to 1:30 p.m. Attendees will gather at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the current Elgin High for a free program. Highlights include the school symphonic band performing an original composition by Elgin High band director Robert Sanchez, the school choir singing "Alma Mater," and refreshments like those consumed by the first graduating class -- strawberries and cream -- along with cake and other goodies. There will be a special NASA presentation in the school's honor and tables organized by graduation year or decade in the field house and commons areas. For information u-46.org/elgin150.

Channing Memorial Channing Memorial Elementary School is participating in the third annual Open Elgin event celebrating the architecture and history of "The City in the Suburbs." This school year, Channing marks its 50th year serving students. The school, 63 S. Channing St., Elgin, was built in 1968 on the northwest corner of a former cemetery at Channing and Fulton streets. On April 27, the school will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. for free tours led by students. A presentation in the multipurpose room and a craft activity for children are planned. Visit [Open Elgin](http://OpenElgin).

Source: Elgin Area School District U-46

Elgin U-46 teachers to review tentative contract next week

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy



Members of the Elgin Teachers Association will get their first look next week at a tentative agreement on a new teachers contract. The Elgin Area School District U-46 board could vote on the deal May 6.

Members of the Elgin Teachers Association will get their first look next week at a tentative agreement on a new teachers contract.

The union board will review the agreement Monday before presenting it to the union's Representative Assembly on Wednesday. Informational documents about the agreement will be posted around this time on the [ETA website](#).

"The work is far from done," ETA President Barbara Bettis wrote in an email to members. "I know there are a number of questions that members currently have and many of them are focused around when our membership will finally get a look at the final product from the work our bargaining team has done."

Last week, the Elgin Area School District U-46 administration and union announced "significant progress" reaching a tentative agreement on compensatory items -- salary, health insurance, retirement and rates of pay -- and issues related to early learners, parent-teacher conferences, safety, professional development, technology, supervision and support systems for behavioral needs.

Several informational sessions on the tentative agreement are planned for later this month -- April 22, 24, 25, 26 and 29. Times and locations are yet to be determined.

"In addition, we will have opportunities for members to reach out to our leadership team to answer questions regarding the tentative agreement," Bettis wrote.

A general membership vote is scheduled for April 30. If ratified, the deal will go before the U-46 school board for a vote May 6.

The district's more than 2,400 teachers have been working without a contract since the previous one-year extension expired Aug. 10.

---The Courier-News---04/12/2019

A school across the generations

As Elgin High celebrates its 150th anniversary, families look back at their experiences

By Rafael Guerrero



Both Shakira Acosta and her father Ricardo have attended Elgin High School. Shakira is a junior at the school, while Ricardo graduated in 1996.



Elgin High School on Maroon Drive replaced its Gifford Street school building in 1972

Over the course of 150 years, more than 43,000 people have graduated from Elgin High School — starting with three female students in 1872 in the first graduating class to more than 460 expected to receive diplomas this spring.

In many cases, especially in the years before Elgin became a Chicago suburb, generations of families went through the school.

“Our story is not unique,” said Tom Stewart, of Elgin, whose family ties to the school date back to the late 1880s.

This past year, Elgin High School has been celebrating its 150th anniversary with myriad events that will culminate Saturday with an all-class reunion. As the milestone

year draws to a close, three families with generational ties to the school reflected on their time there as students, graduates, parents of graduates and employees.

The Stewart family



Scott Stewart, from left, his mother, Karen, and father, Tom, stand with a cutout of “Aunt Norma,” a descendant who graduated from Elgin High School in 1919. Scott Stewart did not graduate from Elgin but is a teacher at the school.

Scott Stewart’s family has had members attend Elgin High School going back to the 1880s. His great-grandfather, Edwin E. Stewart, graduated in 1890; his grandfather, Edwin W. Stewart, graduated in 1930; and his parents, Tom and Karen, graduated in 1971 and 1972, respectively. His great-aunt Norma Stewart — whose portrait is the unofficial face of the school’s 150th anniversary celebration — graduated in 1919.

It was Scott Stewart who broke the tradition. By the time he was ready to head to high school, construction on Larkin High School was finished and he lived within the new school’s boundaries.

“(My parents) would always be talking about the old days at Elgin,” Scott Stewart said. “I always thought that was kind of cool. And then I got older and realized I wouldn’t be going there.”

Eventually, he did make it to the school — as a teacher and coach rather than a student. He’s worked there for 12 years, and has gained a new appreciation for the school’s historic significance, he said.

His aunt Norma went by the nickname he has — “Stew” — and participated in basketball and volleyball, sports he has coached.

Tom and Karen Stewart met and began dating in high school. Their classes were the last two to graduate from the old high school on Gifford Street. The current Elgin High building on Maroon Drive opened in 1972.

“All I know is we were glad to graduate from the old high school,” Karen Stewart said.

Tom Stewart said he was a student at the school for the last milestone anniversary — its centennial in 1969. At the time, he didn't fully appreciate the significance of celebrating 100 years.

Scott Stewart said he sees the same situation today.

"The kids can't grasp what 150 years ago is," he said. "One hundred years ago, women couldn't even vote, we were just getting out of World War I. The Civil War had only been over for five years."

The Jensens and Kirklands

Pamela Jensen graduated from Elgin High in 1960 and her two brothers, Alfred and James Kirkland, did the same in 1962 and 1966. Their grandparents and parents as well as her husband and children are also alumni.

"It's kind of in our blood," said Jensen, 77, who became the 16th Judicial Circuit's first female judge in 1987.

Jensen attended the old school but her children went to the Maroon Drive building in the 1980s and 1990s. She regrets her offspring never witnessed the "rolling" floors of the Gifford Street building, which were warped by overuse and temperature changes.

"To us, it was wonderful they had a new building, it was a beautiful building," Jensen said. "But it was bittersweet for us for them not to go to (the same school as their parents). But they were bursting out of the seams at the old place."

By the time her children were in school, things were greatly different in terms of building security, she said. Where once there was freedom on campus and the ability to come and go, a police officer was stationed at the school by the time her youngest child graduated in 1993.

Back when Elgin was a smaller place, high school sports were the center of town life and no one missed a football or basketball game, Jensen said.

When Larkin opened in the 1960s, an inter-city rivalry sprung up. She saw it from both perspectives when she taught at Larkin from 1965 to 1967.

"Sports was very central to the existence of when I was in high school," she said.

The Elgin High School connection ended with Jensen's children, who now live elsewhere. She moved as well, relocating to Geneva.

The Acosta family

While some Elgin families' roots don't go as deep as others, that doesn't make their experiences at Elgin High School any less significant, said Ricardo Acosta, who graduated from the school in 1996 and now has a daughter, 17-year-old Shakira, who's a junior there.

Acosta said he drew her a map for her first day of school, believing the building was unchanged from two decades earlier.

“In middle school she would get lost,” he said. “By the time she came home, she told me about how you said there was a classroom here but it’s not. That map was completely useless.”

Shakira said she likes that there are familial connections to the school.

“It’s interesting to know that there’s a lot of families that have the same experiences,” she said. “When we look back at our high school educations, we’re going to realize we have a lot of the same things.”

Ricardo Acosta was an English as a Second Language student, learning English while taking core classes in Spanish. At the time, Latino students made up about one-third of the enrollment. In 2018-19, the number’s closer to three-quarters.

Because of the language barrier, Acosta said he often felt separated from the rest of the student body but his daughter isn’t having that experience. She’s embraced school life and is involved in numerous clubs and activities, including National Honors Society and Model United Nations.

Shakira said she thinks the current generation of students is more welcoming, the student body “more intertwined.”

Gang activity was a predominant security concern during Ricardo Acosta’s high school days, but that’s gone down significantly, Shakira said.

“But now, personally, I don’t know if I’d feel safe,” Ricardo Acosta said. It’s a different world, one where fears of building threats and armed intruders have become the norm, he said.

SPORTS

---Daily Herald---04/12/2019

Baseball: St. Edward's Mandarinino no-hits Streamwood

Daily Herald Reports



Joey Mandarinino, St. Edward baseball

Joey Mandarinino threw a no-hitter to lead St. Edward past Streamwood 9-0 in a nonconference game at Wing Park in Elgin Thursday.

Mandarinino (2-0) won his second straight start by limiting the Sabres to three baserunners on a walk, a hit batsman and an error. The senior right-hander struck out five.

Mike Lopez doubled and drove in a run and Joe Sacco knocked in a pair in the fifth straight victory for St. Edward (6-7), which scored 7 first-inning runs. Scott Wolfard took the loss for Streamwood (5-6).

Hampshire 4, Jacobs 0: Indiana State-bound right-hander Matt Jachec struck out 10 in a Fox Valley Conference 1-hitter. The lone hit for Jacobs (5-8, 2-4) was a third-inning single from Andrew Balkcom. Caden Pyszka drove in 2 runs for Hampshire (7-5, 2-4).

St. Charles North 3, Wheaton North 2: A Kevin White walk-off single in the bottom of the seventh lifted the North Stars in DuKane Conference play. Johnny Lambert earned the win for St. Charles North (8-4, 3-0). He limited Wheaton North (5-6-1, 0-3) to a hit in 3½ innings with 4 strikeouts.

Glenbard North 6, St. Charles East 5: Nine hits, including two apiece from Ben Testo and Drew Parrine, and home runs by Kyle Hayes and Cole Conn were not enough to rescue St. Charles East (7-2-1, 2-1) from a 5-run deficit in the DuKane Conference. Conner Dunfee suffered the loss in 3⅔ innings of work.

Harvest Christian Academy 13, Westminster Christian 3: The Lions scored 5 runs in the bottom of the fifth to complete a 2-game sweep in the Northeastern Athletic Conference. Gil Duran tripled and drove in a run and Jack McMahon finished 2-for-2 with a walk and 2 runs for Harvest Christian Academy (9-2, 6-0). McMahon held the Warriors to an unearned run in 3 innings to earn the win. Frankie Schlaffer drove in a run for Westminster Christian (1-4, 1-3).

Kaneland 7, Morris 2: A 5-run first inning propelled the Knights in this Northern Illinois Big XII East rubber game. Dalton Askew singled, walked and drove in a pair. Winning pitcher Nic Panico struck out 10, walked 4 and held Morris (9-4, 1-2) to 2 hits. Angel Acevedo struck out 2 in 2 innings to earn the save for Kaneland (9-6, 2-1).

Crystal Lake South 3, Cary-Grove 1: Dominic Guzman did not allow a hit in $5\frac{2}{3}$ innings, issued 5 walks and struck out 9, and Nick DiBenedetto struck out 3 to earn a $1\frac{1}{3}$ -inning save in the Fox Valley Conference. Evan Jewson doubled and Kyle Hetherington (RBI) tripled for CL South (8-3, 4-3). Ethan Estes took the loss on the mound for Cary-Grove (8-4, 2-2).

Marmion, 4, Brother Rice 4 (suspended): The Cadets and Crusaders were suspended due to darkness after eight innings in Chicago. The Chicago Catholic League crossover resumes Friday at 4:30 p.m.

Softball: West Aurora storms back against Bartlett

By Kevin McGavin

Gabi Nilles was looking strictly for location in the bottom of the fifth inning Thursday afternoon in Aurora.

The West Aurora junior delivered in key fashion, pulling a two-out hard single to right field to score Shai Erdrich and Mackenzie Pierce to break a slugfest tie with Bartlett in an Upstate Eight Conference softball game.

Nilles' sharp grounder provided the Blackhawks with their only lead of the game as Gab Drager pitched the final five innings in relief to earn a 13-11 victory.

Drager also starred at the plate, going 4-for-4 as both teams finished the league contest with 15 hits apiece.

"Pull is my strong side," said Nilles, a left-handed batter. "I was just waiting until she gave me the pitch I wanted. I went up there knowing I was looking for a low, middle-in pitch. I go up there confident hitting down in the count."

It was a difficult loss for Bartlett (1-11, 1-2) to stomach.

The Hawks sent 19 batters to the plate in the first two innings alone.

But their 10-2 lead after the top of the second was a distant memory as Drager allowed a mere unearned run in her five-inning stint for West Aurora (7-5, 3-0).

"Right now we're struggling to close out games," Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith said. "This is the third or fourth game that we have been ahead. We were hitting."

The Hawks had 10 runs on an equal number of hits against West Aurora starter Eternity Gonzales, who was coming off a perfect game against Glenbard East.

Lizzie Jacoby, Charlotte Linnartz, Riley Scrivner, Erika Rosberg and Nicole Young all had extra-base hits for Bartlett during its early onslaught.

Young capped the Hawks' seven-run second with a triple down into the right-center gap that scored Rosberg and Emily Baggot.

"It's been a struggle lately hitting-wise, so it was nice to put the ball in play," Young said. "It felt good to have a lead over the other team. We played a lot better today; our energy was up a lot more."

But West Aurora would strike back with a vengeance in its half of the third.

Sara Archer had a run-scoring double in the second to whet the Blackhawks' batting appetite.

The Blackhawks erupted for 7 runs in the third.

Riley Mont, Nilles and Archer had a double and back-to-back singles in a three-batter sequence to score 4 of the runs.

West Aurora eventually tied the game at 10-10 in its third at-bat when the Hawks' catcher missed home plate on a bases-loaded comebacker to her batterymate.

"After 10-2, just win the innings," West Aurora coach Randy Hayslett said of his message. "I knew we had a chance when we cut it to 10-5, 10-6. Gab did a great job coming in. We made a few errors, kicking the ball around. That was uncharacteristic."