

Press Clippings 10/15/2018

---Daily Herald ---10/15/2018

Are schools teaching students enough about sexual consent?

Madhu Krishnamurthy



• **Jackson Teetor, 17, a senior at Larkin High School in Elgin and student adviser to the Elgin Area School District U-46 school board, is urging district officials to step up education about sexual consent in schools.** *Brian Hill | Staff Photographer*

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A growing national #MeToo movement and furor over the controversial confirmation of Brett M. Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court after an accusation of sexual assault in high

school have sparked questions about whether schools teach students enough about sexual consent.

Kavanaugh's case -- in which he denied the allegation by Christine Blasey Ford that he sexually assaulted her when the two were in high school -- hits close to home for many teens. Some say adults shouldn't be quick to dismiss youthful indiscretions, that schools need to teach what constitutes sexual consent, and that there should be harsher consequences for those who commit sexual offenses.

"As I was watching the (Senate) hearings, one defense of the candidate I heard many times, both on social media and from elected representatives, is that it was OK because the alleged assaults took place in high school," said Jackson Teetor, 17, a senior at Larkin High School in Elgin. "As a high schooler, I find it horrifying that anyone could be so quick to dismiss any act like this because the perpetrator was in high school. I want to be held accountable for my actions and I want my peers to be held accountable."

Teetor, student adviser to the Elgin Area School District U-46 school board, challenged officials at the state's second-largest school district to make it clear sexual violence will not be tolerated and to raise more awareness about consent.

"In my entire high school career, my school has not had any mandatory education on consent, appropriate conduct, or how to report inappropriate incidents," he said. "All of my education has been from outside sources: parents, books, videos online. There is really no centralized curriculum on what we should be teaching ... so we don't all agree on what is and what isn't consent."

More awareness

According to The Center for American Progress, 24 states and the District of Columbia mandate sex education in public schools. Ten states and the District of Columbia require sexual consent to be taught as part of sex education classes -- state laws and education standards mention "healthy relationships," "sexual assault," or "consent" in sex education programs, the center reported.

In August, Illinois became the latest to require education about sexual consent -- parties agree to engage in sexual activity. Students in sixth through 12th grades now must be taught about sexual harassment in the workplace and on college campuses, and how to identify sexual harassment or sexual assault at work or at school as part of the curriculum. Previous instruction focused on teaching students about not making or how to reject unwanted sexual advances, usually left to the teachers' discretion.

The #MeToo movement and cases like Kavanaugh accentuate the need for schools to have more conversations about how to prevent sexual assaults, says Brenda Nelson, health and wellness coordinator at Libertyville High School.

"There is definitely a lot more conversation and awareness than there has been in the past," said Nelson, who has been working on mental health issues in schools for 17 years.

Last spring, the school launched the [Green Dot program](#) aimed at empowering members of the school community to intervene in situations of interpersonal violence.

"It provides a schoolwide approach to really changing the culture around those three areas of interpersonal violence: bullying, dating violence and sexual assault," Nelson said.

Roughly 95 percent of the school's adults have received training through the program. By December, Nelson expects about 150 of the school's nearly 2,000 students who are "influencers" in their social spheres also will be trained.

More victim support

Milka Cassandra Deinla, 17, of Schaumburg, a junior at St. Edward Central Catholic High School in Elgin, said most students her age don't have an understanding of what constitutes consent.

"They understand rape, but they don't understand what leads up to it," she said. "I think schools need to teach that more than anything."

Deinla said the #MeToo movement has instilled confidence in students to speak up. Yet, sexual assault victims need to feel safe coming forward to report assaults and receive support from school counselors, she added.

Teetor advocates an anonymous tip line for reporting sexual assaults -- something U-46 officials might consider along with reviewing policies and curriculum on sex education.

West Aurora High School senior Bianca Gomez, 17, calls for harsher punishment for perpetrators and more support for victims.

Gomez referenced the 2016 conviction of Brock Turner, the former Stanford University swimmer sentenced to six months in jail for sexually assaulting an unconscious woman, as an example of inadequate penalties. Turner was convicted on three felony charges of sexual assault stemming from the January 2015 assault of a 22-year-old woman after she had blacked out from drinking at a campus party. Turner was 19 at the time.

"People have gotten off with barely any punishment," Gomez said.

Gomez is a member of the school's Above the Influence club, which encourages students to be above the influence of drinking and drugs. She said similar support groups are needed for victims of sexual assault "to get more support rather than hate."

SPORTS SECTION

---The Courier-News---10/14/2018

Football Larkin 52, Elgin 14 Garcia good to go



Senior scores 3 TDs as the Royals top the Maroons in Town Jug game
Larkin's Angel Garcia, right, runs past Elgin's Alex West on Friday. Garcia rushed for two touchdowns and caught a TD pass. (Jon Langham/Courier-News Photos) Larkin quarterback Jaxon Aubry delivers a swing pass against Elgin.

By Paul Johnson The Courier-News

Larkin's Angel Garcia knew all about the Elgin-Larkin rivalry last winter when he transferred from St. Edward.

The senior running back played in his first Town Jug game Friday night, and he was one of the main reasons the Royals came out with a 52-14 Upstate Eight win.

Garcia had 14 carries for 179 yards and touchdowns of 52 and 30 yards. He also caught two passes, including a 30-yard TD.

"I came to a couple Elgin-Larkin games," Garcia said. "I knew it was going to be fun. It always is. There's always a big crowd for this game. There was a little something extra that we had to prove."

Garcia scored the first two TDs as Larkin (4-4, 4-4) built a 17-6 lead in the second quarter.

He then slammed the door with his final TD on a 30-yard run to complete Larkin's 35-point fourth quarter.

"Angel had an incredible game," Larkin coach Jason Aubry said. "Angel is a tough kid. He's been sick all week. He's a warrior."

Despite the lopsided final score, Elgin (2-6, 2-6) put a scare into Larkin in the third quarter.

Xavier Bonds' 1-yard TD run and a 2-point conversion cut the deficit to 17-14. Elgin's first TD was a 62-yard pass from Jordan West to his brother Alex in the second quarter. Larkin rolled from there, however.

Jaxon Aubry found Jahari Stubbs, who had been contained the first three quarters, for a 36-yard TD to push the lead to 24-14.

On Elgin's next play, a bad snap wound up in the end zone and Larkin's Kaydin Clark landed on the ball. Suddenly, it was 38-14 with 10:41 to go.

"I think that really turned the game around for us," Garcia said. "It gave us a bigger gap. I think that helped the offense a lot."

Larkin didn't back off, either. Jaxon Aubry delivered a 6-yard TD run and he found Stubbs again for a 37-yard TD before Garcia closed the scoring.

The win sets up Larkin's must-win showdown in the final regular-season game against unbeaten Glenbard East. Springing an upset would send the Royals to the postseason for the first time since 2006.

"That's where we're at," Jason Aubry said. "We're good to go. It's going to be a fight. I told the kids to take care of business (Friday), and we'll take care of business next week. "We have to do it in practice all week and bring it Friday night."

Paul Johnson is a freelance reporter for The Courier-News.

Boys soccer notes

Midfielder Garcia boosts Bartlett



Bartlett's Hernan Garcia, left, shoots while being defended by Downers Grove North's Adam Kukielski on Thursday. (Mike Mantucca/Courier-News)

By Patrick Z. McGavin The Courier-News

Bartlett junior Hernan Garcia gets a thrill out of his ability to move interchangeably from offense to defense.

Garcia, a three-year varsity starter, excels as a hybrid player — as a defensive midfielder. His responsibility is to play in the space between the midfield and the defensive third. The demanding role is complex, requiring a special skill set, and Garcia sacrifices his own scoring to help the Hawks possess the ball.

He plays the ball out wide to attacking midfielders or forwards to ignite the attack.

He has totaled six assists for the Hawks, playing a crucial role as the team has rebounded from a slow start.

Bartlett is 4-2-3 over its last nine games.

"My role is to try to create the play," Garcia said. "I like to play very fast and be very skillful with my game. The most important part is setting the tempo. I want to play very aggressive and physical defense and really push the ball."

The rest of the team plays off of that energy.

In a position where offense and defense blend together, Garcia stands out with his performance.

"Hernan is a pure competitor," Bartlett co-coach Vince Revak said.

"He has never backed down from a challenge, and he is always willing to try new positions or strategies to improve his game.

"He involves himself with the game and actively finds the ball instead of waiting for the play to develop."

Garcia developed his passion for soccer as a youngster. He started playing in organized youth leagues when he was just 4. What he has always loved is the spontaneity of the game.

"Whenever you go out there, you never know what the outcome of the game is going to be," Garcia said. "You just go out and play hard and fast."

The 5-foot-8 Garcia has the perfect size for the position. He's a quick and shifty player who has shown a knack for being in the middle of the action.

"He is infinitely coachable, and is often asking how he can improve," Revak said of Garcia. "What is really noticeable is when he is not on the field, especially in highly competitive games. We are very glad he is still a junior."

Streaking: The Class 3A Streamwood Regional has turned into the most interesting of the Hampshire Sectional.

Top-seeded Elgin, which was placed in the Huntley Regional, remains the team to beat. But Larkin is peaking at the right time.

Omar Lopez scored two goals on Sept. 5 in Elgin's 2-1 victory over Larkin. The loss started a four-game losing streak for the Royals.

That was then.

Larkin upset West Aurora 4-2 on Wednesday to run its 9-0-1 unbeaten streak to 10 games.

The Royals (12-5-3) are making their case as the toughest 10th seed in 3A. Larkin's 2-2 tie with second-seeded Streamwood on Sept. 26 is the only blemish during the Royals' recent run.

Larkin also has posted wins over quality programs in Oak Park and Mundelein.

Streamwood plays the winner of Harlem and Rockford Jefferson at 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, followed by Larkin's regional semifinal game with Belvidere North.

Leading scorer: How prolific has Omar Lopez been this season for Elgin? He has more goals than the rest of his team combined.

Lopez has 35 of the 66 goals scored by the Maroons, who are riding a 13-game unbeaten streak by going 11-0-2. Lopez also has 10 assists, totaling 80 points for the conference champions. The only Elgin-area player close to Lopez is St. Edward midfielder Joshua Johansen, who has 67 points on 27 goals and 13 assists.

Patrick Z. McGavin is a freelance reporter.

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Larkin pulls away from Elgin in 4th quarter **Jerry Fitzpatrick**



Larkin's Travis Farley celebrates with the town jug after a win over Elgin at Memorial Field in Elgin Friday night. Patrick Kunzer | Staff Photographer
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Larkin started the postgame homecoming fireworks early in a 52-14 victory over Elgin at Memorial Field on Friday.

The home of the traveling Town Jug trophy for the next year was still very much in doubt entering the fourth quarter with Larkin nursing a 17-14 lead.

The Royals put all debate to rest by scoring three times in a 2:38 span and 5 touchdowns in the fourth quarter to retain the Town Jug.

Larkin running back Angel Garcia rushed for 162 yards and 2 touchdowns on 9 carries and the senior caught a 30-yard screen pass for a score from quarterback Jaxon Aubry. The senior completed 11 of 19 attempts for 197 yards and 3 touchdowns, including a pair of scoring strikes to senior Jahari Stubbs.

"I think we just kept focusing. We didn't give up," Garcia said. "We knew we were a better team the whole game. We just kept focusing and gave it everything we've got."

The victory keeps the Royals' playoff hopes alive. To qualify, Larkin (4-4, 4-4) must win next week at Memorial Field against Upstate Eight Conference leader Glenbard East (8-0, 8-0).

"We are in a position to put ourselves in the playoffs next week," Larkin acting coach Jason Aubry said. "It's a huge week next week. It's a playoff game."

Larkin led the UEC contest 17-6 at halftime but Elgin (2-6, 2-6) drew within 3 points on its first possession of the second half.

The Maroons drove 65 yards in 8 plays, keyed by a 46-yard pass from Jordan West to junior Xavier Bonds, who wore No. 4 to honor teammate Brandon Bridges, a junior who missed the game with a knee injury. Bonds capped the drive with a 1-yard plunge on fourth-and-goal. Darien Jackson caught a 2-point conversion pass from West to trim the deficit to 17-14.

It was all Larkin thereafter.

The Royals responded 3 possessions later by driving 56 yards in 4 plays. Aubry connected with Stubbs on a 36-yard touchdown pass with 10:53 remaining.

The Royals scored on defense 12 seconds later. Elgin was backed up to the end zone when a high shotgun snap went over West's head. Larkin sophomore Kaydin Clark pounced on the loose ball near the end line for a touchdown and Adrian Jaramillo's extra point staked the Royals to a 31-14 advantage.

"The ball was just bouncing so I dove on it and got a touchdown," Clark said. "I was happy. It was my first touchdown on defense and my first touchdown of the year."

After Elgin turned the ball over on downs at midfield, Garcia ran for 32 yards to the 18 and Aubry capped the march with a pair of keepers, including a 6-yard touchdown run that made it 38-14 with 8:15 to play.

Elgin was limited to 219 total yards, 52 on the ground. Bonds led the way with 51 rushing yards and 5 catches for 80 yards.

"We all wanted it, but I don't think we wanted it more than them," Bonds said. "We thought we were going to be able to compete with them but they came back and scored. I mean, we got a couple of stops but we just didn't convert on the offensive side. It's been hard to convert on the offensive side all year."

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Bartlett storms back to knock off South Elgin

Jerry Fitzpatrick

First awarded in 2017, it's a handsome trophy with a square base and a metal bell on top.

Well, it used to have a metal bell on top anyway.

At some point during the frenzied celebration of Bartlett's 30-25, come-from-behind road victory -- which snapped South Elgin's five-game series winning streak -- the bell snapped off.

"We broke the streak and we broke the bell," smiling Bartlett receiver Nick Mansk said in the postgame locker room. "It got very chaotic out there."

Mansk broke South Elgin's back. His 6-yard touchdown reception from quarterback Jonah O'Brien with 52 seconds remaining capped the Bartlett comeback.

Trailing 19-12 since halftime, the Hawks scored 3 fourth-quarter touchdowns and took the lead for good on the O'Brien-Mansk connection, which was lethal all game long. Mansk finished with 13 receptions for 160 yards and 3 touchdowns.

"He just stepped up," O'Brien said of the 6-foot-3 senior receiver. "The corners were off so we said, 'You know what? We're going to throw him the ball and get him in a rhythm.' He's a helluva player so get him the ball."

South Elgin (6-2, 6-2 Upstate Eight) was pinned at its 2-yard line on the ensuing kickoff when the returner's knee touched the ground. The Storm ran four plays but could only reach their own 39-yard line before the clock ran out and the Bartlett sideline erupted in celebration.

"Every kid, every one in the program, was all in," first-year Bartlett coach Matt Erlenbaugh said after his team improved to 6-2 and clinched the program's first playoff berth since 2015. "They were fighting. There was a lot of adversity throughout the game. Every single one of them -- I don't care if they didn't play a snap -- they were in that game and it was all the kids."

South Elgin held a 19-6 lead late in the second quarter but a series of mistakes doomed the Storm. They allowed a 55-yard touchdown reception by Mansk with 8 seconds left in the half while playing Cover-2 man defense. That trimmed the South Elgin lead to 19-12.

The Storm offense stumbled repeatedly after halftime, committing turnovers on 4 of 6 second-half possessions. They lost the turnover battle 5-2 and the third of 4 lost fumbles allowed Bartlett to drive to the 7-yard line.

The good news? The South Elgin defense held in that instance to maintain a 1-point lead, turning Bartlett away on downs with a fourth-and-1 stop at the 7-yard line.

The bad news for the Storm came 3 plays later when Jakob Johnson was intercepted by Bartlett's Jack Wallace at the 12-yard line. The senior outside linebacker returned the pick for a touchdown that gave the Hawks their first lead, 24-19, with 3:21 left in the game.

"I didn't even know what was happening but I caught it," Wallace said of his first career interception. "It was just so amazing. It hit my hands and I just took off."

South Elgin wasted little time regaining the lead. Quarterback Azxavier Salinas hit Patrick Noworol with a 34-yard pass. That set up a 36-yard touchdown throw to Shiking Marshall, a two-way standout who in the first quarter returned an interception 97 yards for a touchdown. The scoring reception gave South Elgin a 25-24 lead, though the 2-point conversion pass failed.

"I knew I could beat their safety one on one," Marshall said. "I just told my quarterback he had to watch me. He made a great read on it so I just made a play."

O'Brien got the ball back with 2:01 remaining and led the Hawks down the field for the winning score. The Bartlett offense covered 72 yards in 7 plays, highlighted by a 22-yard reception by junior Matt Young and a 20-yard run from O'Brien, who found Mansk inside the goal-line pylon for the go-ahead touchdown.

"We just trust each other," Mansk said of his mojo with O'Brien.

The Storm gained 347 yards to Bartlett's 348, but losing the turnover battle was too much to overcome. That wasn't the only issue.

"We couldn't tackle, we didn't play well on special teams, we didn't play well on defense, we didn't play well on offense," first-year South Elgin coach Dragan Teonic said. "They beat us. They deserved to win the game."

"I'm really disappointed. I thought we prepared well. I thought we did a good job of keeping the kids focused on the game and not reading into the moment too much, but we just did everything we could to give them this game. Everything we could."