Issuance of bonds authorized by vote See Page 2

More road salt on way for village use See Page 5

Annual ISBE report card not kind to Dist. U-46

By Seth Hancock

The annual report card on schools was recently released by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), and School District U-46 continued to see generally flat or declining academic results that lag behind the state.

Included this year was a new test, the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), given to third through eighth graders. U-46 came in 10 points behind the state average in English, 28 percent meeting or exceeding expectations compared to 38 percent from the

state, and five points behind in math, 27 percent compared to 32 percent.

On the SAT, taken by high school juniors, the district saw 27 percent of students meeting or exceeding expectations in English, which is 10 points behind the state (37 percent) and a drop in U-46 from 2018 (29 percent) and 2017 (32 percent). There was the same 10-point gap between U-46 and the state in math (25 percent U-46, 35 percent state) and a drop from 28 per-

cent in 2018 and 29 percent in 2017. The average SAT score has steadily

declined each year in U-46 with a total of 979.4 in 2017, 969 in 2018 and 945.6 in 2019. The state average score was 1,015.9 in 2017, 1,007.1 in 2018 and 994.5 in 2019.

The science assessment measures a test "given to students enrolled in grades 5 and 8" and at high school "the assessment is course-based and corresponds to the content of Biology I," according to the ISBE. U-46 had 36 percent proficiency in 2019, down from 38 percent last year and 42 percent in 2017, and the state was at 49 percent proficiency this year and 51 percent the previous two years.

On the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment, a test given to cognitively disabled students, U-46 had 12 percent at target and 0 percent advanced in English (dropping year to year from 34 percent in 2015), 9 percent at target or advanced in math (up from 8 and 7 percent the previous two years but down from 13 percent in 2016 and 14 percent in 2015) and 4 percent at target and 0 percent advanced in science (same as last year, the first year of science data).

The state outperformed the district on the DLM in both English (17 percent at target or advanced) and science (10 percent at target or advanced) and matched the 9 percent in math.

Freshmen deemed on track did rise from 81 percent in 2017 and 2018 to 84.3 percent, but it remains behind the state's average of 86.6 percent and 87 percent in 2017 and 2018. Both U-46 and the state were at 82 percent in 2016 while 2015 was the last time U-46 was ahead of the state, 85 percent to 83

U-46's four-year graduation rate dropped from 84 percent to 83 percent which was behind the state's 86 percent, which was an uptick from 85 percent the previous year. The dropout rate has doubled in both U-46 and the state average, both going from 2 percent to 4 percent.

Average daily student attendance was 93.2 percent in U-46 and 94 percent for the state, and the numbers have remained generally consistent since 2015 for both.

Chronic absenteeism, missing at least 10 percent of days, dropped from 21 percent to 20 percent, behind the state average of 18 percent. Chronically truant, missing at least 5 percent without valid excuse, was at 20 percent behind 13.4 percent for the state and up from 14 percent in 2018, 12 percent in 2017, 9 percent in 2016 and 6 percent in 2015 for the district.

Village renews contract for food inspections

By Kristin Carreno

During the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Nov. 7, trustees voted unanimously to approve a resolution authorizing the renewal of an intergovernmental agreement with the Cook County Department of Public Health for the provision of environmental inspectional services. The annual cost of \$26,000 is reimbursed to the village.

According to Community Development Director John Peterson, the village has contracted with Cook County Department of Public Health to provide sanitation inspections for food service and retail food establish-

"This is the annual contract for our

food inspections," said Peterson. "We've been contracted with Cook County for over 25 years and they've done an excellent service for us."

Currently the village has about 130 food establishments including schools which require these inspections twice per year, Peterson said.

"I'm happy to say that the cost per inspection is the same as the last couple of years," Peterson said.

The cost is \$100 per inspection, according to Peterson. Each establishment is charged \$110 per inspection to cover the direct cost to the county and the village administrative fee.

"The cost is reimbursed by charges on the business licenses of the establishments," Peterson added.

District U-46 approves latest of tax levy hikes

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved of a nearly \$10 million increase in the property tax levy, the maximum allowed under the law, without any discussion or debate on Monday,

Including corporate and special puroose along with debt services, the total levy is \$330.8 million which is 3.1 percent higher from the \$320.9 million extension from 2018.

Approved at the meeting were the determination of tax levy and a resolution regarding the levy. A certificate of tax levy along with an additional resolution will be presented on Nov. 18 with a vote set for the Dec. 16

The resolution approved on Nov. 4 was amended at the meeting. The resolution stated an expected \$42.3 million levy on debt services from \$42.2 million extended in 2018 but incorrectly called that "a decrease of 0.39 [percent] over the previous year."

Dale Burnidge, director of financial operations, called it "a typo in the 占 resolution" and it "should read that 🛱 it's an increase."

The levy includes a 3.5 percent inrease in the corporate and special purpose levy from a \$278.8 million 🖁 extension in 2018 to \$288.5 million, 🖥 but that is a defensive levy with a 2.4

percent increase (\$285.6 million) expected. The district is levying with an assumption of \$5.6 billion in Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) on properties within the district, but it expects a \$5.4 billion EAV.

The defensive levy is done to ensure the district extracts the maximum amount of taxpayer dollars it can from homeowners according to the determination which claims it is "entitled" to whatever it can take.

"EAV is not known until approximately April for Kane and DuPage Counties and July for Cook," the determination states. "Since levies are filed by the last Tuesday in December of the previous year, it is still necessary to defensive levy to insure receipt of all property tax dollars to which the District is entitled."

The proposal adds: "Calculating both the maximum allowable levy (MAL) and the final effective tax rate is not done until late summer."

In Kane County, where U-46 is based, average home values have declined 29 percent but property tax bills have risen 4 percent since 2007 according to Federal Housing Finance Agency data while the same trends have been seen in Cook and DuPage counties which also include U-46 properties. Home values have

Veteran remarks

Capt. Kathryn Serbin (retired) welcomed guests and made opening remarks on Monday, Nov. 11 at the Village of Streamwood's annual Veterans Day ceremony. For story and more photos see page 8.

(Examiner photo by Juli Schatz)

See U-46 tax levy, pg. 4

A View from the Cheap Seats



Deep Enough

By Rich Trzupek

Ever since Donald Trump took office, there has been a lot of talk on the right about the "deep state." Now, I enjoy a good conspiracy theory as much as the next guy, but after dealing with government agencies on a daily basis for 35 years, I would define the problem a little differently.

"Deep state" sounds like an organized conspiracy, working to achieve a sinister goal. While I don't doubt that there are people actively working to dethrone President Trump and while I don't doubt that some of those people are bureaucrats, the bigger problem lies elsewhere.

Let's take ex-FBI Director Jim Comey as an example. When Comey testified before Congress, he was positively indignant that anyone would dare question his judgement, actions or motivations. I believe that his indignation was absolutely genuine, rather than an attempt to cover something up or deflect attention.

I believe it because I've seen that attitude - how dare you question my performance! - so often among EPA officials I interact with. Not all of them suffer from this particular brand of hubris, but a lot of them do. And really, it's to my professional advantage that they exist, because they make my expertise and experience all the more valuable to my clients in industry.

To the rigid bureaucrat, each question has one answer and each situation demands a single, unalterable course of action. Human judgement does not come into it. It can't, because the rigid bureaucrat depends on the system – believes in the system and is sure that if anyone doesn't always follow the system as rigidly as he or she chaos will be the inevitable result.

A few years ago I wrote a book, "Regulators Gone Wild: How the EPA is Ruining American Industry." It contained numerous examples of state and federal officials stubbornly sticking to courses of action that actually caused increased environmental harm because the system demanded that course of action.

While more people in the regulatory community than you would think agreed with much of what I said, I still run into EPA and state officials who are shocked and disgusted that I would presume to question their sacred system.

Now go back to Comey's testimony. His reaction was beyond personal. If people think he did something wrong, then to his mind there were only two reasons: 1) he did not execute his duty as the FBI system demands, or 2) there is something wrong with FBI's system. It's hard to say which choice he finds more offensive.

You can't do anything wrong if you're doing your job correctly and there's only one way to do things correctly in the FBI. Ergo these congressmen questioning his actions were insulting Jim Comey as a professional and the FBI as an institution.

To me, that's not evidence of a deep state, it's further proof of the rigid, mindless arrogance of the classic career bureaucrat. It leads to the kind of anger and bitterness that are so evident in Comey's actions after leaving the bureau. Among other statements he declared he would vote for the Democrat candidate for president no matter who he or she actually is. That's a bitter, bitter man.

It will be interesting to hear Comey's reaction when US Attorney John Durham's report on the origins of the discredited Trump-Russia collusion probe is released. Comey has declared he has confidence in Durham and considers him unbiased. Will the ex-director maintain that attitude if Durham's report implicates the FBI, as rumor has it? It will be interesting to see. Career bureaucrats like Jim Comey are not known for their willingness to admit mistakes.

Email: richtrzupek@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor Deadline for letters is noon on Monday. Please include a phone number

for verification, and submit letters electronically. All letters are printed as received. Grammatical and spelling errors are the responsibility of the author

Bills to address legislator-lobbyist revolving door schemes

Dear Editor,

I filed three bills this week aimed at rooting out what I call "rampant corruption" under the Statehouse dome. The House Bills 3956, 3957 and 3958 are common sense reforms to Illinois' ethics laws in order to restore confidence in the General Assembly.

This week I filed three bills that will strengthen our state's lax ethics laws. This is a tough ethics package that would disallow lawmakers from working as property tax appeals attorneys while in office, and restrict retired lawmakers and their spouse and immediate family living under their roof from engaging the General Assembly as a lobbyist for a period of five years.

I came to this office to fight for the taxpayers of Illinois that have spent decades getting ripped off by corrupt insiders, and I have been a fervent watchdog calling out this corruption for years. It sickens me to hear of yet another Democratic state legislator in leadership being indicted on bribing a sitting State Senator to advance his own Chicago lobbying firms

I have filed dozens of consumer protection, anti-corruption, and common sense fiscal reforms that have been supported by the House Republican Caucus, however the Democratic Majority will not even allow these bills out of committee and onto the floor for a discussion.

My hope today is to gain bi-partisan support on these three simple, common sense ethics reform bills. We must restore confidence in the General Assembly and give the people of Illinois a State Government they can trust and respect. We have passed every tax imaginable in this State yet we still rack up annual budget deficits and owe \$200+ billion in debt to our pension systems. It is time to tell Speaker Madigan and his corrupt cronies

that we are done picking up the tab for their corruption.

State Rep. Allen Skillicorn

A scarlet letter

Dear Editor,

I always look forward to the local village paper that comes each Wednesday, but I was very disappointed when I got to page 9 last week. I do not think a public registry which includes any crime is proper. If we are going to include any crime, why not include murder, use of a firearm, or illegal aliens? The public crime registry is, simply put, a Scarlet Letter. If the sentence has been served, then the punishment is complete. If the crime is really that bad, then either execute the individual or give them a very long prison term. To have them publicly shamed wherever they live is just not right. Registry can lump young "in love teens" with some "creatures" who should not be free at all. This is the same with the so called "hate" crimes.

Recently, a St. Charles man was arrested for pointing a gun while at a Walmart and was charged with two misdemeanors; yet, an old man in the area was recently found guilty by a jury for a felony hate crime for verbally harassing a gal in a park. Which is the more serious incident? Can we all say the gun? Concerning the other case, it appears the jury forgot about the 1st Amendment, as it was just words. I would suspect it was nothing as vile that leftist protesters yell at the police or at conservatives. Try watching some antifa videos from Portland, Oregon and elsewhere and turn the volume up real high. Many will disagree, but the principle is simple: if the punishment is paid, it's over and that person is free to live his life. Otherwise let's put a big red "X" on their foreheads so you can run from them when you see them, screaming, "Run, there's a monster on the loose right there!"

Steven Durfey

U-46 tax levy

Continued from page 1

declined 24 percent but property tax bills have risen 7 percent in DuPage, and home values have decreased by 31 percent with a 22 percent rise in property taxes in Cook according to the data.

The Fiscal Year 2020 budget, which was also unanimously approved earlier this year with no board debate, increased spending by \$36.2 million despite the continued long-term trend of declining enrollment. The budget estimated a \$3.1 million increase in property tax revenue and the district could have theoretically

increased spending by \$33.1 million and kept this year's levy flat.

From FY2012 to FY2019, enrollment has dropped 5.6 percent (2,293 fewer students) but spending has increased 29.8 percent (\$128.1 million higher) which is over \$80 million faster than the rate of inflation according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator.

Forecasted in the FY2020 budget, the district expects a 9 percent decline in student population (3,449 fewer students) and a 14 percent increase in total spending to \$636.2 million from 2018-2019 to 2022-2023. If the forecast comes true, there will have been a 14.1 percent decrease in enrollment but a 48 percent increase in spending since 2012.

ing a Peacherine Ragtime Society Or-Christmas Carol" and "The Night Bechestra on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m. fore Christmas," all accompanied live in Fermilab's Ramsey Auditorium. with their original historic orchestral Hop aboard a musical time machine

Fermilab to present Dec. 14

holiday-themed concert

and experience the movies like never seen before! The Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra, hailed as "the premier American ragtime ensemble", will bring tears of laughter to the audience's eyes as they laugh out loud to holiday-themed silent films of year: Buster Keaton in "The Frozen North" (1922), Stan Laurel & Oliver Hardy in "Big Business" (1929) and

According to Fermilab, it will be host-

Between the films, Director Andrew Greene and Peacherine play the rollicking rhythms of the early 20th century, featuring favorites by Scott Joplin, Irving Berlin and the creators of America's first popular music: Ragtime! Featuring an audience sing along of holiday classics and a trom-

the first-ever film adaptations of "A

bone parody of the famous "Hallelujah Chorus!"



Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra will perform on Saturday, Dec. 14, in Fermilab's Ramsey Auditorium. (Courtesy photo)

Police reports

Continued from page 2

possible fraud.

- \star At 8:25 a.m., in the 700 block of Schick, 14-year old and 15-year old male subjects were issued local ordinance citations for disorderly conduct.
- ★ At 10:09 a.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Driftwood for a report of possible fraud.
- ★ At 11:25 a.m., police responded to the 400 block of Cardinal for a fraud report. Complainant advised unknown offender(s) had made fraudulent purchases using her bank account informa-
- ★ At 1:54 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of Gatewood for a report of a suspicious vehicle. The officer contacted the driver, who advised she worked for complainant's cleaning company.
- ★ At 3:16 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Monarch Birch for a fraud report. Complainant advised unknown

offender(s) had used her information to enroll in classes at Purdue.

★ At 5:22 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of Norwich for a keep the peace request.

CAROL STREAM★ At an unspecified date and time, in the 500 block of North County Farm, Tyler M. Bosworth, 22, of the 400 block of of Russell, Barrington, was arrested for violation of an order of protection. Bosworth was transported to DuPage

Thursday, Oct. 25

★ At 11:19 p.m., in the 500 block of Indianwood, Paul R. Blakely, 52, of the Indianwood address, was arrested for DUI, DUI-BAC>.08, improper lane usage, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of cannabis, failure to report an accident and improper transport of alcohol. Blakely was transported to the police department for processing and later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.

Village Board approves purchase of road salt

By Kristin Carreno

At the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Nov. 7, trustees voted unanimously to approve the low bid for road salt from Cargill, Inc., North Olmsted, Ohio, at a cost of \$64.89 per ton. The bidding was conducted through the State of Illinois Central Management Services.

According to Director of Public Works Matt Mann, the State of Illinois Central Management Services procures salt bids for Illinois public agencies. Committing to purchasing a quantity of salt to be included in the state bid was required in March.

"The price is up a little bit from last

year but is still lower than it was five to six years ago when there was a shortage," said Mann.

The price for salt last year was \$58.99 per ton, according to Mann.

The latest price represents a 10 percent year-to-year increase.

Mann said the price of salt skyrocketed in 2014 due to extreme winter weather in 2013 and 2014 which diminished the supply of salt. Prices have decreased significantly back to more reasonable levels due to milder and normal winters.

"This will allow us to buy approximately 3,600 tons which should cover us for the winter," Mann said.

Store sale requires approval of new permit

By Kristin Carreno

During the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Nov. 7, trustees voted unanimously in approval of a special use permit to continue to allow the retail sale of packaged alcoholic beverages at 4-T Liquor Corral, 1004 E. Irving Park Road.

According to Community Development Director John Peterson, the property is zoned C-2. The sale of alcoholic beverages in the village requires a special use permit in the C-2 zoning district.

The original owner of the liquor store was granted a special use permit in 1993, Peterson said. Village code requires a new special use permit and

liquor license to be approved with any change in ownership.

"The current owner of 4-T Liquor Corral [is selling] the property 'as is' to a new owner," said Peterson. The petitioner contended that the use

The petitioner contended that the use will not have an adverse impact on the area and is an existing use which has operated without concern, Peterson said.

The Planning and Zoning Board held a public hearing on this request in October, according to Peterson.

"It would not have an adverse effect on the neighborhood," Peterson said.

Village President Billie Roth said the new owners have applied for a liquor license

U-46 set to renew pacts for school police officers

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 is set to vote on school resource officer (SRO) contracts as well as a temporary facility report at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Nov. 18. The items were presented on Nov. 4.

SROs are used at secondary schools with 14 total officers from four police departments being used. The total cost of the four contracts, including overtime and event security costs, will rise by 2.3 percent.

"This amount is the amount that we were spending back in 2006-2007 when our overtime costs for police officers were a bit out of control," said John Heiderscheidt, director of school safety and culture.

The contracts include a 2.5 percent increase in annual salaries from \$956,018 to \$979,703, an increase of \$23,685. Overtime and event security costs will remain the same at \$89,500.

From Elgin, the total salary cost is \$505,242 for seven officers with a salary of \$72,177. Elgin's hourly overtime rate is \$69.

Streamwood's total salary cost is \$209,763 for three officers with a salary of \$69,921. It's overtime hourly rate is \$50.43.

In Bartlett, two officers will have a salary of \$69,919 for a total of \$139,838 with an hourly overtime rate of \$71.43. Two officers from South Elgin will have a salary of \$62,430 for a total of \$124,860 and an hourly overtime rate of \$63.62.

A recent change to Illinois law, signed in 2018 by former Gov. Bruce Rauner, requires SROs to receive specific training. Sue Kerr, the board's president, asked if SROs in U-46 will be in compliance?

Heiderscheidt said the police departments are responsible for getting that training. He said the specifics of that training have not yet been made by the state, but officers in U-46 are already trained.

"I believe that we're going to find that the training that we experience is better than what they're going to put on paper," Heiderscheidt said.

The temporary facility report is in regards to a mobile classroom to be used at Lincoln Elementary School in Hoffman Estates. The double unit is expected to house 60 students.

"We're having to open up a mobile at Lincoln," said Jeff King, deputy superintendent of operations. "We've added two classrooms to that school since school started in the fall. We're out of space, the mobile is already on site, it's been there since prior to the last boundary change, we've never moved it and we do need approval from you... so we can move that classroom into the mobile."

On the checklist with 35 compliance issues regarding the specific mobile to be used, seven issues were marked as either not in compliance or the information was not available. Board member John Devereux asked if there was "any cause for concern?"

"No, if there's anything that's urgent obviously it'll be taken care of before we populate it with students," King said.

Thank You VETERANS... for your Service & Sacrifice The Examiner

Pet of the Week



Matched pair

What's more fun than one shih tzu? Two shih tzus of course! Pelusa (10-year-old, spayed female) and Rizzo (9 year-old, neutered male) are a mature bonded pair that came to the shelter when their owner was no longer able to provide for them. Upon examination it was discovered that Pelusa requires lifelong eye medication for both eyes. We will send her with some medication to get her new owner started, but her new owners will be required to get her set up with a veterinarian to continue that medication. Their perfect home will be committed to providing routine veterinary care for the rest of their lives. These two only require a new human(s) to complete their social circle. (No other dogs please.) They have been observed to be good with people of all ages and would happily cohabitate with cats. For more information please call 407-2800 or email animalservices@dupageco.org. (Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)





Press Clippings 11/13/19

---Daily Herald---11/13/2019

U-46 plan aims to close achievement gaps, diversify workforce, promote cultural awareness

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy



Seventh grade gifted class teacher Amy Kelly works with her students at Kimball Middle School in Elgin. Elgin Area School District U-46's new equity plan aims to close achievement gaps, including remedying underrepresentation of students from diverse backgrounds in programs, such as gifted, honors, academies and Advanced Placement courses.

Closing achievement gaps. Diversifying teaching and administrative staff. Promoting cultural awareness.

These are among the goals of Elgin Area School District U-46's new five-year <u>Equity</u> <u>Plan</u> -- envisioned by former U-46 administrator Ron Raglin, who died in August.

Raglin championed social equity policies helping U-46 establish its mission of including and valuing all students, especially those who historically had been marginalized.

"Ron welcomed participation from everyone in his equity work. He liked to use to the phrase 'radically inclusive' to describe his approach to recruiting team members across the district," said Brian Lindholm, U-46 coordinator of strategic initiatives. "The best way to honor him is to continue the important work that he started."

The district established an equity committee in September 2018 to research and craft a plan. Among its pillars and goals are:

- •Student achievement: Close opportunity gaps for all student subgroups to ensure equitable access to academic systems and programs.
- •Effective and engaged staff: Value, develop, recruit and retain a forward-thinking, highly qualified and diverse workforce.

- •Community engagement: Ensure welcoming, safe, inclusive and equitable school environments.
- •Excellence, efficiency, accountability: Communicate how funds are allocated to ensure equitable access for all students.

"We believe one of the ways that we close the opportunity gap is to ensure that all curriculum and instruction materials reflect the unique cultural and linguistic diversity of our student population," Lindholm said.

Officials said culturally proficient teachers, administrators and support staff are needed to meet the needs of all students and their families.

Of U-46's 38,395 students, nearly 55% are Hispanic, 26% white, 8% Asian, and 6% African American. A majority of its schools serve significant Spanish-speaking student populations, while groups of students who speak Gujarati, Lao, Polish and Urdu are served at Liberty Elementary School in Bartlett.

Nearly 61% of U-46 students come from low-income families, 34% are English language learners, and 15% are on individualized education programs.

Providing equitable funding based on students' needs eliminates barriers to success in academics, athletics and extracurricular programs, Lindholm said.

In addition to providing students access to high quality and culturally relevant instructional curriculum and educational resources, officials said they seek to remedy any practices that lead to overrepresentation of students from diverse backgrounds in special education and student discipline, and underrepresentation in programs, such as gifted, honors, academies and Advanced Placement courses.

Establishing a culturally proficient workforce includes providing training to strengthen employees' knowledge and skills in eliminating disparities in achievement based on race and ethnicity, said Suzanne Johnson, U-46 deputy superintendent of instruction.

U-46 will maintain an equity task force to help meet these goals, develop action plans of accountability and measurable outcomes, and conduct a yearly equity audit of the district, its schools and programs to ensure progress is being made. Audit findings will be published in an annual equity report card, officials said.

---The Courier-News---11/13/2019 Veterans honored for their service, sacrifices

By: Rafael Guerrero



U.S. Army veterans stand to be recognized at Monday's Veterans Day ceremony at the Centre of Elgin ballroom while the Elgin High School marching band performs behind them.

Cold, snowy weather did not stop the city of Elgin and American Legion Post 57 Monday from holding their annual Veterans Day ceremony.

While the inclement conditions did mean the event had to be moved from the outdoor Veterans Memorial at the Gail Borden Public Library indoors to the Centre of Elgin, it may have been a fitting backdrop given the sacrifices veterans made to serve and defend the country, said Tricia Dieringer, a former Post 57 commander.

"I want you to look out there for just a moment and just think about all the men and women that have served in the brutal cold, in the snow or in the heat, because that's what this day is all about," she told the 100 or so people in attendance.

Jeff Merza, a U.S. Air Force Reserve active-duty member, was among the youngest service members at the gathering. He wanted to see his daughter, Cozette, perform with Elgin High School marching band as they presented the national anthem, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and other songs.

"When you hear the songs, you're taken back to basic training, to advanced training," said Merza, 40, who was "honored" his daughter and other teens chosen to perform for the veterans in attendance. "For us in the military, those songs mean a lot. Those are our brothers and sisters, and they shed blood for us. We're trying to continue in their path."

Daniel Symonds, a U.S. Army veteran and owner of the Symonds-Madison Funeral Home, said he has made it a tradition to come to the Veterans Day ceremony every year. While it may be small, it honors Elgin's veteran community, which he said is one of the largest in the state.

"Whether it's rain or snow, warm or cold, it's still the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month," he said.

The American Legion's rifle salute was held outdoors as planned, with those in attendance watching from inside. Speakers at the ceremony included Dieringer, Elgin Mayor David Kaptain and former Elgin Area Historical Society President George Rowe.

"The ripple effect ... each of you veterans have made on this country is significant," Kaptain said. "Think back to the times when you served and the people you impacted. To me, that is a gift."

SPORTS

---The Courier-News---11/13/2019

Football

South Elgin seniors stand tall after second-round playoff loss

By: Paul Johnson



South Elgin's Ben Karpowicz (2) finds an open receiver for a touchdown against Brother Rice in the second round of the Class 8A playoffs in Chicago on Saturday.

Senior linebacker Vince Clinite was the first in line among his South Elgin classmates, with tears in his eyes, talking to and hugging every underclassmen on the sideline.

The Storm's season ended Saturday in the second round of the Class 8A playoffs with a 25-7 loss at Brother Rice, and it hit Clinite and his fellow seniors the hardest.

"It means everything, that's all I can say about it," Clinite said. "We were a lot closer than the other years, especially all the seniors.

"It just shows that our leadership is good. This is going to be a reminder for all those dudes to lift hard and play their butts off."

Clinite's final act of leadership didn't go unnoticed to South Elgin coach Dragan Teonic.

"He's absolutely amazing," Teonic said. "He is truly the toughest kid we have. He's really an awesome leader too. Great kid, just put it all in, bright football kid.

"He'll be playing college ball, I'm convinced. We just have to find him a spot."

Clinite and the defense had a solid first half against explosive Brother Rice (7-4).

South Elgin (9-2) answered the Crusaders' first scoring drive with one of their own. The Storm put together a six-play, 65-yard drive, capped by Ben Karpowicz's 8-yard touchdown pass to Calin Gurau.

The big play was Shiking Marshall's 46-yard run to set up the score.

"It was set up off a triple-option," Karpowicz said. "Corve (King) motioned across, bringing a lot of attention because of how well he runs the ball, so then nobody was back side.

"I just flipped it to Shiking, and he made a great cut. He was gone into the secondary, making people miss."

The Storm took a safety late in the half, but only trailed 8-7. They held Brother Rice to a field goal on its first possession of the second half, making it 11-7.

"I thought we had the momentum," Clinite said. "I thought we had everything. Our plan was to do what we normally do.

"We studied their film, and the first half that proved to be good. Second half, I don't know what happened."

The Storm had problems moving the ball in the second half and were held to minus-2 yards of offense.

"They surprised us in the second half, came out in a brand-new defense they've never run all season long," Teonic said. "Hats off to our guys for forcing that situation.

"They're good. They made some really nice adjustments. We tried to make some on our end, but couldn't execute them very well."

Jack Lausch and Willie Shaw each had TD runs in the second half as Brother Rice pulled away.

Karpowicz still has two more years to lead this team, and he appreciated the contributions of the seniors.

"I just take from them how important it is to take care of the little things and how that shapes our football season," Karpowicz said. "They always set a great example.

"Hopefully, I can carry on their legacy for next year and the year following."

Police Reports

Continued from page 3

was transported to the police department for processing and later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

★ At 3:05 a.m., in the vicinity of North and President, Kristan E. Arnold, 32, of the 200 block of James, Burlington, was arrested for DUI and DUI-BAC>.08. Arnold was transported to the police department for processing and later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.

SOUTH ELGIN

Wednesday, Oct. 30

- ★ At 10:47 a.m., police responded to State Street Bridge to attempt to serve a warrant on an unspecified subject.
- ★ At 4:06 p.m., police responded to Grace's Auto Repair, 605 Sundown Road, for a fraud complaint.
- ★ At 5:59 p.m., police responded to Medical and Legal Arts Building, 2000 McDonald Road for a 911 investiga-
- ★ At 7:01 p.m., police responded to 1262 Raymond for a report of a suspicious person.
- At 7:07 p.m., police responded to 598 Thornwood for a 911 investiga-
- ★ At 7:17 p.m., police responded to Super Target, 530 Randall Road, for a shoplifting complaint.

Thursday, Oct. 31

★ At 7:43 a.m., police responded to

Stanleys Ale House, 335 N. McLean Blvd., for a report of an activated

- ★ At 8:16 a.m., police responded to South Elgin High School, 760 E. Main St. for a report of an overdose or poi-
- ★ At 9:20 a.m., police responded to Springs at South Elgin, 350 Gyorr Ave., for a report of a suspicious inci-
- ★ At 11:31 a.m., police responded to South Elgin High School, 760 E. Main St. for an ordinance violation.
- ★ At 12:26 p.m., police responded to Buffalo Wild Wings, 402 Randall Road, for a threats complaint.
- ★ At 2:46 p.m., police responded to 561 Sterling for a report of a domestic
- ★ At 3:05 p.m., police responded to 1460 Raymond for a child custody dis-
- ★ At 6:13 p.m., police responded to Super Target, 530 Randall Road, for a report of mischievous conduct.
- ★ At 7:25 p.m., police responded to 1520 Deer Pointe for a report of a miss-
- ★ At 9:36 p.m., police responded to 580 Middle for a report of a suspicious
- ★ At 10:29 p.m., police responded to 527 Arlington for a report of a missing
- ★ At 10:50 p.m., police responded to 376 Paine for a report of a domestic in

Friday, Nov. 1

★ At 7 a.m., police responded to 340

Denton for a report of an inside gas

- At 9:13 a.m., police responded to the vicinity of Illinois Route 31 and Stearns for a report of a safety or health hazard.
- ★ At 10:56 a.m., police responded to 294 S. Walnut for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 11:09 a.m., police responded to 269 Nicole for a report of an activated
- ★ At 11:27 a.m., police responded to 718 Chasewood for a report of theft.
- ★ At 11:41 a.m., police responded to Sweet Berry Cafe, 720 N. McLean Blvd., for a threats complaint.
- ★ At 11:46 a.m., police responded to 1507 S. Pembroke for a report of a domestic in progress.
- ★ At 11:46 a.m., police responded to Culvers Restaurant, 280 Randall Road, for a report of harassment.
- ★ At 12:20 p.m., police responded to 301 Wills for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 12:50 p.m., police responded to 538 E. Thornwood for a trespassing
- ★ At 1:34 p.m., police responded to the vicinity of Mestic and Riverview for a report of an abandoned vehicle.
- ★ At 3:11 p.m., police responded to the vicinity of Spruce and North Gilbert for a report of an abandoned vehicle.
- ★ At 3:35 p.m., police responded to Waters Edge of South Elgin, 418 N. Center, for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 4:40 p.m., police responded to 64 Kingsport for a report of an abandoned vehicle.
- ★ At 4:49 p.m., police responded to 7 Quarry for a child custody dispute.
- ★ At 5:39 p.m., police responded to 600 Williams for a missing person re-
- ★ At 7:01 p.m., police responded to 194 Pleasant for a report of a domestic
- ★ At 7:22 p.m., police responded to LA Fitness, 488 Randall Road, for a report of a suspicious person.
- ★ At 9:48 p.m., police responded to

Animal Clinic of South Elgin, 869 N. LaFox, for a report of a suspicious in-

- ★ At 10:03 p.m., police responded to LA Fitness, 488 Randall Road, for a report of burglary to a motor vehicle.
- ★ At 10:59 p.m., police responded to 279 Ann for a report of a traumatic injury or assault.

Saturday, Nov. 2

- ★ At 2:09 a.m., police responded to the vicinity of Umbdenstock and North Lancaster for a report of an obstruction in the roadway.
- At 5:18 a.m., police responded to 598 Haverhill for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 8:24 a.m., police responded to 2070 Brookwood for a report of an activated alarm.
- ★ At 9:52 a.m., police responded to 807 Greenfield for a fraud complaint.
- ★ At 10:33 a.m., police responded to 565 Juli for a fraud complaint.
- ★ At 11:47 a.m., police responded to Buffalo Wild Wings, 402 Randall Road, for a report of an activated
- ★ At 1:34 p.m., police responded to 512 E. Thornwood for a 911 investiga-
- ★ At 2:25 p.m., police responded to McDonalds, 453 Redington Drive, for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 4:58 p.m., police responded to 828 Medford for a report of theft.
- ★ At 5:26 p.m., police responded to Lions Park, 395 South, for a report of a suspicious vehicle.
- ★ At 6:02 p.m., police responded to 775 Sundown for a report of a suspicious person.
- ★ At 6:04 p.m., police responded to 126 Sweetbriar for a report of a fire.
- ★ At 6:54 p.m., at the police department, 10 N. Water, an unidentified subject was served with a warrant.
- ★ At 8:36 p.m., police responded to 1260 Sandhurst for a request to assist fire department personnel.
- ★ At 8:55 p.m., police responded to Buffalo Wild Wings, 402 Randall Road, for a report of an intoxicated

South Elgin's football season ends with 25-7 loss

By Seth Hancock

The No. 8 South Elgin football team struggled in the second half as the Storm's season ended with a 25-7 loss in the second round of the state playoffs against No. 24 Brother Rice on Saturday, Nov. 9 at Brother Rice.

The first half was relatively even with a 0-0 first quarter, and Brother Rice took a 6-0 lead about five minutes in but South Elgin rallied for a 7-6 lead. A late first half safety gave the host an

The Storm gained 75 yards in the first half offensively but were shutdown completely in the second half eventually being outgained 298-74 in total yards for the game.

The loss ended a successful season as the Upstate Eight Conference cochamps Storm went 9-2 overall. South Elgin will lose 25 seniors.

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said South Elgin coach Dragan Teonic. "It's so different in today's society just to see a bunch of kids come together in a group and pull in the same direction."

Teonic added: "Just to have a family and a group of kids that pulls together and a coaching staff that's willing to put in long hours, I've just enjoyed the

South Elgin's scoring drive started on its own 35-yard line and it included senior Shiking Marshall converting on a fourth down with a 46-yard run, and sophomore quarterback Ben Karpowicz (5-for-12, 34 yards) capped the drive with an eight-yard touchdown pass to senior Calin Gurau. Senior Andrew Bucaro's kick gave the Storm the

Senior Corve King led the Storm's receivers with three catches for 16

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Letters

Continued from page 8

eas, where long gun prevalence increased 530 [percent], estimates suggest that male violent crime actually decreased."

Niekamp's study provides the first estimates of the effect of rural recreational gun use on crime. Each year, more than 10 million Americans, comprising 18 percent of all American gun owners, use firearms to hunt deer during restricted dates.

The enormous changes in firearm use caused by hunting regulations are unparalleled by any other policy in existence," he said. "There are no other policies that induce 600,000 Wisconsin males or 530,000 Michigan males to systematically and temporarily carry and use firearms."

The study found that there are approximately 12 percent fewer violent crime incidents on the first two days of firearm season for the state agencies in charge of less than 1,000 individuals. Corresponding estimates for agencies covering populations between 1,000 and 50,000 indicate that long gun prevalence is 50 to 125 percent higher, while all estimated effects on violent crime incidents consistently hover around zero.

Estimated effects on long gun prevalence disappear for agencies covering more than 50,000 individuals, which aligns with lower hunting participation in urban areas, the study also found.

He cites several reasons deer hunting does not lead to an increase in violent crimes, including:

Hunting is a time-consuming activity that is inherently incapacitating, which may decrease crime. Various sources of deer hunter data suggest that hunters spend upwards of six hours per day in the field, with additional time spent processing harvested deer. Males may be too preoccupied to use their guns nefarious pur-

Hunters may face more regulation than other gun owners. These regulations may improve firearm etiquette and discourage high-risk individuals from hunting.

Survey data show that rural Americans own different guns for different reasons than the population average. Although rural Americans are twice as likely as urban Americans to own a firearm, they are more likely to own long guns used for hunting, protection from animals, and sporting use.

"Another reason that hunters may be a low-risk sample is that patient individuals may select into deer hunting, Niekamp said. "Deer hunting is often characterized as an activity in which an individual sits in a tree stand for hours on end, waiting for a deer to walk by. It is possible that only patient individuals are willing to participate in this gun-related recreational activity."

The study also found that alcohol-related arrests of juvenile males fall by 22 percent and narcotic offenses fall by 15 percent at the start of hunting season, suggesting that firearm hunting may have positive effects on behavior.

In rural areas, additional recreational opportunities like hunting may assist in keeping juveniles out of trouble, the study found.

Marc Ransford Ball State University



Bartlett soccer has four named to all-UEC team

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett soccer team ended the year with four recipients earning all-conference honors in the Upstate Eight Conference after finishing 8-6-8 overall, 4-3-2 in the UEC.

The Hawks defense helped produce eight shutouts and allowed 1.1 goals per game leading to senior defenders Hernan Garcia and Nico Gomez as well as senior goalkeeper Jeremy Taylor and sophomore forward Sean Cox also earning the honors.

Garcia, who finished with a goal and four assists, also earned all-sectional honors.

"He has been a varsity staple for our program for four straight years," said Bartlett coach Vince Revak. "He's been asked to play every position except for goalkeeper, and he has excelled anywhere he has been placed. He's a dangerous player on both sides of the pitch, as he can create and finish goal scoring opportunities, and he's an intelligent defender who can shut down opposing attacks swiftly and maintain possession afterwards."

Gomez finished with two goals this year, and Taylor finished with 61 saves against 14 goals allowed and finished with four solo shutouts.

"It will be difficult to lose Nico, who has been a leader on this team for years," Revak said of

Gomez. "Even as a young defender, his intelligence and physicality immediately benefited our team from a defensive standpoint in the center of the field. Nico is one of the hardest working athletes we've had, and his effort is contagious. This year, he anchored a defense that put up eight shutouts, and still managed to score twice from the center-back position."

Of Taylor, Revak said: "Another one of our fouryear players, Jeremy has developed into a force to be reckoned with in the net. This year, he minimized mistakes, and it's difficult to think about any goal that he had a chance to save. His confidence and ag-

gressiveness were at an all-time high this year, as he's battled through injuries for the entirety of his career. We knew Jeremy was playing his best after two penalty kick saves in a row against Glenbard South (after a re-kick was called)."

Cox finished the season with four goals and

four assists from the striker position up top.

"Soan is a powermer to varsity this year

"Sean is a newcomer to varsity this year, and we were extremely glad to welcome him to the team," Revak said. "He's skillful, quick and has exceptional field awareness. It's no surprise he led the team for combined goals and assists this year. After a year of varsity experience, we're excited to see his growth for next season."

Bartlett will also lose seniors Francesco Espana, Sebastian Gluszak, Sebastian Gonzalez, Kamil Jarzabek, Connor Medendorp, Amine Medmoun, Raj Parikh, Ethan Sproule, Craig Vargas, Mauricio Vigil and Zander Zamora.



While attempting to secure control of the ball, the Hawks' Nicolas Gomez played the ball off his body near the South Elgin goal as the Storm's Edwin Ayala defended this past season.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Hernan Garcia of the Hawks knocking down and controlling a ball against the Elgin during an early season match.





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Keeper Jeremy Taylor making an initial save on a West Chicago shot for the Hawks as Bartlett battled the eventual state champions in an October match.

Storm well represented on all-conference squad

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin soccer team had a turnaround season going from 3-14-2 in 2018 to 12-9-4 this year. The Storm were 4-3-2 in the Upstate Eight Conference.

Leading the way were four all-conference recipients in seniors Jose Rangel and Lucas Reutimann as well as juniors Danny Quintana and Alex Wano.

Reutimann, a midfielder, finished the year with 11 goals and three assists, and he was the sole all-conference recipient for the Storm last year.

"He led our team in scoring, but unfortunately for his stats, we moved him to the midfield," said South Elgin coach Jerzy Skowron. "Moving him there made our team stronger and more organized, and really brought his overall talent and IQ to the forefront. We're looking forward to seeing Lucas play somewhere in college next year."

Quintana, a forward, followed Reutimann in scoring as he finished with eight goals and added five

assist

"Danny was one of the hardest working players for us, and when he wanted to be, was one of the most dynamic players in the conference," Skowron said. "His ability to finish from anywhere with both feet made him extremely dangerous to defend. He was very hard to knock off the ball, and his services from set-pieces was hard to match."

Wano, a center back, and Rangel (five assists, one goal), a full back, were key components in South Elgin's defense which finished with three shutouts and allowed 1.8 goals per game on average.

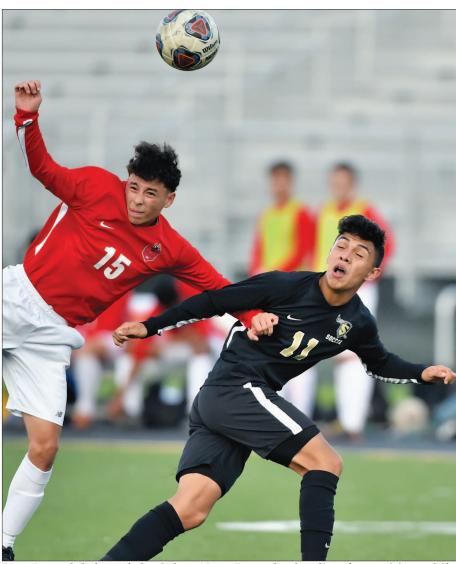
"Alex probably grew more than anyone as the season went on," Skowron said of Wano. "He was a kid who lacked confidence from the get-go, but he benefitted from being an extremely coachable kid and took every teaching point, criticism to heart, and became one of the better defenders in the conference."

Of Rangel, Skowron said: "We converted Jose from a forward to a fullback, and provided some of the most consistent play we've had all season. He's a very technical player and showed a lot of athleticism and speed when he would go forward. He wasn't a starter on opening day, but he very quickly became one and never looked back."

The Storm also had a pair of all-conference honorable mentions in junior defender Edwin Ayala (two goals) and sophomore forward Ryan Doherty (four goals, four assists).

Ayala was the Storm's captain and Skowron said he "came to work each and every day, put the team on his back and constantly did what he was asked to do," and he said Doherty "is a very technical and talented player, very athletic."

The Storm will also lose seniors Jeremy Castro, Angel Garcia Resendiz, Grayson Downing, Andres Rivera, Anthony Sisler and Aiden Hogan.



Jose Rangel, left, and the Sabres' Jose Banuelos battling for position while attempting to deal with an elevated ball during an October contest.



Daniel Quintana looking on as the West Chicago's Alonso Salinas headed a pass to a teammate in a match against the eventual state champions .



With his back to the Larkin net, Lucas Reutimann launched a shot that found the Royals goal and provided a 1-0 advantage for the Storm. Larkin's Alberto Cruz was defending on the play.



The Storm's Alex Wano rising above Geneva's Dominick Peri for a header during a September match this past season. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)