

## Press Clippings 2/8/2018

---Daily Herald--- 2/8/18

### **Elgin High biodiversity webinars draw thousands of global viewers**

BY MADHU KRISHNAMURTHY



Deb Perryman, Elgin Area School District U-46 coordinator of K-12 science and the planetarium, started the National Biodiversity Teach-In now in its third year at Elgin High School. The series of webinars hosted throughout this month brings global experts virtually into the classroom to address biodiversity topics. *Brian Hill | Staff Photographer*

Elgin High School environmental science students help bring global experts virtually into the classroom as part of the third annual National Biodiversity Teach-In this month.

The series of free webinars feature more than three dozen scientists discussing topics, including wildlife poaching, coral reef conservation and the plight of killer whales.

"Our vision for the Teach-In this year is to connect as many classrooms as possible with scientists, authors, filmmakers, lawmakers, grass-roots organizations and science heroes," said Deb Perryman, Elgin Area School District U-46 coordinator of K-12 science and the planetarium.

The webinars are open to the public and run 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays. Speakers lead lectures on environmental topics and allow time for discussion. A special Feb. 14 session for Valentine's Day will focus on children's authors who have written books about biodiversity and nature.

Feb. 2 webinars attracted more than 13,000 viewers from 21 states plus the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Spain and Russia, Perryman said.

"On any given day we have 20 or 30 other (U-46) classrooms tuned in," Perryman said. "Some teachers signed up for multiple presentations on one day."

Last school year, the event attracted more than 26,500 registered participants from 36 states and 19 other nations. Perryman hopes this year's registration will surpass the all-time high of more than 30,000 reached two years ago.

So far, more than 70,000 visitors have accessed the registration site.

Webinar sessions will be broadcast on the [Teach-In website](#) and uploaded to the [Teach-In YouTube channel](#) so teachers and anyone can access lessons anytime.

Perryman, who previously taught environmental science at Elgin High, started the teach-in with science teacher Brigid Trimble as a class project to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity. Students' interest was sparked after learning about [the story of Martha](#), the last known living passenger pigeon within the ecosystem.

Students help organize the webinars, which teaches them skills such as written and oral communication, technology, web building, and using Google forms for registration.

For a schedule of webinars or to register, visit [nationalbiodiversityteachin.com](http://nationalbiodiversityteachin.com).

---Daily Herald--- 2/8/18

## **Elgin High students join in third annual National Biodiversity Teach-In**

SUBMITTED BY ELGIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46

Environmental science students from Elgin High School are once again preparing to virtually bring a variety of worldwide experts to the classroom as part of the third annual National Biodiversity Teach-In.

The Teach-In is a series of free webinars which will feature more than a dozen scientists discussing topics including wildlife poaching, coral reef conservation and the plight of killer whales.

"Our vision for the Teach-In this year is to connect as many classrooms as possible with scientists, authors, filmmakers, lawmakers, grass-roots organizations and science heroes," said Deb Perryman, U-46 Coordinator of K-12 Science and Planetarium.

The webinars first began in 2016 to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity. The story of Martha, the last known living passenger pigeon within the ecosystem, increased the students' interest and desire to discuss biodiversity with some of the best experts in the field.

In 2017, the event attracted thousands of environmental science enthusiasts from around the globe. More than 25,000 registered participants were represented from 36 states and 19 other nations. Since the start of the event in 2016, the Teach-In has registered more than 70,000 participants.

The Elgin High students have scheduled more than three dozen experts for webinars which took place Feb. 2, and will continue to take place during the school day and into the early evening Feb. 9, 14, 16 and 23. The speakers will lead a lecture on an environmental topic and leave time for discussion.

The webinars are free and open to the public. The events will be broadcast on the Teach-In website at [www.nationalbiodiversityteachin.com](http://www.nationalbiodiversityteachin.com).

Registration is required in advance on the website.

On Friday, Feb. 9, the schedule will be: Dr. Callum Roberts, Corala Reef Conservation, at 8 a.m.; Terry Tamminen, Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, at 9 a.m.; Karen Miranda, Controlled Burns, Impact in Wildlife, at 10 a.m.; Joseph Milanovich, Aquatic Ecology, at noon; Emily Lindsey, Climate Change Impact Research, at 1 p.m.; Chadden Hunter, Producer of Educational Animal Videos at 2 p.m.; and David Vaughan, Coral Reef Restoration, at 4 p.m.

On Wednesday, Feb. 14, the schedule will be: Paul Fleischman, Newbery-Winning Writer at 8 a.m.; Laurie Lawlor, Science Author, at 9 a.m.; John Horner, Science Author, at 10 a.m.; and Nancy Castaldo, Back from the Brink: Saving Animals from Extinction, at 11 a.m.

On Friday, Feb. 16, the schedule will be: Dr. Tim Mousseau, Ionizing Radiation and its Effect on Wildlife, at 9 a.m.; Sandra Postal, Water Conservation, at 10 a.m.; Elizabeth Bach, Soil Biodiversity, at 11 a.m.; Celeste Parry, Marine Mammal Conservation-Spotlight on the Vaquita, at noon; Catherine Thomasson, Impact of Human Population, at 1 p.m.; and Caitlin E. O'Connell-Rodwell, Elephants, at 2 p.m.

On Friday, Feb. 23, the Teach In will conclude with: Koustubh Sharma, Snow Leopards, at 8 a.m.; Dorie Stolley, Wild Bird Identification, at 9 a.m.; Amanda Glaze, Evolution, at 10 a.m.; Peggy Doty, North American Predators, at 11 a.m.; Ann Frauscher, Batty for Bats, at noon; Claire O'Neill, Environmental Ethics, at 1 p.m.; Barbara Maas, Endangered Species Conservation Group, at 2 p.m.; and Rachel Sarnoff, Microbeads, at 4 p.m.

---Kane County Connects--- 2/8/18

## **Updated: Where to find Kane County School-Closing information due to weather**

BY KANE COUNTY CONNECTS

To find out whether your school will be closed for a weather event, the best bet is to look at your school district's website. You can also tune in to local radio and television stations and local media for the most up-to-date information.

Another good resource is **Emergency Closing Center**, a website operated by WGN radio, which updates areawide school closings.

Below is a list of Kane County public school districts. **Click on the link in each school district header** to find school-closing info.

**East Aurora School District 131**

- **East Aurora School District 131 Facebook Page**
- **East Aurora School District 131 Twitter Site**

As the temperatures fall, East Aurora School District 131 families are reminded that there are multiple places to check for information about weather-related closings.

**Information will be released through:**

- A phone message to parents in both English and Spanish.
- The East Aurora School District 131 website: **[www.d131.org](http://www.d131.org)**
- The East Aurora School District 131 Facebook page: **[www.facebook.com/EASD131](https://www.facebook.com/EASD131)**
- The East Aurora School District 131 Twitter account: **[@EASD131](https://twitter.com/EASD131)** (**[www.twitter.com/EASD131](https://www.twitter.com/EASD131)**)
- East Aurora School District 131 will only send out a notice when schools are closed. If there is no announcement, schools are open.

**Para leer este artículo en Español dele clic aquí**

**West Aurora School District 129**

- **West Aurora School District 129 Facebook Page**
- **West Aurora School District 129 Twitter Site**

At this time of the year, we never know what the weather will be, but our best defense is to be prepared! Here is how the district will communicate with parents and staff if schools are closed due to inclement weather.

**By Telephone:** If schools are closed due to inclement weather, Superintendent, Dr. Jeff Craig, will notify parents and staff via phone blast.

If you have a current phone number on file at the school, our system will automatically call you as soon as the decision is made by Dr. Craig early in the morning. If a parent does not receive a school-closing call, it is because the phone number is not listed properly in our computer. The parent would need to contact the school office on the next valid school day to update the files.

**Email:** District 129 also will notify parents and staff of school closings via email. Text Those following “SD129” on Twitter will receive a text message.

**Batavia School District 101**

- **Batavia School District 101 Facebook Page**
- **Batavia School District 101 Twitter Site**

To help keep you informed of school closings, District 101 has six resources:

1. **BPS101 Messenger:** Set personal delivery preferences for email, text messages and/or phone calls.
2. **BPS101 Emergency Advisory Line:** Call (630) 937-8899 anytime for updates.
3. **BPS101 Website:** Our site will have notices posted by 6 a.m.
4. **Twitter**
5. **Facebook**



6. **Emergency Closing Center:** Information is broadcast on all Chicago-area TV stations and on the radio stations WGN AM 720 and WBBM AM 780. You can also access the center directly at **[EmergencyClosing.com](http://EmergencyClosing.com)**.

### **Central School District 301**

- **Central School District 301 Facebook Page**
- **Central School District 301 Twitter Site**

With the onset of winter, preparations need to be made for future severe weather conditions. While our policy will be to operate school whenever possible, there may be occasions when northern Illinois winters make that impossible.

In the event of school closing, all district families will be contacted via phone and email with the district's parent notification system. Closing information will also be posted on the District #301 website home page at [www.burlington.k12.il.us](http://www.burlington.k12.il.us). The following radio and television stations will list any school delays or closings:

Only school closings or delayed starts will be announced. A two-hour delayed start could be used in the event of inclement weather. In the event of a delayed start all bus pick up times would be adjusted two hours later in the day.

### **Geneva School District 304**

- **Geneva School District 304 Facebook Page**
- **Geneva School District 304 Twitter Site**

There are several mediums through which Geneva School District will advertise late starts or school closings.

If school is cancelled or a late start implemented, the legal guardians of all students will be notified through use of Geneva School District's emergency notification system. The system will call the guardian's primary and mobile phone numbers and send a message to the guardian's email address, provided that current phone and email information is on file in the District's student information database.

In addition, school cancellation and late start notifications will be tweeted to the District's **@Geneva304** Twitter account followers, posted on **Geneva School District's website** and emailed to all **304 Connects** subscribers. Families may also call the District's Administrative Offices – (630) 463-3001 – to hear a recorded telephone message concerning school closings and late starts.

### **Kaneland School District 302**

- **Kaneland School District 302 Facebook Page**
- **Kaneland School District 320 Twitter Site**

*If the weather is bad, how do I know the buses are running?*

If weather conditions or other emergency situations make it necessary to close school, the district will notify various area radio stations and ask them to broadcast the information.

Please do not call the school. School will be closed in the event of excess snow or if the wind-chill is greater than 40 degrees below zero. Determination of school closing will be made by 6:00 a.m. and announced on the **District 302 Website**, local radio stations: WLBK DeKalb 1360 AM/92.5 FM, WKKD Aurora 1580 AM/95.9 FM, WBIG Aurora 1280 AM, WSPY 107.1 FM, WDKB 94.9 FM and area TV stations: WBBM (AM), CBS 2, NBC 5, ABC 7, WGN 9, Box 32, CLTV (TV).

### **School District 300**

- **CUSD 300 Facebook Page**
- **CUSD 300 Twitter Site**

### **School District U-46**

- **U-46 Facebook Page**
- **U-46 Twitter Site**

### **School District U-46 school-closing procedures.**

As winter is upon us, we wanted to share information with families about the decision making process for closing our schools. The CEO and the Director of Transportation assess the weather situation and forecast to make a decision as early as possible regarding the closing of schools. Information is also gathered from state, county and local police and from surrounding school district personnel.

In the event that the district cancels school, an announcement will be shared via numerous outlets including:

- The district's ConnectEd rapid notification message system via phone, email and text.
- The district website: **www.u-46.org**
- The district U-46 mobile app: Available via App Store or Google Play by searching SDU-46
- The School District U-46 Facebook page
- Local media outlets, including TV.
- Visit **www.emergencyclosingcenter.com**

Please note: When school is canceled, all after school events are canceled.

### **St. Charles CUSD 303**

- **St. Charles School District 303 Facebook Page**
- **St. Charles School District 303 Twitter Site**

Closings will be prominently posted on the District 303 website by approximately 5:45 A.M.

All emergency contact phone numbers provided to the district will be called by our automated calling system notifying parents of the closure.

Closings will be submitted to the Emergency Closing Center for posting.

## *Notification of School Closings*

- Closings will be prominently posted on the District 303 website by approximately 5:45 A.M.
- All emergency contact phone numbers provided to the district will be called by our automated calling system notifying parents of the closure.
- Closings will be submitted to the Emergency Closing Center for posting.

## **SPORTS SECTION**

---Daily Herald--- 2/8/18

### **Bartlett stays hot, beats St. Francis for 7<sup>th</sup> win in last 8**

BY CRAIG BRUESKE

Nearly 24 hours after clinching the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division with a 62-43 victory over East Aurora, Bartlett's girls basketball team continued its winning ways against St. Francis Wednesday night.

Senior guard Kayla Hare scored a game-high 22 points with 4 rebounds and 4 steals during the Hawks' 65-50 nonconference win over the Spartans (10-14) in Bartlett.

Defensively, the Hawks (18-10) forced the Spartans into 26 turnovers -- 15 of them coming in the first half as they built a 34-21 halftime advantage.

"Our press -- when it's working, it's working," said Hawks coach Brad Hunt. "Today, it caused a lot of havoc and got us up and down (the court). We like to play fast and we like to be in the open court. We got some layups."

Hare and freshman backcourt mate Lexie Sinclair (11 points) combined for 7 of the Hawks' 17 steals -- many of which resulted in easy baskets at the other end of the floor.

"We forced 31 turnovers last night (against East Aurora) and another 26 tonight," said Hunt. "Any time you get 26 extra possessions that's going to give you opportunities."

Trailing 6-2 in the early going, Bartlett closed out the opening quarter with a 15-4 run to take a 17-10 lead.

The surge was fueled by Missouri-St. Louis-bound Hare, who connected on her first 5 field-goal attempts, including a pair of 3-pointers.

Bartlett broke the game open by outscoring St. Francis 23-10 in the third quarter, extending its lead to 57-31.

Hare and junior guard Savannah Standefer each scored 6 third-quarter points while senior Danielle Kleeman added 4 points.

Recently returned from an ankle injury, senior Antwainette Walker led the Spartans with 19 points, 12 rebounds, 3 assists and 3 steals, while Katelin Chaparro and Shannon Cooney added 11 and 10 points, respectively.

"We weren't ready to play," said Spartans coach Sandy DeCraene, whose team suffered its fourth straight loss. "This wasn't what we are. We don't play like this. The intensity wasn't there."

St. Francis begins Class 3A regional quarterfinal action at home Monday night against IMSA.

"We have no choice but to be ready," said DeCraene. "I think sometimes you have one really bad game and hopefully this was it."

Justina Hernandez added 8 points and 6 rebounds for the Hawks, winners of 7 of their last 8.

"I think we've still got some things to work out," said Hunt. "We've got to take care of the ball. We were a little sloppy here and there with our drives and getting it (ball) slapped away."

Bartlett opens Class 4A Schaumburg regional semifinal play against Batavia Tuesday night.

"I think that Coach Hunt has us really prepared going into the playoffs this year," said Hare. "We're excited."



# The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

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

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February 7, 2018

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drop pair of games  
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Finding a definition  
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## Charter school within U-46 to host open house

By Seth Hancock

The Elgin Math and Science Academy (EMSA) will be hosting an open house for prospective students this coming Saturday, Feb. 10.

EMSA is a charter school set to open in the fall of the 2018-19 school year within School District U-46, and it had its proposal granted by the Illinois State Charter School Commission (ISCSC) in October after the U-46 Board of Education denied the charter application reversing an earlier vote supporting the charter school.

The Saturday event will take place at the school site, the former Fox River Day School (1600 Dundee Ave., Elgin), and according to EMSA's website (elginmathandscience.com) it is to allow "interested families" to "stop by to learn more about our school, meet our principal Ms. Lezlie Fuhr, and register your child for Fall 2018." The open house will include two sessions, a morning session from 10 a.m. through noon and an afternoon session 2 p.m.

to 4 p.m.

The charter school will have 200 open spots for kindergarten through third grade for the upcoming school year and is accepting applications through April 4, and a public lottery will be held on April 11. EMSA plans to use expeditionary learning which is designed to have a more hands-on curriculum model for science.

U-46 board member Jeanette Ward said she hopes EMSA "will be the first of many education options for U-46 students" when she spoke during board member updates at the Monday, Jan. 22 board meeting.

Ward joined fellow board members Phil Costello and Veronica Noland in consistently supporting EMSA throughout its application process.

For Ward, her support goes beyond just EMSA as she's supported school choice as a general rule. Her statement at the Jan. 22 meeting came as she was acknowledging National School Choice Week (NSCW).

According to schoolchoiceweek.com, NSCW is meant to "raise public awareness of the different K-12 education options available to children and families, while spotlighting the benefits of school choice" which include options from homeschooling to charter and private schools among other options. The website stated 1,037 total NSCW events were held in Illinois this year.

In 2015, Ward suggested U-46 look into providing school choice throughout the district's schools.

Some area school districts allow that like School District 200 in Wheaton which under its board policy 7.30 says parents can choose the school best suited for their child "provided space is available" and parents are "responsible for their own transportation."

"The best way for students not to be trapped in their zip codes and in poverty is school choice where funding follows the student and parents have more control over where their students go to school and what they are learning," Ward said.

Ward added "parents want choice as shown by survey, by survey, by survey across the country" and said "we also see this in U-46" with the opening of EMSA.

A 2017 GenForward poll of 1,836 millennial adults, ages 18 through 34, showed that 57 percent of respondents support charter schools and 57 percent support voucher programs which would allow money to follow the child opening up private school as

an option for more families. The poll also showed the largest support coming from ethnic minorities, black respondents being the top at 65 percent supporting school choice.

The American Federation for Children has polled over 1,000 Americans each year from 2015 through 2017, and support for school choice has been between 68 and 70 percent each year.

Gallup polls between 2012 and 2017 have consistently shown Americans have a far greater view of the quality of education from private schools (independent, parochial and church-related), charter schools and homeschooling compared to traditional public schools.

In U-46, EMSA had to seek approval by the ISCSC after the U-46 board denied EMSA's contract by a 4-3 vote in June reversing a 6-1 approval of the charter proposal "pending a mutually agreed upon contract" in April.

Costello, Noland and Ward were joined by board members Traci Ellis and Sue Kerr along with former board member Cody Holt in supporting EMSA in April while Donna Smith was the lone no vote. In June, Ellis and Kerr reversed their votes joining Smith and new board member Melissa Owens in opposing the contract.

That reversal will cost U-46 as the ISCSC, in its October approval, granted EMSA 100 percent of the Per Capita Tuition Charge funding from the district. EMSA was only seeking 92 percent in its negotiations with the U-46 administration.

## U-46 approves proposals, sets meeting schedule

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved two proposals totaling over \$900,000 as well as the 2018-2019 board meeting schedule at its meeting on Monday, Jan. 22.

The board meeting schedule aligns with how it traditionally is set according to Donna Smith, the board's president.

Smith said meetings are set on the "first and third Mondays (each month) as much as we can other than holidays."

The exceptions include July (one meeting, the 23rd), January (one meeting, the 14th), May (three meetings on the 6th, 13th and 20th), September (second and fourth Monday) and February (first and fourth Monday).

Board member Phil Costello hinted that there was better communication this year in setting the schedule as he said: "I just want to thank madam president for working and at least understanding my conflicts."

Costello has attended some board meetings in the past via phone because of work conflicts with meetings for a park district board, where he is an administrator, and in October he said he's always submitted his work conflicts to Smith and the administration before the meeting schedule is put together and "no attempt at ac-

commodating my board conflicts has ever been acted on."

On the two expenditure items approved, one was with Currie Motors costing \$468,437 which will come from the operations maintenance fund. The proposal is to replace 13 trucks which according to the executive summary "are at least 10-17 years old and have in most cases exceeded their useful life. Due to the deterioration and mechanical failures we recommend the attached list for immediate replacement."

The vehicles being replaced include six F350 4X4 pickups (\$34,355 per truck/\$206,130 total), five full-size transit vans (\$26,747 per/\$133,735 total), one F550 4X4 with box (\$51,057) and one F550 4X4 dump truck (\$77,515).

The other proposal approved is with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt costing \$442,954, from the educational fund, to purchase an updated version of the "On Our Way to English" textbooks for first and second grade. The textbook "supports English language development and enhances the rigor and relevance of students' linguistic and academic development in the Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI) at Liberty Elementary as well as the 80:20 Dual Language Program" according to the proposal.

The board also voted 7-0 to approve \$16.2 million in itemized bills.



### Breaking a streak

The Sabres' Maddie Exline had the ball jarred loose from her possession while attempting to penetrate the lane between Naperville North's Dafina Rexhepi, left, as she collided with Alyssa Aragon during Streamwood's Monday, Jan. 26 victory that snapped a losing streak and began a string of three wins in a row. For story and more photos see page 8.

(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)



# Streamwood boys hoops lose pair of UEC contests

By Seth Hancock

Struggles over the middle frames hurt the Streamwood boys basketball team in a 64-59 Upstate Eight Conference River Division loss against Elgin on Thursday, Feb. 1 at Elgin.

The Sabres came out hot in building a 10-2 lead at the start, and they led 14-11 by the end of the first frame. Elgin then took over hitting half of its 12 three-pointers in the second quarter to take a 33-29 lead into halftime then outscored Streamwood 20-11 in the third quarter for a 53-40 lead.

In the fourth quarter, Streamwood did rally and trailed just 62-59 in the final minutes. Twice the Sabres had possession with a chance to at least pull within one or tie but were unable to convert.

"We lacked hustle on defense," said Streamwood coach Paul Kowalyszyn. "We weren't rotating and we weren't closing out on shots. Elgin did a great job of taking advantage and deserved to win."

Keenon Cole led the Sabres with 18 points and Nikola Sinik added 13 including three treys. DeAngelo Flynn (nine points), Lamont Cole (seven points) and Brendon Marton (six points) all contributed.

Streamwood went on to drop an 83-45 UEC River Division game against Batavia on Friday, Feb. 2 at Batavia. The loss was the fourth straight for the Sabres.

Batavia led 32-25 at halftime before running away with a 51-point second half. Batavia knocked down 13 threes in the game.

"It's the same stuff," Kowalyszyn said. "You have to be detail oriented to beat elite programs. Until we do that, we're not going to beat the teams in the upper tier."

Keenon Cole (13 points, eight rebounds), Flynn (12 points, seven assists) and Marton (11 points) led the Sabres.

Streamwood is now 11-16 overall, 0-10 in the UEC River Division.

## A View from the Cheap Seats



Comey-tose

By Rich Trzupek

Ex FBI Director James Comey and most of the left were not happy about the House Intelligence Committee's decision to declassify what we are now calling the "Nunes memo" and President Trump's approval of the move. For Comey and the MSM, the release was a disgraceful violation of the public trust and – by the way – the memo contained nothing that should lead anyone to believe the FBI did anything wrong.

Veteran readers may recall that I defended Comey's decision not to recommend prosecution of Hillary Clinton for maintaining a private server on which she stored government emails, which was a clear and reckless violation of the law. In my view, Comey took a path that exposed Clinton's recklessness and/or technological ignorance, something that I hoped voters would consider when election time came round. By not recommending actual prosecution, he avoided further fanning the flames of division that are burning so brightly in America today.

I stand by that column. I believe Hillary would have made a horrible President, but I'm glad it was the American voters, not the FBI, who ultimately acted to keep her out of the Oval Office.

That said, Comey's self-serving attacks regarding the Nunes memo and the way the fawning MSM played those attacks up are simply embarrassing – to them. The following nonsense penned by CNN reporter Sophie Tatum is typical:

"The highly controversial memo alleges that then-Deputy FBI Director Andrew McCabe told the House Intelligence Committee that no surveillance warrant would have been sought for a Trump campaign aide without a disputed opposition research dossier on Trump and Russia."

No, that's not what the memo said. The memo said that both Comey and McCabe failed to disclose to a FISA judge – on four separate occasions – that: 1) the so-called "Trump dossier" had been bought and paid for by a law firm tied to the Democratic National Committee and the Clinton campaign, 2) the author of the dossier, ex-British spook Christopher Steele was on the record as an avid Trump hater, and 3) the FBI knew

about items one and two.

The law says that when going before a judge to obtain a surveillance warrant under FISA, the judge must be presented with "all material facts" related to the evidence used. He or she was not. We cannot know for sure that the judge who approved the warrant that allowed the government to spy on Trump foreign policy advisor Carter Page would have done so had he or she been in possession of all material facts related to the Trump dossier. But, as the memo makes clear and neither Comey, nor his supporters in the MSM or Democrat Party have denied, the judge was not presented with those material facts that would have surely given a reasonable person reason to question the legitimacy of the Trump dossier.

So, you may be wondering, how does Comey justify his actions and McCabe's actions? The answer is simple: At their core, they are not law enforcement officials, they're bureaucrats. And, the plain truth is that a determined bureaucrat can figure out a way to justify whatever action he or she chooses to take or not take.

Comey knows he didn't disclose everything he knew about the dossier and it's source, but he convinced himself – as career bureaucrats so often do – that he was fulfilling his mission by not doing so. He was aided in this effort by the incredible complexity of the regulations and statutes that apply to bureaucratic behavior. I deal with this issue all the time in the day job. EPA rules are so complex, a regulator whose ultimate goal is to ensure a particular outcome can always justify his or her behavior by focusing on this part of the game and ignoring that part of it.

Comey's hand-wringing, his "noble" defense of McCabe and his rather pathetic attempts to establish solidarity with the rank and file in the FBI are all classic symptoms of the lifelong bureaucrat retreating into "holier than thou" mode. Pop him in a skirt, let his hair grow out a bit and Comey would be indistinguishable from disgraced IRS official Lois Lerner.

To be sure, not all bureaucrats are as disingenuous and self-serving as characters like Comey and Lerner, but God help us when such people are put in positions of power.

Email: rich@examinerpublications.com

## Sweets & Treats Valentine's Day Trip

Saturday, February 17

10 a - 3 p

Jelly Belly Factory

Join us for this fun-filled Valentine's Day adventure full of sweets, treats, and some Jelly Belly FUN!

Tour the Jelly Belly factory in Pleasant Prairie, WI, and then you're off to Rocky Rococo's for a slice of pizza and a beverage before heading back home.

Busses leave Park Place Family Recreation Center at 10 a.m. sharp.

R/NR: \$15/\$22.50

Register online or in-person.



Streamwood Park District  
Park Place Family Recreation Center  
550 S. Park Blvd.  
630.483.3025 | www.SPDCARES.com



## Connections Poplar Creek Public Library

### Winter Reading Challenge "Blizzard of Books" Through Feb. 23

It's not too late to sign up for our Winter Reading Challenge! Sign up online or in person, and begin reading for a chance to win prizes, gift baskets, and even \$10 in Library Bucks! Questions? Call 483-4925.

### Internet 101 Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 1 or 2 p.m. Branch Library

Join us at the Sonya Crawshaw Branch Library for this one-on-one class that will help you get started with an email account as well as learning basic internet search skills. Please call the branch at 372-3131 to register as space is limited.

### Paws and Read Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 3 p.m. Children's Department

Bogart, a certified therapy dog, will be at the library to listen to you read out loud for 15 minutes. This program is for kids that already know how to read but need more practice. Registration is limited to one person/family per 15 minute time slot. Call 483-4923 to register.

### ¡Amigos y Corazones! Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m.

Invita a tu mejor amigo para un programa de amistad. Haremos una manualidad con muchos corazones. Regístrate a su hijo hoy 483-4923. Edades 5 to 11.

### Interview Workshop Saturday, Feb. 10, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Meeting Room 2

Learn techniques to help you prepare for an interview and give you the confidence you need to land that job. Presented by Bob Schlacks. Register on-

line or call 483-4927.

### Dear Valentine/Querido Valentin Saturday, Feb. 10 at 2 p.m.

Don't miss our dual language Valentine's program. We will have stories and a special craft. Call 483-4923 to register.

No te pierdas este programa, estaremos celebrando el Día de San Valentín. Además tendremos historias y una manualidad especial. Regístrate a su hijo hoy 483-4923. Edades 3 to 6, todos son bienvenidos.

### ESL Conversation Club Monday, Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. Meeting Room 3

Practice your English skills while meeting new friends. This group is for English learners of all levels. For more information email Lynn at ldonahue@pclib.org. Registrations preferred, but drop-ins are also welcome! Register online or call 483-4927.

### Tween Scene: Valentine Party Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 4 p.m. Children's Department

Celebrate, love, friendship and all things positive. Join the tween group for valentines treats and activities. Register online or call 483-4923.

### Adult Drop-in Craft Valentine Mason Jar Tuesday, Feb. 13 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Meeting Room 2

Come make a decorative mason jar that you can fill with candy and give to a loved one (or keep for yourself and display). No registration but sign-up at the door. Supplies are limited.

For a complete listing of scheduled programs at Poplar Creek Public Library, 1405 S. Park Ave., in Streamwood or Sonya Crawshaw Branch, 4300 Audrey Lane in Hanover Park, visit [www.poplarcreeklibrary.org](http://www.poplarcreeklibrary.org). Questions? Call 837-6800.



# Sabres end one streak start another with wins



Andrea Bracy who led all scorers in the game against West Chicago, completing a drive with a shot between the Wildcats’ Sierra Koenig, left, and Catherine Miller.

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood girls basketball team snapped a 10-game losing streak with a 52-39 nonconference win over Niles North on Monday, Jan. 29 at Streamwood.

The Sabres led the entire night but didn’t pull away until late. Streamwood led just 26-24 at halftime before stepping up its defense in the second half.

Holding Niles North to just five points in the third quarter, the Sabres took a 40-29 lead into the fourth quarter. Streamwood led by at least eight points the rest of the game and by as much as 14.

“I thought the first half, we were a bit rocky but we hit some clutch shots to gain momentum,” said Streamwood senior Andrea Bracy who, along with Rebecca Roncone, had a game-high 14 points.

“Very important, very much needed win,” said Streamwood coach George Rosner. “We’re at home against a pretty evenly matched team and haven’t won in a while, you’ve got to win that game and we did.”

Roncone finished with a double-double, the first in her career, with 14 points and 12 rebounds.

Streamwood had some balance as Monica Brown scored nine points all from behind the arc, Mandy Mien added eight and Maddi Exline finished with seven.

“[Roncone’s] been playing so tough,” Rosner said. “She’s a warrior.”

Rosner added: “It was good balance, they spread the ball around. Everyone was a threat to score tonight.”

The Sabres turned that win into a three-game winning streak starting with a 54-48 victory over West Chicago in Upstate Eight Conference crossover play on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at Streamwood.

The game was tied nine times and saw 13 lead changes, the final coming in the final minute of play. Prior to the final score, neither team led by more than five points.

The Sabres trailed 46-41 with 2:45 left to play but rallied to tie it at 46-46 and Brown (eight points) hit her second trey of the game to take the lead for good at 49-46 with 46.2 seconds left. Streamwood sealed the win with a 5-for-6 performance at the free-throw line the rest of the game.

“We definitely played better down the stretch,” Rosner said. “We gave them way too many uncontested shots, but our defense did a much better job late in the game.”

Bracy scored 16 of her game-high 20



Mandy Mien scoring on a layup above West Chicago’s Sophia Radice.

points in the second half, Exline hit three treys and scored 17 points and Mien had seven points.

The Sabres followed with a 55-43 UEC River Division win over Elgin on Friday, Feb. 2 at Elgin. Bracy (15 points, three treys), Mien (14 points) and Exline (11 points) led the effort.

Streamwood doubled its number of wins with the streak as it improved to 6-18 overall, 4-6 in the UEC River Division, and in the final week of the regular season the Sabres will prepare for the Prairie Ridge Regional where they hold the nine-seed and open against No. 8 Crystal Lake South.

“We lost a lot of really close games,” Bracy said. “This is definitely a confidence boost. We’ve been in so many games that we needed some wins.”



Streamwood’s Maddie Exline bracing for contact with West Chicago’s Sophia Radice as Exline drove on the Wildcats basket.



While posting up for the Sabres’ Rebecca Roncone encountered an entrenched Lauren DSouza of Niles North.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



# Hawks eighth grade A team takes South Elgin tourney title

The Bartlett Hawks eighth grade A basketball team traveled to South Elgin to participate in the Storm Madness Tournament on Sunday Jan. 28. The team's first game was against the Larkin Royals with Bartlett pulling away in the second half to wine 61-53. Bartlett's second game was against the rival South Elgin Storm. Bartlett had lost two out of three games to South Elgin so far in the season. South Elgin jumped out to a 12-0 lead but with Bartlett running a new full-court press South Elgin began turning over the basketball and Bartlett clawed back to lead at halftime 31-28. In the second half Bartlett con-

tinued its pressure and South Elgin was not able to get into rhythm as Bartlett won the contest 66-59. This win guaranteed Bartlett a spot in the championship game even though they had one more game to play. The third game was against Northwest Academy Prep and Bartlett rested its starters and lost the contest 63-60. In the championship game they faced the Prairie Ridge Wolves and it was a tight game until the second half when Bartlett began hitting its 3-point shots, making 6 in a row, to pull ahead and win the contest 67-55. giving them their second title this year.



Bottom row, from left, Patrick Nelson, Ian Smith, Jack Sampey, James Dean and James Kostomiris. Top row, Drew Cwik, Olaf Gwiazdowski, Conner Hare, Brian Vesta, coach John Sampey, Shea Gaffney, Sammy Atkins and coach Greg Vesta.

(Courtesy photo)

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**EARLY VOTING** **VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA**  
**Your Choice, Your Time. Su opción, Su tiempo.**

2018 General Primary Election /  
2018 Elección Primería General  
Early Voting Locations and Hours /  
Centros de Votación Temprana y Horarios  
DuPage County, Illinois / Condado de DuPage, Illinois

The Early Voting program allows any eligible DuPage County voter to vote before the Election Day.  
El programa de Votación Temprana le permite elegible electors del Condado de DuPage, vote antes del Día de la Elección.

February 8 - March 3 / 8 de Febrero - 3 de Marzo		
Mon - Fri Sat	8:00 am - 4:30 pm 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	<b>DuPage County Election Commission</b> 421 N. County Farm Rd., Wheaton Room 1-600 / Sala 1-600
Lun - Vier Sab	8:00 am - 4:30 pm 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	
March 5 - March 17 / 5 de Marzo - 17 de Marzo		
<b>TEMPORARY LOCATIONS</b> CENTROS TEMPORALES		<b>Addison Township Office</b> 401 N. Addison Rd., Addison Gym / Gimnasio
		<b>Bartlett Community Center</b> 700 S. Bartlett Rd., Bartlett Program Room 5 / Sala de Programa 5
	Mon - Fri Sat	<b>Downers Grove Village Hall</b> 801 Burlington Ave., Downers Grove Committee Room / Sala del Comité
	Lun - Vier Sab	<b>Elmhurst City Hall</b> 209 N. York Rd., Elmhurst City Council Chambers / Cámaras de Concilio de la Ciudad
		<b>Glen Ellyn Civic Center</b> 535 Duane St., Glen Ellyn Clayton North, 2nd Floor / Clayton North, segundo piso
March 5 - March 19 / 5 de Marzo - 19 de Marzo		
<b>PERMANENT LOCATIONS</b> CENTROS PERMANENTES		<b>DuPage County Election Commission</b> 421 N. County Farm Rd., Wheaton 2nd Floor Cafeteria / Cafetería del segundo piso
		<b>Naperville Municipal Center</b> 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville Meeting Room A / Sala de Reuniones A
		<b>Olive Trees Condominiums</b> 200 E. Bailey Rd., Naperville Clubhouse / La Casa club
	Mon - Fri Sat Sun	<b>Stratford Square Mall</b> 152 Stratford Square, Bloomingdale Entrance 4, Upper Level, down hall SE past escalators / Entrada 4, Nivel Superior, pasillo abajo SE pasando de las escaleras mecánicas
	Lun - Vier Sab Dom	<b>Fox Valley Mall</b> 195 Fox Valley Center Dr., Aurora NW entrance #1 between Macy's & Carson's / Entrada NW #1 entre Macy's y Carson's
		<b>Yorktown Center</b> 203 Yorktown Mall Dr., Lombard The Shops at Yorktown #28 / Las Tiendas de Yorktown #28

All sites are 100% compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act  
Todos los centros son 100% compatibles con el Aca de Americanos con Discapacidades.

## Questions?

Call DuPage County Election Commission at 630-407-5600 with any questions or visit [www.dupageco.org/election](http://www.dupageco.org/election) for details or to:

- ☒ Verify your voter registration
- ☒ Request a Vote by Mail Ballot
- ☒ View election results
- ☒ View your Sample Ballot
- ☒ Locate your polling place

## ¿Preguntas?

Llame a la Comisión Electoral del Condado de DuPage al 630-407-5600 con cualquier preguntas o visite la página [www.dupageco.org/election](http://www.dupageco.org/election) para mas detalles o para:

- ☒ Verificar su inscripción electoral
- ☒ Solicitar una Boleta de Voto por Correo
- ☒ Ver los resultados de la elección
- ☒ Ver su Boleta de Muestra
- ☒ Localizar su centro de votación

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# Storm fall to Fremd to end 2-1 week of play

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin boys basketball team was unable to finish against Fremd as the Storm dropped a 62-52 nonconference game on Saturday, Feb. 3 at Fremd.

Down 14-9 after one quarter, the Storm rallied eventually taking a one-point lead into the fourth quarter. In a 38-38 game early in the final period, Fremd went on an 8-1 run for a 46-39 lead with 5:10 left to play.

Kyle Sy hit a three-pointer to pull the Storm to 46-42, but that was the closest the Storm came as Fremd pulled away.

"I thought we played hard, but it was our lack of execution in the fourth quarter that did us in," said South Elgin coach Brett Johnson. "Fremd executed in the fourth quarter. They were able to build a lead, and we couldn't get over the hump once they had that lead."

South Elgin had pulled within two by halftime, 24-22, and the Storm trailed 31-25 in the third quarter when they went on a 10-2 run with a Noah Rohr (10 points) trey giving them a 35-33 lead.

David Binion scored all of his team-high 12 points in the second half including an eight-point third quarter as the Storm led 37-36 by the end of the frame.

Despite the loss, Johnson said the game was a valuable learning experience. Vincent Miskiewicz scored 10 points for the Storm and both Christopher Hankins and Drake Montgomery added six.

"We need to continue to get better," Johnson said. "That's why we schedule some of these tough non-conference games. The loss, it hurts, but this will make us better down the road."

South Elgin opened the week by edging Lake Park 40-39 in nonconference play on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at Lake Park.

The Storm then earned an Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division win over East Aurora as Miskiewicz nearly

produced a triple-double in a 74-54 victory on Friday, Feb. 2 at South Elgin.

Miskiewicz scored 31 points and grabbed 14 rebounds for a double-double, and he added eight blocked shots.

"I was just taking what the defense gave me," Miskiewicz said. "When they gave me some space, my teammates did a great job of finding me. When the defenders came up on me, I just took it to the hole."

Binion added 18 points, Montgomery 11 and Rohr eight.

South Elgin is now 15-8 overall, 4-3 in the UEC Valley Division.



South Elgin's Drake Montgomery driving toward the Fremd basket while attempting to get past the Vikings' Luke Seidel.



Noah Roar taking a jumper for the Storm above the Vikings' John Smyros.



Trace Ashby triggering a jump shot for the Storm between Fremd's Bryce Hopkins, left, and Isaiah Turner. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

## Examiner Columnist Rich Trzupek's **America's Journey: Underdog to Overlord, Regrets to Rebirth**

**AMERICA'S JOURNEY**  
*Underdog to Overlord,  
Regrets to Rebirth*  
**RICH TRZUPEK**

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Release Date: 2/22/18

*"Over the last decades,  
America's self-perception changed  
from idealistic hero to heartless bully.  
Will our apologetic stance stick,  
or can our nation unify and  
rally 'round the core beliefs  
that made it great?"*



# Hawks lead all the way in win over Rams

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett boys basketball team showed its depth in a 72-60 Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division victory over Glenbard East on Friday, Feb. 2 at Bartlett.

Tomas Vikonis led the Hawks with 22 points, including three three-pointers, and was one of four players to reach double figures in scoring helping Bartlett lead by double-digits the entire night after building a 20-8 lead after one quarter.

"It's huge when we're playing team basketball," Vikonis said. "That's when we're at our best."

Vikonis added: "Tonight we came out strong, shared the ball. (Austin)

Gates did a great job sealing the smaller guards down low. There really were a lot of good things for us."

Gates got the Hawks off to a strong start scoring 11 of his 15 points in the first half on the way to a 37-22 half-time lead.

Much of Gates' success came inside, and along with him and Vikonis both Ben Thompson (16 points) and Ben Fisher (10 points) reached double-digits in scoring.

"I think what was big for us tonight is we got the ball inside early and were able to build a nice lead from the paint," Gates said. "It was absolutely huge that all of us were on, all of us were clicking."

Bartlett started a 9-0 run early in the fourth quarter which included four points from Gates, a Vikonis trey and a Thompson bucket to build the largest lead of the night at 66-42.

Hawks coach Jim Wolfsmith said he "loved" his team's start and its defense overall except for a short stretch near the end as Glenbard East eventually reduced its 24-point deficit to as close as 11. Earlier this season at Glenbard East, Bartlett saw a double-digit halftime lead slip away before having to win, by one point, in overtime.

"You're always

afraid of a team like Glenbard East because they can always go on runs with the way they can shoot the three," Wolfsmith said. "I thought the guys defended the three-point stripe really well other than at the end."

Byron Price added five points in the effort.

Bartlett is now 12-9 overall, 5-2 in the UEC Valley Division.



Byron Price, far right, attempting to win a rebound from the Rams' James Peterkin during Bartlett's Friday, Feb. 2 win over Glenbard East



Bartlett's Ben Fisher endeavoring to score over the Rams' Korvante Davis.

# Library offers chance to create 'heartwork'

The library hosted a Valentine's Day-themed painting class for boys and girls in grades two through six on Friday, Jan. 26. Participants created abstract designs using watercolors and colored pencils, then mounted on them to keep for themselves or give as gifts.



All 23 artists showed off their paintings.



Sisters Zophia, left, and Donna Popadluk gave each other suggestions for designs.



Arpan Shah got some help from instructor Christine Thornton with the finishing touches of his 'heartwork.'



Students paid close attention as the instructor showing them different techniques they might use to create their pictures.



# Storm topple Tomcats, defeated by Trojans

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin girls basketball team pulled away late to earn a 41-35 victory on senior night over East Aurora in Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division play on Thursday, Feb. 1 at South Elgin.

The Storm led by as much as nine in the first half and by six at halftime before East Aurora hit back.

In the third quarter, the visitors held South Elgin to four points and pulled ahead 29-26 heading into the fourth.

"We knew East Aurora had a lot of momentum and wanted to get us back," said South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack. "We beat them by 20 at their place, and we knew they would play us tough."

South Elgin didn't take long to pull

ahead for good. Megan McClure (12 points) hit a three-pointer, her second of the game, to tie and Casey Brennan (10 points) hit the go-ahead bucket before a trey by senior Alexis Roberts (eight points) made it 34-29 with 5:19 remaining.

Ahead 36-31, the Storm sealed the win at the free-throw line going 5-for-7 over the final two minutes.

"We got our intensity back in the fourth quarter," Roberts said. "That run early in the fourth gave us some confidence, and we were able to hold on."

"We passed the ball well tonight," Brennan said. "We're all improving as a team, and it showed tonight especially late."

Senior Catora Brown scored five points, in-

cluding a trey, and senior Darrielle Allen four. South Elgin's remaining seniors include Jasmine Rodriguez, Aniya Zinnerman, Shelby Puralewski and Erika Burns.

"Tonight was all about the seniors," Mandernack said. "I've been with them since the beginning, and it'll be sad to see them go."

The Storm went on to drop a 63-39 game against Downers Grove North at the Kaneland Shootout on Saturday, Feb. 3.

Heading into the final week of the regular season the Storm are now 12-12 overall, 5-3 in the UEC Valley Division. South Elgin hosts regional play where the No. 6 Storm open with No.



In striving to accept a pass from a teammate, the Storm's Megan McClure had the reception interrupted by the Tomcats' Alasha Moore. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Alexis Roberts going in for a layup for the Storm against East Aurora.



South Elgin's Catora Brown releasing a jump shot from outside against the Tomcats.

# Hawks top Rams, clinch at least division title tie



While driving along the baseline, Bartlett senior Danielle Kleeman encountered the defensive presence of Glenbard East's Samantha Dooley which necessitated an outlet pass by Kleeman. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett girls basketball team clinched at least a share of the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division title on senior night as the Hawks defeated Glenbard East 40-25 on Friday, Feb. 2 at Bartlett.

On senior night, all six soon-to-be Bartlett graduates put points on the board led by Kayla Hare's 19 points, including two three-pointers, and senior Miranda Hedeon added five points. In total, nine Hawks scored in the game.

"I'm blessed to have six special girls that I've been able to coach," said Bartlett coach Brad Hunt. "They work hard day in and day out. We made a conscious effort to make sure each one of them got into the scorebook, and tonight was all about them."

The Hawks remaining seniors include Danielle Kleeman, Meghan Colley, Jennifer Carbery and Amber Pagan.

Glenbard East hit a pair of field goals early on as the game was tied 4-4 but did not hit another bucket in the first half as the Hawks took a 22-7 lead into halftime. Hare scored 10 points in the first quarter when Bartlett built a 14-4 lead.

The Hawks took their largest lead with 2:25 left in the third quarter when a Hedeon trey made it 33-10. Bartlett held at least a 12-point lead the rest of the game.

The Hawks, now 8-0 in the UEC Valley Division,



Senior Kayla Hare attempting to split the Rams defense of Sommer Dolinski, left, and Lyric Perry lost the basketball but was fouled and wound up at the charity stripe.

"It's exciting and it's also kind of sad," said Hare, a University of Missouri-St. Louis recruit. "Being here with coach Hunt for four years and playing with some of my teammates for all four years, it's been a great experience."

can clinch the title outright with a win over East Aurora or West Aurora.

"This is something the girls wanted from Day 1, and we've been able to take care of business and get that job done," Hunt said.

Bartlett was coming off a 43-37 nonconference loss against Downers Grove North on Tuesday, Jan. 30 in Downers Grove. Lexie Sinclair (16 points) hit three treys and Hare (10 points) two, and Kleeman added six points.

The Hawks enter the final week of the regular season 16-10 overall before entering the Schaumburg Regional where No. 9 Bartlett opens against No. 8 Batavia. The Hawks fell 54-39 in a game against Batavia earlier this season.

"We drew Batavia, and they're a darn good basketball team," Hunt said. "We didn't play well the first time around, but the rematch will be a much different game."



# North girls basketball drops two of three games

By Seth Hancock

The North girls basketball team rallied but couldn't overcome a slow start as the North Stars fell 47-44 against Burlington Central at the Kaneland Shootout on Saturday,

Feb. 3.

Burlington Central built a 15-5 lead after one quarter and would hold onto a double digit lead over the first three frames, the score standing at 35-24 entering the fourth.

## North Stars boys hoops fall to Vikings, St. Joseph

By Seth Hancock

The North boys basketball team couldn't overcome a pair of runs by St. Joseph as the North Stars dropped a 55-47 nonconference game on Saturday, Feb. 3 at North.

Late in the first half the North Stars led 21-20 when St. Joseph went on a 14-2 run to build a 34-23 early in the third quarter. Another run by the visitors, this time 11-0, handed North a 45-29 deficit in the fourth quarter that it wasn't able to overcome.

North coach Tom Poulin said the game showed the need for his team to "get back to the details" defensively.

"We were caught out of position way too many times," Poulin said. "We weren't committed to putting a body on them and we weren't getting back in transition. It just started to snow-ball."

Lucas Heflen led the North Stars with 12 points and both he and Cade Callaghan (eight points) hit a pair of three-pointers. Kyle King scored eight points and Zachary Ludwig six.

North was coming off a tough loss the night before on a last second four-point play by Geneva in a 53-52 Upstate Eight Conference River Division game on Friday, Feb. 2 at North.

Geneva led 18-12 after one quarter and 35-28 at halftime before the North

Stars started rallying to eventually hold a 52-49 lead in the waning seconds. With 2.3 seconds left, Geneva connected on a three-pointer and awarded a questionable foul which led to the winner at the free-throw line.

The North Stars struggled through the game with some missed layups and went 8-for-15 at the free-throw line.

"He made a tough shot," Poulin said of the tying trey. "I thought he created the contact, but that's beside the point. We need to do a better job on the ball screen at the end."

Poulin added: "We've been in position to finish teams off and we're not there. That's on coaches. We have to do a better job getting them ready to win down the stretch."

King had a game-high 15 points, Brendan Dal Degan 11 (including three treys), Callaghan 10 and Ludwig seven.

North is now 13-9 overall, 6-3 in the UEC River Division, and will have a quick rematch at Geneva this week.

"This group will bounce back," Poulin said. "They don't have the type of personalities to stay down for long. Moving forward, this will make us tougher and more tournament-ready."

Led by Anna Tate (14 points, nine rebounds), Anna Davern (12 points, seven rebounds) and Leilauni Chanthaboury (10 points, three steals, three assists) the North Stars were able to rally but the final three-point spread was the closest they got.

"We dug ourselves a hole early, and I felt like we couldn't throw that ball in the ocean," said North coach Mike Tomczak. "We said at halftime that we don't dislike the shots we're getting. We were getting quality shots. They weren't falling and theirs were."

Tomczak added: "We liked the way we finished, but when you put that sort of effort forth it's not sustainable for four quarters. Ideally we wouldn't have started so slow and maybe the result is different."

North opened the week with a 43-31 nonconference win over Cary-Grove on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at North. After falling behind 11-5 after the first quar-

ter, the North Stars outscored the visitors 29-15 over the next two frames to take a 34-26 lead.

Davern and Megan Gunnink, who hit three treys, each had a game-high 13 points, Tate added 12 and Chanthaboury finished with five.

The North Stars went on to fall 67-39 against Upstate Eight Conference River Division rival Geneva, which hit 11 three-pointers in the game, on Thursday, Feb. 1 at North. Davern scored 12 points and both Chanthaboury and Tate 11.

"Every time we scored a bucket, they came down and answered and often with a three," Tomczak said. "Man did they shoot the ball well."

North is now 13-12 overall, 5-5 in the UEC River Division, and the No. 10 North Stars will prepare over the final week of the regular season for their Wheaton Warrenville South Regional opener against No. 7 York.

## St. Charles named finalist in national award recognition

St. Charles has been named a finalist for the Voice of the People Award for Excellence in Recreation and Wellness from the National Research Center, Inc. (NRC). St. Charles received the award after garnering high marks in the Recreation and Wellness category of the City of St. Charles' 2016 Resident Survey.

The NRC presented Voice of the People awards to communities that received the highest overall level of satisfaction in one of its nine survey categories: Community Engagement, Safety, Mobility, Foundations of Livability, Recreation and Wellness, Education and Enrichment, Natural Environment, Built Environment and Economy.

"It is an honor to be viewed nationally as a leader in recreation," said Holly Cabel, director of parks and recreation at the St. Charles Park District. "We are committed to building alliances to advance our mission of enriching the quality of life for our

community through excellence in programs, parks, facilities and services."

"We are pleased to receive this award, which recognizes our valuable natural areas and parklands in St. Charles," said St. Charles City Administrator Mark Koenen. "Collaboration between the city, park district and other local organizations, means there are plenty of activities for residents and visitors to enjoy year-round."

For its 2013 and 2016 resident surveys, the city used the NRC National Citizen Survey, a standardized tool used by communities across the country. The Voice of the People Awards were presented jointly by NRC and the International City/County Management Association ICMA at the ICMA conference in October. Visit [www.n-r-c.com](http://www.n-r-c.com) to learn more about Voice of the People Awards and National Research Center.



# Park Bench

*...have a seat and we'll fill you in*

### Preschool

#### Preschool Registration for New Students

Registration will be held Saturday, Feb. 10 at 9 a.m. at the Municipal Annex. Doors will open at 8 a.m. Numbers are handed out on a first-come-first-serve basis. A \$35 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of registration along with a copy of your child's birth certificate. Your child must be the appropriate age by Sept. 1. For more information visit [www.southelgin.com/recreation](http://www.southelgin.com/recreation).

### Adult

#### Create Your Own Retirement Pension

With a bit of a twist you can create your own pension for retirement. There is no charge for this class but registration is required. This class will be held Tuesday, Feb. 13 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Municipal Annex.

### Essential Oils

If you are looking for a more natural, safe and effective approach to your family's wellness, come and explore the powerful benefits of essential oils. This class is free but registration is required. Class will be held Wednesday, Feb. 21 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Municipal Annex.

### Youth

#### The Science and History of Lovely Leprechauns

Science and history explain the world around us and this time we are investigating lovely leprechauns! This class will be held Saturday, Feb. 24 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Eastside Recreation Center in Elgin. The cost is \$37 for residents and \$47 for non-residents.

### Youth/Teen

#### Klub Friday Night – Kickball and Sundaes

Feb. 16 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Fox Meadow Elementary School

KFN is a great place to drop the kids for a night out. We provide a safe and fun environment where fourth to seventh graders can come and hang out with their friends and peers. The cost is \$5 at the door with an ID or \$20 at the door without an ID. ID's can be purchased at Village Hall or on-site ... your parent/guardian must be present.

### Fitness

#### Zumba

Zumba is a fusion of Latin music with dance/fitness movements, creating an effective aerobic workout. Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. or Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. Come try a class ... there is a drop in fee of \$10. A punch card is also available for purchase for \$73 for 10 punches or \$125 for 20. Classes are held at the Municipal Annex.

### Zumba Toning

Zumba toning takes the original Zumba class to the next level. Class is held on Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Come try a class ... there is a drop in fee of \$10. A punch card is also available for purchase for \$73 for 10 punches or \$125 for 20. Classes are held at the Municipal Annex.

*For more information on these and other programs offered by South Elgin Parks and Recreation, please call 847-622-0003 or visit our website at [www.southelgin.com](http://www.southelgin.com)—Parks & Recreation—Programs—Seasonal Brochure.*



# Gail Borden

Public Library District  
[www.gailborden.info](http://www.gailborden.info)  
*...where the world is just a page away.*

# Read! Learn! Connect!

### 3D Printing Basics

Are you interested in 3D Printing Basics? Explore this exciting technology at the South Elgin Branch on Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and get a chance to create your own 3D object! Adults who are interested can register by visiting [www.gailborden.info/register](http://www.gailborden.info/register), calling 847-429-4597 or by visiting any location in person.

### Acoustic Blues Duo

Let Donna Herula and Tony Nardiello: Acoustic Blues Duo entertain you at the Rakow Branch, 2751 W. Bowes Road, Elgin on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 2 to 3 p.m. All ages are invited to hear them perform Delta, country and Chicago blues. No registration.

### Puzzle Club

Get your brain working during Puzzle Club for all ages at the South Elgin Branch on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. Drop by for word puzzles, Sudoku, kids' floor puzzles adult jigsaw puzzles and endless fun!

### Family Valentine Tea

Celebrate Valentine's Day with your little one at our Family Valentine Tea at the Main Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin, on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10 to 11 a.m. or from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Musician Laura Doherty

ty will entertain us and then we will enjoy a treat and work on crafts. This celebration is perfect for ages three to six with a caregiver. To register for one of the sessions, please stop by any library location in person at the desk or register by calling 847-429-4597.

### Mardi Gras Family Celebration

Grab the beads and the whole family for our Mardi Gras Family Celebration at the South Elgin Branch on Sunday, Feb. 11 from 1 to 3 p.m. We will have activities for the whole family to participate with. Please register by visiting [www.gailborden.info/register](http://www.gailborden.info/register), calling 847-429-4597 or by visiting any location in person.

### Chinese New Year Celebration

It's the Year of the Dog! Join us for our Chinese New Year Celebration at the Rakow Branch on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. Families will celebrate with crafts and activities. No registration.

### Sweets for your Sweetheart

Stop by for Sweets for your Sweetheart at the South Elgin Branch on Monday, Feb. 19 from 3 to 5 p.m. Students in grades six to 12 will make their own candy by experiencing with candy melts. No need to register.



# Storm fall to Fremd to end 2-1 week of play

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin boys basketball team was unable to finish against Fremd as the Storm dropped a 62-52 nonconference game on Saturday, Feb. 3 at Fremd.

Down 14-9 after one quarter, the Storm rallied eventually taking a one-point lead into the fourth quarter. In a 38-38 game early in the final period, Fremd went on an 8-1 run for a 46-39 lead with 5:10 left to play.

Kyle Sy hit a three-pointer to pull the Storm to 46-42, but that was the closest the Storm came as Fremd pulled away.

"I thought we played hard, but it was our lack of execution in the fourth quarter that did us in," said South Elgin coach Brett Johnson. "Fremd executed in the fourth quarter. They were able to build a lead, and we couldn't get over the hump once they had that lead."

South Elgin had pulled within two by halftime, 24-22, and the Storm trailed 31-25 in the third quarter when they went on a 10-2 run with a Noah Rohr (10 points) trey giving them a 35-33 lead.

David Binion scored all of his team-high 12 points in the second half including an eight-point third quarter as the Storm led 37-36 by the end of the frame.

Despite the loss, Johnson said the game was a valuable learning experience. Vincent Miszkiewicz scored 10 points for the Storm and both Christopher Hankins and Drake Montgomery added six.

"We need to continue to get better," Johnson said. "That's why we schedule some of these tough non-conference games. The loss, it hurts, but this will make us better down the road."

South Elgin opened the week by edging Lake Park 40-39 in nonconference play on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at Lake Park.

The Storm then earned an Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division win over East Aurora as Miszkiewicz nearly

produced a triple-double in a 74-54 victory on Friday, Feb. 2 at South Elgin.

Miszkiewicz scored 31 points and grabbed 14 rebounds for a double-double, and he added eight blocked shots.

"I was just taking what the defense gave me," Miszkiewicz said. "When they gave me some space, my teammates did a great job of finding me. When the defenders came up on me, I just took it to the hole."

Binion added 18 points, Montgomery 11 and Rohr eight.

South Elgin is now 15-8 overall, 4-3 in the UEC Valley Division.



South Elgin's Drake Montgomery driving toward the Fremd basket while attempting to get past the Vikings' Luke Seidel.

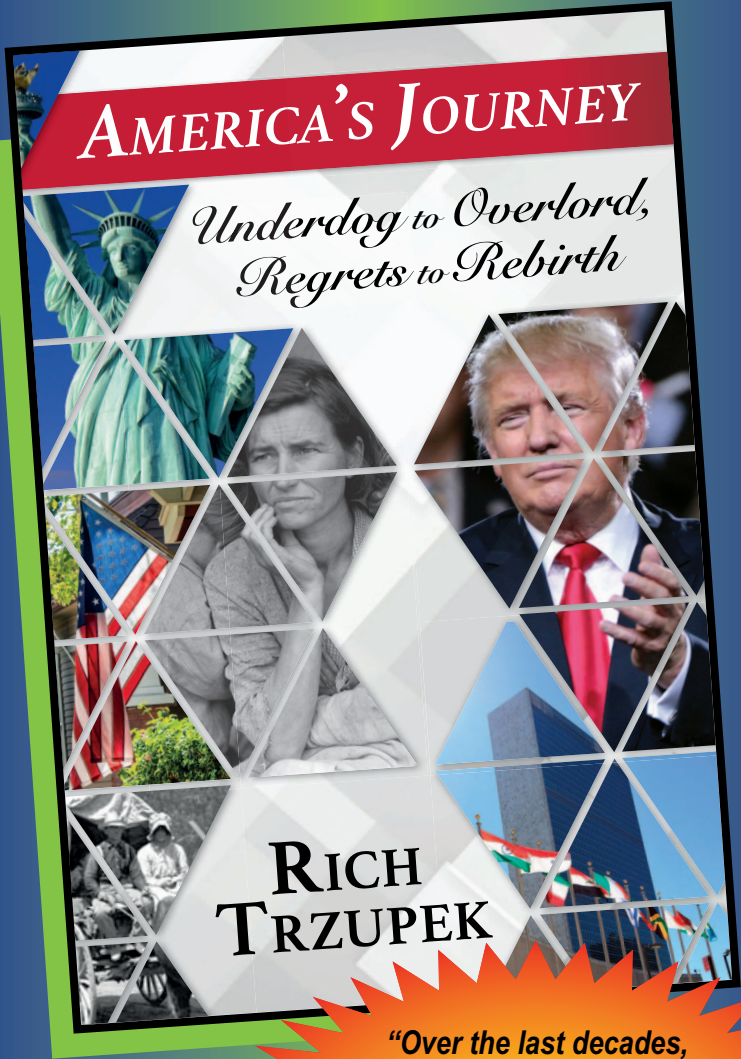


Noah Roar taking a jumper for the Storm above the Vikings' John Smyros.



Trace Ashby triggering a jump shot for the Storm between Fremd's Bryce Hopkins, left, and Isaiah Turner.  
(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

## Examiner Columnist Rich Trzupek's **America's Journey: Underdog to Overlord, Regrets to Rebirth**



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*"Over the last decades, America's self-perception changed from idealistic hero to heartless bully. Will our apologetic stance stick, or can our nation unify and rally 'round the core beliefs that made it great?"*

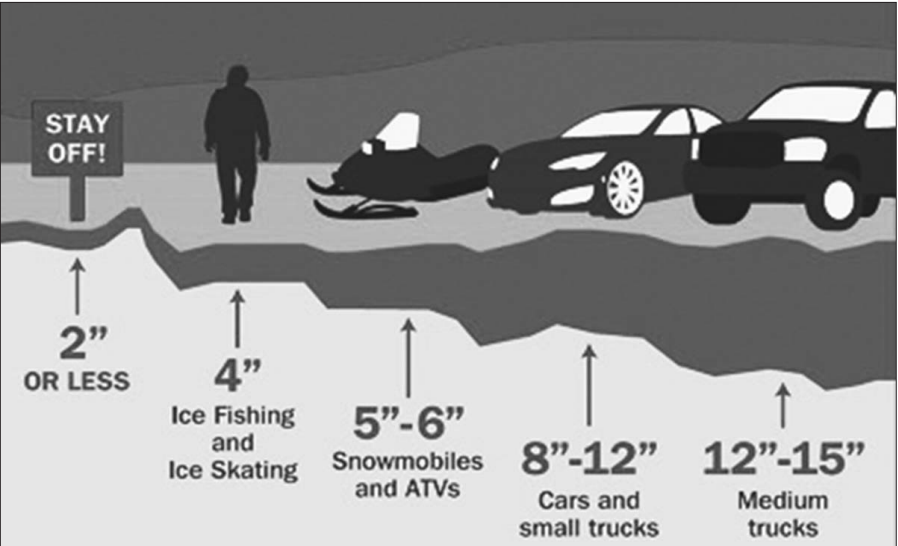


# Tips for fun, safe, successful ice fishing experience

Before heading out for a day of ice fishing, it’s wise to check with local bait shops to make certain the spot you’ve chosen is adequately ice covered and at the thickness needed.

Once fishermen have bundled up and made it to the lake or river of choice, they need to make sure to thoroughly check the ice thickness before dropping any lines. Ice should be at least inches thick to support a fisherman’s weight. Clear-blue, lake ice is the

or medium heavy rod would be best. For panfish tackle, small is basically the rule. The ice jigs for panfish are usually a weighted size 8 to size 14 hook in varying shapes. A trip to a local bait store should set folks up with the "hot" sizes and colors. Light line (1 to 2 pound) is the usually used, either monofilament or fluorocarbon depending on anger preference.



**Ice thickness graph.** (Photo used with permission of The Old Farmer’s Almanac/Almanac.com)

strongest, while river ice and cloudy ice support less weight. Once the ice turns slushy, it supports half the weight of clear-blue ice. Again, check with local bait shops to see if a lake has adequate ice cover. Below are a few spots in Illinois for ice fishing:

- Lake County:  
Locations in the Lake County Forest Preserves that are open for ice fishing:
- Banana Lake in Wauconda;
  - Independence Grove, in the South Bay only, off Buckley Road in Libertyville;
  - Sterling Lake at Van Patten Woods.

### Ice Fishing Clothing

There is nothing that will ruin an ice fishing trip more than not being adequately covered. If cold, the pleasure of the ice fishing experience will quickly turn to unpleasant. Here are some tips for keeping toasty while out on the ice:

- Layered clothing – staying warm and dry is important. A moisture-wicking base layer, an insulated middle layer, and a breathable outer shell are recommended;
- Insulated boots – wearing moisture-wicking liner socks under warm socks and insulate boots are recommended;
- Scarf, hat and gloves. Bring an extra pair of gloves in case the other pair wet gets wet;
- Ice cleats;
- Ice safety picks – wear safety picks (short plastic rods with metal picks) around the neck in case of an emergency; and
- Personal floatation device.

### Ice Fishing Tools

Because of fishing on ice and not open water, anglers will obviously need some different tools for a successful day of fishing. Much like open water fishing, the amount of money spent on a set up can range from reasonable to extravagant depending on tastes. Luckily, to get started all that is needed is:

- Ice auger (diameter no larger than 12 inches);
- Slotted scoop – to clear the ice/slush from a hole;
- Bucket – used to transport gear and fish (also can be used as a seat);
- Pic/chisel – is optional, but it is ideal for widening a hole or breaking through the ice on previously drilled holes;
- Tip-up – another optional tool, though one many ice anglers use. Most tip ups are made of wood, but some newer versions are circular in shape to help keep a hole from freezing up.

### Ice Fishing Rods and Tackle

A smaller rod is often used for jigging when ice fishing. Aim for a rod between 16 and 32 inches, with light, medium, or heavy power, depending on what catch is targeted:

- For panfish, a light or ultralight rod may be best;
- For walleye or northern pike, a 24-28 inch medium

while jigging. In general, live bait works best for ice fishing. Drop a line and let the jig hook sink to the bottom. Then slowly (very slowly) raise the bait up about a foot off the bottom. Jigging can be done up and down, side to side or up and down and sideways. If the bait is moving too much or too fast, the fish may think it is not worth the effort to go after it. Jigging works best for smaller fish like panfish.

### Tightlining

Another technique to try is called tightlining. Tightlining is a technique where the line and lure is not moved once dropped in the water. Rather, watch the line for movement. There is something on the line when it becomes "tight."

When tightlining, remember to use a lure heavy enough to allow the line to drop straight down to the desired depth, but not heavy enough that the line will not move when a strike occurs. Many anglers use trial and error to find the correct lure. Some anglers add a spring bobber to their line to help with strike indication. A spring bobber is a piece of metal or wire that extends off the rod tip. Any movement in the line will cause the spring bobber to move alerting the angler of a bite.

### Tip Up

A tip up may be used for ice fishing. This is technically a piece of equipment, but it is also a technique that is often used at the same time as fishermen are jigging in a different hole. Alternatively, multiple tip ups may be set up and anglers then run between them as they go off.

Set the tip up above the ice fishing hole, drop a line, set the flag, and wait for the fish to take the bait. A heavier duty line (23 to 50 pound) is used with a swivel to keep a line from twisting with a swimming bait, and a 12- to 36-inch leader, depending on the situation.

- For targeting larger fish, such as walleye, use a heavy, braided line.
- Catch-and-Release Tips:**
- Land a fish as soon as possible. Exhausting a fish lowers its chance of survival.
  - When possible, do not use a net. Nets remove a fish’s protective slime.
  - Always wet hands before handling fish. This protects the protective slime.
  - Use barbless hooks for easier hook removal.
  - Keep fish in the water while removing the hook.
  - Handle toothless fish by gripping the lower jaw.
  - Handle fish with teeth behind the gill covers.

### Ice Fishing Techniques

#### Drilling Holes

A common and successful ice fishing technique is to drill many holes. In general, the fish aren’t leaving their area to find bait, so anglers need to find the fish. Underwater cameras or flashers may be used and dropped down the hole to immediately see if fish are there to target, but fancy equipment is not needed to find fish. Scouting by trial-and-error is effective and often more rewarding.

#### Jigging

If using an ice fishing rod and hook-and-line while ice fishing, then a good technique to try is jigging. Lures or live bait may be used

- Never grab a fish directly on the gill covers.
- Never grip a fish around the abdomen.
- If a fish swallows the hook do not attempt to remove it. Cut the line as close to the hook as possible and return the fish to the water.
- Gently place the fish in the water upon release; never throw a fish back.

### Ice Fishing Tips

Local bait shops are excellent sources of information regarding where fish are biting and what baits are working best. In addition, here are some ice fishing tips for a successful day of angling:

- Many fish will stick close to the same places in the winter as they do in the other seasons. Weed lines, structures, or coastline breaks are good places to look.
- Fish like areas where the mouth of a small bay or stream joins a larger lake, especially if the depth changes drastically. Look to these areas for concentrations of fish.
- In the winter, fish tend to swim horizontally at one depth. If you think you are in a good area, but are not getting a bite, change the depth at which the bait is presented, the fish may be resting higher or lower and not see the bait.
- In the winter, some fish species will cluster together. Since fish do not move as fast in the winter months, they are more vulnerable to predators. They tend to group together for protection. Where one is found, most likely more will be found. Because they do school, if fishermen haven’t had a bite in 20 minutes, they should move to a new location.

### Ice Fishing Safety

We cannot stress enough the importance of safety when ice fishing. To borrow the "be prepared" motto, when properly prepared for the experience, ice fishing is a fun outdoor activity. Below are some guidelines to help anglers "be prepared."

### Ice Facts

- New ice is usually stronger than old ice. Four inches of clear, newly formed ice may support one person on foot, while a foot or more of old, partially thawed ice may not.
- Ice seldom freezes uniformly. It may be a foot thick in one location and only an inch or two just a few feet away.
- Ice formed over flowing water and currents is often dangerous. This is especially true near streams, bridges and



**Crappies.** (Photo courtesy of <http://illinoiswisconsinifishing.blogspot.com>)

culverts. Also, the ice outside river bends is usually weaker due to the undermining effects of the faster current.

- The insulating effect of snow slows down the freezing process. The extra weight also reduces how much weight the ice sheet can support. Also, ice near shore can be weaker than ice that is farther out.
- Booming and cracking ice isn’t necessarily dangerous. It only means that the ice is expanding and contracting as the temperature changes.
- Schools of fish or flocks of waterfowl can also adversely affect the relative safety of ice. The movement of fish can bring warm water up from the bottom of the lake. In the past, this has opened holes in the ice causing snowmobiles and cars to break through.

### Ice Thickness

Here are the ice thickness safety guidelines:

- Two inches or less - STAY OFF;
- Four inches - Ice fishing or other activities on foot;
- Five inches - Snowmobile or ATV;
- Eight to 12 inches - Car or small pickup truck; and
- Twelve to 15 inches - Medium truck.

Note: These guidelines are for new, clear solid ice and many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe.

Note: White ice or "snow ice" is only about half as strong as new clear ice. Double the above thickness guidelines when traveling on white ice.

### Additional Safety Tips:

- It’s a good idea to always carry a rope or floatation device to help someone who may have fallen through the ice. Remember to not approach the area where someone has fallen through, as this ice will be quite vulnerable to weight.
- Wear a personal floatation device (life vest) under winter gear.
- Carry a pair of ice picks. It’s very difficult to pull oneself back onto the surface of slippery ice while weighted down with heavy clothing. The ice picks really help getting back onto solid ice.



**Long lake perch.** (Photo courtesy of <http://illinoiswisconsinifishing.blogspot.com>)



# Storm topple Tomcats, defeated by Trojans

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin girls basketball team pulled away late to earn a 41-35 victory on senior night over East Aurora in Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division play on Thursday, Feb. 1 at South Elgin.

The Storm led by as much as nine in the first half and by six at halftime before East Aurora hit back.

In the third quarter, the visitors held South Elgin to four points and pulled ahead 29-26 heading into the fourth.

"We knew East Aurora had a lot of momentum and wanted to get us back," said South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack. "We beat them by 20 at their place, and we knew they would play us tough."

South Elgin didn't take long to pull

ahead for good. Megan McClure (12 points) hit a three-pointer, her second of the game, to tie and Casey Brennan (10 points) hit the go-ahead bucket before a trey by senior Alexis Roberts (eight points) made it 34-29 with 5:19 remaining.

Ahead 36-31, the Storm sealed the win at the free-throw line going 5-for-7 over the final two minutes.

"We got our intensity back in the fourth quarter," Roberts said. "That run early in the fourth gave us some confidence, and we were able to hold on."

"We passed the ball well tonight," Brennan said. "We're all improving as a team, and it showed tonight especially late."

Senior Catora Brown scored five points, in-

cluding a trey, and senior Darrielle Allen four. South Elgin's remaining seniors include Jasmine Rodriguez, Aniya Zinnerman, Shelby Puralewski and Erika Burns.

"Tonight was all about the seniors," Mandernack said. "I've been with them since the beginning, and it'll be sad to see them go."

The Storm went on to drop a 63-39 game against Downers Grove North at the Kaneland Shootout on Saturday, Feb. 3.

Heading into the final week of the regular season the Storm are now 12-12 overall, 5-3 in the UEC Valley Division. South Elgin hosts regional play where the No. 6 Storm open with No.



In striving to accept a pass from a teammate, the Storm's Megan McClure had the reception interrupted by the Tomcats' Alasha Moore. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Alexis Roberts going in for a layup for the Storm against East Aurora.



South Elgin's Catora Brown releasing a jump shot from outside against the Tomcats.

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