

Press Clippings - 3/01/2023

– The Courier News – Elgin News Digest: LWV holding three candidate forums at Elgin library

Feb. 28, 2023

By Mike Danahey

LWV holding three candidate forums at Elgin library

The League of Women Voters of the Elgin Area will hold meet-the-candidates events from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on two Thursdays in March at Gail Borden Public Library's main branch, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin.

The March 2 session is for candidates running for the Elgin Community College Board and for the **District U-46 School Board** in the April 4 consolidated election. The March 23 gathering will feature candidates running for the Gail Borden Public Library District Board.

For more information on the events, go to lwvelginarea.org or call 847-428-4064.

To read the full article click [here](#).

– The Examiner – Secretarial union contract approved by District U-46

This story ran in South Elgin, Streamwood, & Bartlett

March. 01, 2023

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 voted 6-0, board member John Devereux was absent, on a four-year agreement with the secretarial union at its Monday, Jan. 23 meeting.

The District U-46 Secretarial Association (DUSA) approved of the agreement by a 74-26 vote on Jan. 13, according to Ann Williams, deputy superintendent for operations. The agreement is retroactive to July 1, 2022 and expires June 30, 2026.

“The contract includes increases of 9 percent and 2.25 percent for the fiscal years 2023 and 2024 respectively,” Williams said. “And for the last two years of the agreement, salary increases will be tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) factor used for the most recent tax levy with a floor of 2 percent and a ceiling of 3.25 percent.”

If the CPI is under 2 percent, Williams said a “\$500 non-compounding one-time payment will be issued to DUSA staff members.”

The new contract has yet to be posted publicly on the district’s website or the public board documents page. The 2017-2022 DUSA agreement showed starting salaries for Group A members at \$12.50 an hour, Group B at \$14 an hour, Group C at \$16 an hour and level 2 technicians at \$22.50 an hour.

Level 2 technicians possess “A+ Certification as a condition of employment,” the previous contract states.

Pay raises were tied to receiving an “either proficient or above” rating, the previous contract states, and had an increase of 3.25 percent the first year and 3 percent the following three years.

Group A employees are clerical. Group B are secretarial employees in various departments from district records to scheduling and sub-callers, and Group C represents secretaries for departments ranging from accounts payable to specialized student services as well as directors, coordinators and supervisors of various departments.

– The Examiner –

Dist. U-46 Board approves IHSA coop application

This story ran in South Elgin, Streamwood, & Bartlett

March. 01, 2023

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in **School District U-46** unanimously approved, 7-0 vote, of an application to the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) in support of a cooperative (coop) team at its meeting on Monday, Feb. 13.

The IHSA governs high school sports and activities. The coop is between **Elgin** and **South Elgin high schools** for group interpretation, which is a drama activity.

“At this time, **South Elgin (High School)** does not have enough student interest to hold our own (group interpretation) team and **Elgin (High School)** does not have a sponsor or team at this time,” the application states. “This is an easy Coop as both schools are in the same district.”

The application states that the IHSA requires a letter from the presidents of each conference involved, which is only the Upstate Eight Conference in this case, to certify that it supports the coop team as well as a letter from the conference president approving of the team competing in the conference. It also requires the board of educations of each school, U-46 the sole district in this case, to approve of an intergovernmental agreement.

With the board’s approval, the UEC president will need to submit the necessary letters.

Lela Majstorovic, assistant superintendent of schools, was unsure if this was a new coop when asked if this will allow the team to compete this year.

“I believe that we already have it,” Majstorovic said. “I don’t know that this is a new team. I think this might be a renewal.”

A review of the IHSA website shows that the coop has been in existence but the coop ends in 2023 requiring the renewal. The drama season takes place in March, according to the IHSA.



Blocked from advancing Streamwood’s James Donato having his shot blocked by St. Charles East’s Trenton Bush as the Saints stopped the Sabres from advancing in regional action at Streamwood on Wednesday, Feb.22, For story and more photos see page 8.

– The Examiner – Sabres earn first victory at regional, then bow out

March. 01, 2023

By Seth Hancock

The **Streamwood** boys basketball team saw its season end against No. 2 St. Charles East as the No. 9 **Sabres** fell 70-38 in the **Streamwood** Regional semifinals on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

St. Charles East jumped to a 23-8 lead after one quarter and led the rest of the night. The visitors led 40-17 at halftime, 60-29 entering the fourth. First-year **Sabres** coach Quentin Ruff said his team battled to the end, but “unfortunately, we are in a win or go home

situation” and “we can’t be satisfied.”

Senior Dakota White led **Streamwood** with 12 points and junior tref’ Sean Bush followed with nine points, all from behind the arc. Senior Saul Zamudio added six points and juniors Francis Sagadraca and Sincir Hunter each had five.

Streamwood was coming off a big win in the quarterfinals, a 46-45 victory over No. 8 **Elgin** on Saturday, Feb. 18 at **Elgin**. The **Sabres** entered the year with inexperience, and the quarterfinal victory was their first win of the season.

“Overall, I am very happy with the way my boys performed,” Ruff said. “They never quit, they kept fighting and they locked in on the game plan in the second half and that’s what got us the victory.”

Ruff added: “It was amazing watching my boys celebrate our first win. I think my boys needed that win just to reassure them that all the things they have been taught can help us win when you apply it. I think that win was well overdue and my boys deserved every second of that win.”

Streamwood entered the postseason with a 61-48 Upstate Eight Conference loss to West Chicago on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at **Streamwood**.

The **Sabres** end the season 1-32 overall, 0-18 in the UEC. They lose five seniors including Jack Jeschke, Joshua Wilder and James Rivera “They mean the world,” Ruff said of the seniors. “Those dudes were so committed. They were here, they were present and they were leaders. I wish I had another year with those guys. They gave me every ounce of energy they had, and that’s all I can ask for.”



Dakota White getting off a shot for the Sabres over the Saints' Jake Greenspan while pursued by East's Jack Borri.



Streamwood's Francis Sagadraca working along the baseline while dealing with the presence of the Saints' Steven Call



Saul Zamudio trying to maintain a dribble while defended by the Saints' Trenton Bush.

– The Examiner –

Bartlett falls to Benet in regional title contest

March. 01, 2023

By Seth Hancock

The **Bartlett** boys basketball team saw its season end in the Addison Trail Regional finals, the No. 8 Hawks losing 62-38 to top-seeded Benet Academy on Friday, Feb. 24.

Although trailing the entire game, the Hawks were able to tread water and not let Benet, now 31-1 overall, run away with things through most of the first half. However, Benet hit a couple late buckets to take a 33-18 lead into halftime then dominated in a 22-7 third quarter for a 55-25 lead.

“Where they kill you is their discipline,” said **Bartlett** coach Jim Wolfsmith. “They’re big and athletic and they’re deep, but it’s their discipline that kills you. They share the ball. The ball moves. You can play good defense, they find the next guy who gets the open look.”

Wolfsmith added: “Even when you play good defense, they’re going to still hit shots. I thought the first quarter, we played well defensively. I just thought we were a little tight on offense. I thought we kind of scrapped back into it in the second, but they were able to separate. They separate with discipline.”

Senior Martin McCarthy led **Bartlett** with nine points, and senior Keegan Kunzer and junior Nathan Searce both had eight.

Despite the loss, the Hawks kept fighting through the end, winning the final period 13-7. That fight and scrappiness is what helped **Bartlett** get to the finals.

“I think our kids played hard, and we just got outplayed tonight by a really, really good team,” Wolfsmith said.

In the semifinals, the Hawks faced a 16-7 deficit after one quarter against No. 9 Batavia and trailed through the end of three quarters, 33-29 entering the fourth. But **Bartlett** had a monster 28-16 fourth quarter for a 57-49 win on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

Junior Kelton McEwen (18 points), Searce (13 points) and senior Shubh Mangrola (12 points) led the Hawks.

Bartlett ends the season 19-13 overall and loses additional seniors William Pouloupoulos, Joshua Taylor, Matthew Wojcik, Ethan Hedeem and Ravi Banipal.

“I liked our season,” Wolfsmith said. “It was a rough season after Christmas where we kind of stumbled against some good teams and had some close losses. But I like the way we finished. We got to play in a regional championship game against the No. 1 team in the state.”

After a 13-3 start to the season, **Bartlett** went 6-10 including six losses by five or less points and one loss by eight.



After clearing past Benet's Brad Kunka, left, and Brayden Fagbemi, the Hawks' Keegan Kunzer posted up near the Redwings' basket while eyeing the hoop on Friday, Feb. 24 at the Addison Trail Sectional title game. (Examiner ph



Following a shot by the Hawks' Shubh Mangrola, center, that was deflected, the ball became the subject of pursuit by, from left, Benet's Brayden Fagbemi, Mangrola and the Redwings' Andy Nash.



The Hawks' Nathan Searce driving toward the Benet basket while trying to negotiate past the Redwings' Brayden Fagbemi