

Press Clippings - 4/10/2023

– Chicago Tribune –

With voters' OK to a \$179M bond referendum, U-46 ready to start work on massive school renovation plan

April 6, 2023

By Mike Danahey - The Courier-News



Now that voters have approved a \$179 million bond sale, District U-46 can move ahead with plans to convert Hawk Hollow Elementary School in Bartlett, seen here in August 2022 as teachers celebrate the first day of school, into a middle school. (School District U-46 / HANDOUT)

With the referendum to sell \$179 million in building bonds handily approved by School District U-46 voters this week, it's full steam ahead on launching what could be as much as \$380 million in school additions, renovations and improvements.

District officials must wait for the mail-in and provisional ballots to be counted and the election results canvassed and verified by April 25, but planning efforts can begin while that's happening, U-46 Chief of Staff Brian Lindholm said.

"In parallel (to the vote certification process), we are meeting with our bond advisor later this week to begin planning and developing a timeline for issuing the bonds," Lindholm

said.

After that, architects must be hired by the school board to visit schools and prioritize the work that needs to be done throughout the district, he said.

At the top of the list will be the process of converting Hawk Hollow Elementary School in Bartlett into a middle school as part of the district's plan to move all sixth-grade students out of elementary schools and into middle schools. The conversion process is to begin in July, Lindholm said.

"And U-46 will engage with the community again, particularly when it comes to boundary decisions as to where students might be going while work is being done and where they will ultimately wind up going to school," he said.

The \$179 million bond issue, which will be added to money already set aside in the budget for the capital improvements, will allow the district to set aside about \$10 million annually for the next 10 school years to fund school maintenance work, Lindholm said.

As described in the resolution supporting the election referendum, money is to be used to "make safety and security improvements, renovate and replace building infrastructure, add classrooms for early childhood education, construct accessibility improvements under the Americans with Disabilities Act, construct STEM labs and classrooms, build and equip school buildings to replace existing school buildings, build and equip additions to and alter, repair and equip existing school buildings, and improve sites."

Recommendations made last year by the Unite U-46 Steering Committee include rebuilding Lowrie, McKinley and Century Oaks elementary schools in Elgin, Glenbrook Elementary in Streamwood and Parkwood Elementary in Hanover Park, renovating or adding on to Washington Elementary in Elgin and closing Hanover Countryside Elementary in Streamwood.

"It will be a 5- to 10-year process to get to all the work that has been targeted, with 2 to 3 years required for each major project," Lindholm said.

In addition to tapping money set aside in cash reserves, U-46 staff will also be looking for grant money and other funding sources.

The bond sale will not result in tax bills going up, officials have stressed.

"The debt portion of the tax levy will remain the same," Lindholm said.

This is the first referendum the district has put to the voters in about 20 years, Lindholm said. The last referendum was also to sell building bonds, which were used to build South

Elgin High School and Kenyon Woods Middle School in South Elgin, he said.

– Chicago Tribune –

U-46 board winners agree — finding right superintendent, implementing building plan top their agendas

April 7, 2023

By Mike Danahey - The Courier-News



(Karen Sorensen / The Courier-News)

The four women elected to the U-46 School Board this past week — two incumbents and two newcomers — are united in what they see as the immediate top issues facing the Elgin-based district.

“Our number one priority is picking a new superintendent,” said Sue Kerr, of Bartlett, the current board president elected to a third term.



District U-46 School Board member Sue Kerr (Sue Kerr / HANDOUT)

That's followed by starting the work needed to implement a massive facilities master plan, which will, among other things, allow all sixth-grade classes to be moved from elementary to middle school buildings and to add early learning programs to many elementary schools.

It's being made possible thanks to voter approval Tuesday of a \$179 million building bond referendum, which will fund about half of the work.

"I'm so excited the referendum passed," said **Kate Thommes** of Elgin, current board secretary pro-tem who was elected to her second term. "I love old buildings, but old buildings like we have in the district aren't necessarily the best for educating students."

Thommes and Kerr were the top vote-getters in the election, followed by **Chanda Schwartz and Samreen Khan**, both Bartlett residents.



U-46 School Board member Kate Thommes (*Kate Thommes / HANDOUT*)

Election results remain unofficial until provisional and mail-in ballots received after Election Day but postmarked Tuesday are added to the counts and numbers are canvassed April 25. Winners will be sworn in on May 1.

Maureen Morris, of Streamwood, and **Heather LH Manzella**, of Elgin, rounded out the field of candidates. Eva Porter, of Hanover Park, and John Devereaux, of Bartlett, did not seek reelection.

Schwartz has been involved in school-related organizations for five years, including time served chairing the **U-46 Community Advisory Council** and co-chairing **Unite U-46** community engagement efforts, which helped shape the facilities master plan.

Community engagement will be a key for picking the new superintendent and for further shaping the work to be done now that the referendum has passed, **Schwartz** said.



District U-46 School Board member-elect Chanda Schwartz (Chanda Schwartz / HANDOUT)

The board is in the process of replacing **Tony Sanders**, who became the Illinois state superintendent of schools in February. **Deputy Superintendent of Instruction Suzanne Johnson is serving as interim superintendent** until an internal candidate is chosen for the job at the end of May.

All four electees said they believe the current board's decision to look internally to fill the post was prudent because it means the new top administrator is already up to speed on the initiatives being undertaken and can start work immediately.

Khan said the qualities she would like to see in the district's new leader are experience as an administrator or principal, the ability to work with a diverse student body and a clear vision for the future.

Because she is a first generation U.S. resident, her father having come to the country from Pakistan more than 60 years ago, Khan said she believes she brings a unique perspective to the board.



U-46 School Board member-elect Samreen Khan (Samreen Khan / HANDOUT)

“I’ll bring a diverse voice to the district, and I’ll work to address equity across the district for all students,” she said.

With a child attending **U-46 schools**, she will be keeping a close eye on the district’s plans to move all sixth-grade students to middle schools and will be cognizant of the social dynamics that involves.

Thommes and Schwartz both have two students attending **U-46 schools**, with each having one child in the district’s special needs programs. They bring that perspective to the board, they said.

Schwartz said she also will be advocating for the district’s continuing efforts to address a teacher shortage and to provide more mental health services for students and staff.

There’s a lot to do in the coming four years, all the electees agree.

“Now the hard work begins,” **Thommes** said.

Mike Danahey is a freelance reporter for The Courier-News.

– Chicago Tribune –

Brandon Johnson: Organizer. Anti-establishment. Servant-leader. From middle school teacher to Chicago mayor.

April 9, 2023

By Angie Leventis Lourgou - Chicago Tribune

He's the son of a pastor, a middle child of 10 brothers and sisters raised in a warm and boisterous home in Elgin that was known to host the occasional Bible study, foster child or victim of domestic violence in need of a safe haven.

Then tragedy struck in his teens. His mother grew ill from congestive heart failure and other ensuing health conditions. Yet in this period of crisis, Brandon Johnson emerged as a leader, calling together his siblings to craft a plan to care for the family matriarch and the home she once ran, recalled Andrea Johnson Williams, his younger sister.

Johnson was only 19 when his mother, Wilma Jean Johnson, died in 1995 at the age of 50.

The household was not wealthy by any means, but as a child, Williams always loved how their beautiful hardwood floors would gleam. She remembered Johnson showing the younger kids how to clean them properly, getting down on his hands and knees to scrub "the same way mommy taught us."

"He just really stepped up in that way," recalled Williams, pastor at Community Center Christian Ministries in Elgin. "From that moment, I never had a problem with Brandon leading. ... It was collaborative. It was inclusive."

In Tuesday's mayoral runoff election, Johnson — an underdog candidate — narrowly defeated front-runner Paul Vallas, a former Chicago Public Schools CEO and a fixture at City Hall decades ago during the Mayor Richard M. Daley era.

Williams predicted Johnson will run Chicago as mayor in the same manner he led his family years ago — through good example, hard work and compassion.

"He was born to do this," she said. "He is a servant-leader and he is ready to do the job."

It was a stunning victory for the previously little-known Cook County commissioner and

Black progressive, who was often billed as the anti-establishment candidate of the people.

Yet over the course of the often-heated campaign, 47-year-old Johnson grew into a political superstar of the left, garnering national headlines for his rhetoric of battling the wealthy and elite ruling class.

During his victory speech Tuesday, Johnson detailed his vision for Chicago as a city where “no one is too poor to live in one of the richest cities in one of the wealthiest nations at the richest time in the history of the world,” adding later, “Let’s take this bold, progressive movement around these United States of America. Chicago, we can show the country, we can show the world what’s possible when we stand on our values as one people.”

Before his victory, that vision was reinforced by U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders at a campaign rally just days before the election.

“That’s what Brandon Johnson is about,” Sanders said to cheering crowds. “He’s going to do what the city has never seen. He is going to bring people together to make sure that all of our people have a decent life. And what Brandon and all of us are doing in Chicago tonight is what we have to do all over the country ... and that is create local, state and federal government that works for all. Not just the 1%.”

Johnson pledged during the campaign to bring Chicago fully funded schools, more affordable housing and improved mental health care, while tackling the deep-rooted causes of violence and poverty.

A former middle school teacher, Johnson frequently touts his several years of teaching at [Jenner Academy Elementary School](#), near the since-demolished Cabrini-Green public housing development, as particularly formative in his decision to run for mayor as well as his platform. He later taught at Westinghouse College Prep on the West Side and then served as an organizer and registered lobbyist for the Chicago Teachers Union, which fiercely backed — [and bankrolled](#) — his campaign.

Tara Stamps, who taught alongside Johnson at Jenner, recalled his commitment to children inside and outside the classroom.

“When he talks about the students that touched his heart and transformed his politics, that all started at Jenner,” said Stamps, administrative director of new teacher development at the Chicago Teachers Union. “In many ways the teacher that taught next door to me ... is the same person that now Chicago gets to meet. His core values are the same. When you hear Brandon say, ‘I’m investing in people,’ he means it. Because that’s

what he did as a teacher.”

When there were few sports teams for kids at Jenner due to a dearth of coaches, Johnson became the basketball coach — and the football coach as well as the coach for the softball team, Stamps recounted.

“He did that because he understood the relationship between sports and academics,” she said.

He also knew the value of giving youth safe spaces, to keep them off the streets and out of harm’s way, she added.

In the classroom, the social studies teacher encouraged his students to have a deep knowledge of current events, drawing parallels to their own lives and communities to make global issues relevant, Stamps said.

When learning about South Africa, the students would make dioramas reflecting life there in art class and practice trading currency at the exchange rate during math, she said. They discussed how apartheid in many ways mirrored their own experiences in Cabrini-Green, which was being demolished in real-time by wrecking balls within walking distance of the wealthy Gold Coast neighborhood, Stamps recalled.

“They were watching their buildings being torn down,” she said. “They were watching gentrification take place before their very eyes.”

There was one student in particular who had extremely high grades and test scores throughout school but received one D, which would have precluded her from graduation, Stamps recounted; Johnson believed the young lady was treated unfairly and fought the administration to allow her to matriculate.

Stamps likened Johnson to the legendary [Harold Washington](#), Chicago’s first Black mayor, whom her late mother, community activist [Marion Nzinga Stamps](#), helped elect in 1983.

“Brandon will fight for you,” she said. “We believe in a just Chicago. With Brandon at the helm ... we can deliver a city we all deserve.”

‘Serve people, care for them’

As teenagers, Johnson’s sister recalled that the two of them learned how to drive in 15-passenger church vans.

After the death of his mother, Johnson — who was in college at the time — helped the church’s ministries, leading its youth group; Williams remembered them taking the

children to gospel singing competitions, with Johnson accompanying on drums.

The church kept a bucket of clothing — an assortment of tights, skirts, pants and shirts — so every child could have access to clean dress clothes if needed, Williams said.

“They trusted us,” she said. “And we did what we knew to do. Serve people, care for them and collaborate.”

Many thought Johnson would grow up to be a pastor like his father, Andrew Johnson II, Williams recalled. But over the years, she realized how many people he could help as a community organizer and public servant.

“Brandon has a gift that my mom had, which was to really see the potential in people and then pull it out,” she said.

On the campaign trail a few days before the election, Johnson made a stop at Sweet Holy Spirit Church on the city’s South Side.

He pledged to celebrate his mayoral victory by buying a pair of size 13 snakeskin shoes, like those worn by politically powerful Bishop Larry Trotter. Johnson also talked of his church roots and his father, a preacher and carpenter, joking of the pressure of being the son of “Black Jesus.”

“I know I get to go to heaven no matter what I do,” he added. “I taught middle school.”



Brandon Johnson
baseball photo from early at Elgin High School. (Johnson campaign photo)

The mayor-elect graduated from **Elgin High School** and yearbook photos show him on the varsity football team and co-hosting a school talent show. At Aurora University, he earned a bachelor’s degree in human services and youth development, as well as a master’s degree in teaching.

In his victory speech on Tuesday, Johnson spoke of how his childhood and family life

influenced some of his policy concerns, such as public safety and a theme he campaigned on: investment.

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

– Daily Herald –

U-46 board to honor Merit Scholarship finalists

April 10, 2023

Submitted by Elgin Area School District U-46

The **Elgin Area School District U-46** board of education Monday night will recognize three high school seniors who are finalists in the 68th annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Madeline Conter of Elgin High School, Hannah Guerra of Bartlett High School, and Andrew Strama of South Elgin High School will compete for one of 7,250 National Merit Scholarships that together are worth nearly \$28 million. The scholarships will be awarded this spring.

The **U-46** students placed among the top 1 percent of juniors nationwide who entered the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2021 PSAT, which served as the initial screening.

They advanced to the finals based on their academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received.

Hannah Guerra said it "didn't feel quite real" when she learned last fall that she had been named a National Merit semifinalist. Her favorite subjects are math and reading, and she plans to double major in English and physics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Ultimately, she hopes to be a published author.

She's been a part of the Dual Credit program at Elgin Community College during her senior year -- simultaneously earning college and high school credit -- and said she's grateful for all the opportunities she received in **U-46**.

"It's a big district, with big schools, and it therefore really has something for everyone," said Hannah, who was especially singled out for praise events at **Bartlett High School** that allow students to showcase their writing.

Andrew Strama plans to major in particle physics, but he is still finalizing his college choice. He said he's proud of himself for being able to balance competing in multiple sports with an advanced academic load throughout middle and high school, but thinks he'll look back most fondly on the connections he built at **South Elgin High School**.

"Some of my favorite memories in high school have come from quieter, more relaxed moments where I did nothing more than talk to my friends and slowly whittle away at work," he said. "Those moments will stick with me the most and I'm happy I was in the position to experience them."

Madeline Conter, a student at the **Gifted & Talented Academy at Elgin High School**, plans to attend Northwestern University as a mechanical engineering major, with an ultimate goal of a career in aerospace engineering.

She said she's grateful for "being able to surround myself with welcoming and inclusive students, teachers, and administrators" ever since she started in the District as a kindergartner. Madeline was also honored by the Board earlier this spring when she was named an All-State Musician by the Illinois Music Education Association. In fact, her favorite memory from her time in **U-46** is when she got to drum upside down at a high school assembly.

"A great aspect of **U-46** is the teachers' devotion to giving their students space to contribute their own ideas," she said. "Creativity is encouraged by teachers in our district like my band teacher, and I really appreciate that."

– Chicago Tribune –

Baseball, softball and girls soccer scores for the Southland, Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County

April 7, 2023

By/From Daily Southtown Staff Reports

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BASEBALL

Ag. Science 11, Farragut 1

Andrew 11, Sandburg 1 (5 innings)

Andrew (5-2-1): Danny O'Malley grand slam, 2 runs, 5 RBIs.

Barrington 11, Vernon Hills 1 (5 innings)

Bartlett 8, West Chicago 3

Bartlett (2-7, 1-1 Upstate Eight): Frank Plichta 2-for-2, run, 2 RBIs.

Batavia 16, Waubonsie Valley 3 (5 innings)

Batavia (5-2): Henry Saul 4-for-4, triple, 3 runs, 3 RBIs.

Bloom 21, Thornridge 0

Brother Rice 6, De La Salle 3

Brother Rice (7-6, 4-1 CCL Blue): Bryce Nevils 2-for-4, run, RBI.

Carmel 11, Lake Zurich 5

Carmel: MedKao Curry 2-for-4, double, 2 runs, 3 RBIs.

Chicago Christian 5, Ridgewood 3

Chicago Christian (5-2, 1-1 Metro Suburban Red): Adam Stuursma 2 runs, RBI.

Clifton Central 15, Beecher 12

Beecher (2-5, 2-2 River Valley): Zak Gorcowski 2-for-4, 2 runs, 3 RBIs.

Crete-Monee 26, Thornton 5 (4 innings)

Crete-Monee (3-4, 2-0 Southland): Jermale Bailey triple, 2 runs, 5 RBIs.

Eisenhower 14, T.F. North 3 (6 innings)

Eisenhower: JoMari Dixon 3-for-4, double, 2 runs, 5 RBIs.

Elk Grove 8, Geneva 5

Geneva (3-3): Nate Stempowski double, 2 runs.

Glenbrook North 14, Lake Forest 3 (5 innings)

Lake Forest (7-3): Shep Graf 2-for-2, double, HR, run, 2 RBIs.

Grayslake Central 11, Grayslake North 0 (5 innings)

Grayslake Central: Jack Gerbasi 2-for-2, double, 3 runs, RBI.

Hampshire 16, Belvidere North 3 (5 innings)

Hampshire (4-3): Dominick Kooistra HR, 3 runs, 4 RBIs.

Harvard 10, Bremen 0

Indian Creek 10, Parkview Christian 0 (5 innings)

Indian Creek: Reese McRoberts 2-for-4, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

Jacobs 25, Harlem 6 (4 innings)

Jacobs (5-3): Christian Graves 4-for-4, HR, 4 runs, 3 RBIs.

Joliet Catholic 17, Coal City 2 (4 innings)

JCA (7-2-1): Trey Swiderski 3-for-3, double, triple, 3 runs, 3 RBIs.

Joliet West 11, Oswego 6

Oswego (6-5): Trey Hernandez 3-for-4, 2 RBIs.

Kankakee 12, Rich Township 1 (5 innings)

Lincoln-Way Central 7, Lockport 6

Lincoln-Way Central (5-3): Collin Mowry GW 2-run HR in bottom 7th.

Lincoln-Way East 3, Briarcrest Christian (Tenn.) 2 (9 innings)

Brighton County (Tenn.) 6, Lincoln-Way East 5

Metea Valley 6, Benet 5

Metea: Mark Golminas 2-for-4, 2 runs, RBI.

Morgan Park 21, Clemente 3

Naperville Central 8, St. Charles East 4

Naperville North 10, Wheaton Warrenville South 2

Naperville North (2-1-2): Tanner Mally 3-for-4, 2 triples, 2 runs, 3 RBIs.

Neuqua Valley 6, St. Francis 2

Neuqua (5-1-1): Mark Mennecke (W) 5 IP, 0 H, 6 Ks.

Newark 18, Earlville 0

Oak Forest 7, Richards 3

Oak Forest (6-0, 1-0 SSC Blue): Trent Dian 2-for-4, double, HR, 2 runs, 4 RBIs.

Palatine 16, Highland Park 2 (6 innings)

Plainfield East 3, West Aurora 1

Rochelle 18, Hinckley-Big Rock 4 (5 innings)

Rockford Christian 15, Genoa-Kingston 5 (5 innings)

St. Charles North 15, Kaneland 5 (5 innings)

St. Charles North (4-1-1): Jackson Spring 3-for-3, run, 3 RBIs.

Schaumburg 3, Deerfield 2

Tinley Park 11, Argo 2

Tinley (3-4, 1-0 SSC Blue): Zach Hesse 2-for-3, 3 runs, RBI.

Wauconda 29, Round Lake 2 (4 innings)

Yorkville 9, Plainfield North 1

Yorkville (4-4): Kameron Yearsley 3-for-3, double, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

GIRLS SOCCER

Bremen 5, Richards 1

Bremen (2-3, 1-0-1 SSC Blue): Miranda Villanueva 2 goals.

Burlington Central 1, Huntley 1 (OT)

Burlington Central (5-1-1, 0-0-1 Fox Valley): Grace Helzer goal.

Carmel 1, Libertyville 1

Geneva 9, Glenbard North 0

Geneva: Rilee Hasegawa 2 goals, 2 assists.

Glenbard West 2, South Elgin 0

Grayslake Central 3, Grayslake North 2

Hampshire 3, Dundee-Crown 1

Jacobs 8, Woodstock North 1

Jacobs (5-2): Delaney Lukowski 2 goals, assist.

Lake Zurich 1, Hersey 0

Lake Zurich (5-1): Lauren Bailey 2 goals.

Lincoln-Way East 7, Stagg 0

Lincoln-Way East (8-1): Elizabeth Burfein goal. Ellie Feigl goal.

Lincoln-Way West 3, Bolingbrook 0

Lincoln-Way West (6-2): Kylie Murphy goal. Ava Peterson goal. Addie Gudaitis goal.

Lockport 4, Andrew 0

Lockport (7-1-1): Bella Diorio 2 goals, 2 assists.

Metea Valley 0, Nerinx Hall (Mo.) 0

Naperville North 1, Plainfield North 1

Naperville North: Claire DeCook goal.

Neuqua Valley 4, Downers Grove North 1

Neuqua: Brianna Clasen 2 goals.

Oswego East 2, Oswego 1

Rochelle 5, Indian Creek 1

St. Charles East 8, Lake Park 0

St. Charles North 3, Wheaton Warrenville South 1

St. Charles North (5-1, 2-0 DuKane): Laney Stark 2 goals.

T.F. United 8, Oak Lawn 2

T.F. United: Alanis Gonzalez 3 goals, assist.

Wauconda 2, Johnsburg 2

Wauconda (1-1-2): Kayla McCarthy 2 goals.

West Aurora 7, Romeoville 0

West Aurora (3-5, 1-3 Southwest Prairie West): Mackenzie Pearch 4 goals.

Wheaton North 2, Batavia 1

SOFTBALL

Andrew 8, Sandburg 2

Antioch 2, Buffalo Grove 1

Beecher 12, Clifton Central 0 (5 innings)

Beecher (9-0, 8-0 River Valley): Kamryn Koontz 2-for-3, run, 3 RBIs.

Crystal Lake Central 4, Cary-Grove 1

Dundee-Crown 3, Burlington Central 2

Dundee-Crown (4-3, 2-0 Fox Valley): McKayla Anderson CG, 4 H, 0 ER, 12 Ks.

Fremd 3, Lockport 1

Glenbard East 17, East Aurora 1 (5 innings)

Grant 11, Grayslake Central 2

Grant (5-4, 1-0 Northern Lake County): Gigi Bendinelli 3-for-5, HR, 3 runs, 3 RBIs.

Hersey 5, Mundelein 4

IC Catholic 7, Aurora Central Catholic 2

Joliet Catholic 11, Plainfield East 1 (6 innings)

JCA (4-3): Wrigley Fanter 2-for-4, triple, run, 4 RBIs.

Lake Forest 16, Wheeling 3 (5 innings)

Lake Forest (1-2): Bella Ranallo HR, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

Lake Park 13, Waubonsie Valley 3 (6 innings)
Lakes 31, Round Lake 1 (4 innings)
Lincoln-Way East 10, Bradley-Bourbonnais 6
Lincoln-Way East (6-1): Amanda Martineck 2-for-4, 3 RBIs.
Lincoln-Way West 11, Homewood-Flossmoor 4
Lincoln-Way West (7-1): Molly Marquardt 3-for-3, 2 HRs, 2 runs, 5 RBIs.
McHenry 11, Jacobs 2
Maine South 7, Vernon Hills 1
Marist 8, Providence 0
Marist (7-1): Mari Jarmoszka CG, 2 H, 7 Ks.
Minooka 8, Metea Valley 5
Metea: Claire Desrosiers HR, 2 RBIs.
Mother McAuley 5, Lyons 1
McAuley (3-4): Mary Charniak CG, 5 H, 10 Ks.
Naperville North 14, Geneva 5
Naperville North (3-3): Charlotte Chelich 2-for-3, 2 doubles, 2 runs, 4 RBIs.
Newark 15, Earlville 0 (4 innings)
New Trier 8, Deerfield 7
Oak Lawn 12, Hinsdale Central 0
Oswego 13, Naperville Central 12
Oswego (7-2): Marissa Moffett 2-for-4, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.
St. Charles East 11, Neuqua Valley 1 (5 innings)
Sandwich 21, Rochelle 3 (6 innings)
Sandwich (5-3, 1-1 Interstate Eight): Gianna Madrigal grand slam.
South Elgin 15, Streamwood 0 (4 innings)

Tinley Park 9, Argo 3

Tinley: Megan Piotrowski 4-for-4, double, HR, 2 runs, 4 RBIs.

Winnebago 5, Genoa-Kingston 4

Genoa-Kingston: Christine Venditti HR, 2 RBIs.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Andrew d. Argo 25-20, 26-24

Andrew (7-3): Luke Jett 14 kills. T.J. Dziekan 25 assists.

Chicago Christian d. Eisenhower 25-21, 15-25, 25-22

Downers Grove North d. Sandburg 25-17, 25-23

Elgin d. Harvest Christian 25-12, 25-20

Fremd d. Zion-Benton 25-22, 25-13

Glenbard South d. St. Charles North 25-18, 25-21

Glenbard West d. Naperville Central 25-15, 25-11

Joliet Catholic d. Bolingbrook 25-17, 25-18

Lockport d. Oak Lawn 25-6, 25-10

Lockport (12-3): Nate Nacino 7 kills, Josh Bluhm 7 kills.

Oswego East d. Joliet Central 25-17, 25-22

Compiled by Josh Krockey

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

– Daily Herald –

Baseball: South Elgin's big 4th inning too much for Glenbard East

April 8, 2023

By Allen Oshinski

One big inning was all **South Elgin** needed.

The **Storm** broke open a close game with a 5-run fourth and cruised to an 8-2 win against Glenbard East on a sunny Saturday in South Elgin.

The **Storm** (3-2, 2-0) hit for the cycle in the fourth, with a leadoff single by Thane Wills, a 2-run triple by Connor Lund, a run-scoring double by Jordan Green, and a 2-run homer by Keenan Oldani capping it off.

Oldani smacked an RBI double in the first before teeing off on Rams starter Braden Branecki's last pitch of the day and sending it high over the wall in left field to all but clinch the Upstate Eight matchup.

Storm starter Tyler Glowacki took awhile to get settled in, but after getting some advice from his coach, he found his groove and wound up striking out 9 in 5 innings before giving way to Jimmy Bluemling. Glowacki twice struck out the side looking.

"When I came in, my coach told me to keep my front shoulder down because I was yanking off," he said. "So I really took that into consideration, and I just found it."

After hitting the game's first batter and walking the second, Glowacki escaped the jam with 3 straight outs, then retired the side in the second with 3 straight called strikes.

Meanwhile, Oldani and Andrew Shall delivered two-out, run-scoring doubles in the first and second innings.

Glenbard East (1-9, 0-1) got one back in the third before the **Storm** offense erupted in the fourth.

"Good job by our kids getting 2-out hits to score runs," said **Storm coach Jim Kating**.

"Tyler started off a little rough, then settled down on the mound before Jimmy came in. We're still trying to find ourselves and what's going on and I thought we played pretty well today."

Connor Peckham had 2 of Glenbard East's 3 hits.

The fourth inning started with the **Storm** playing for one run. Wills singled to left leading

off. Kyle Steinhofer sacrificed and wound up reaching safely when the throw went astray. Lund plated both runners with a blast to left center. Green followed with his double and Oldani cleared the bases.

The next batter, Adan Guzman, doubled and Quinn Bradford walked, but Rams reliever Marco Diaz escaped the jam without further damage.

The **Storm** added a run in the sixth with Bradford's infield grounder scoring Shall.

– The Courier-News –

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

April 9, 2023

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BASEBALL

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Barrington 11, Vernon Hills 1 (5 innings)

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Batavia 16, Waubonsie Valley 3 (5 innings)

Batavia (5-2): Henry Saul 4-for-4, triple, 3 runs, 3 RBIs.

Bloom 21, Thornridge 0

Brother Rice 6, De La Salle 3

Brother Rice (7-6, 4-1 CCL Blue): Bryce Nevils 2-for-4, run, RBI.

Carmel 11, Lake Zurich 5

Carmel: MedKao Curry 2-for-4, double, 2 runs, 3 RBIs.
Chicago Christian 5, Ridgewood 3
Chicago Christian (5-2, 1-1 Metro Suburban Red): Adam Stuursma 2 runs, RBI.
Clifton Central 15, Beecher 12
Beecher (2-5, 2-2 River Valley): Zak Gorcowski 2-for-4, 2 runs, 3 RBIs.
Crete-Monee 26, Thornton 5 (4 innings)
Crete-Monee (3-4, 2-0 Southland): Jermale Bailey triple, 2 runs, 5 RBIs.
Eisenhower 14, T.F. North 3 (6 innings)
Eisenhower: JoMari Dixon 3-for-4, double, 2 runs, 5 RBIs.
Elk Grove 8, Geneva 5
Geneva (3-3): Nate Stempowski double, 2 runs.
Glenbrook North 14, Lake Forest 3 (5 innings)
Lake Forest (7-3): Shep Graf 2-for-2, double, HR, run, 2 RBIs.
Grayslake Central 11, Grayslake North 0 (5 innings)
Grayslake Central: Jack Gerbasi 2-for-2, double, 3 runs, RBI.
Hampshire 16, Belvidere North 3 (5 innings)
Hampshire (4-3): Dominick Kooistra HR, 3 runs, 4 RBIs.
Harvard 10, Bremen 0
Indian Creek 10, Parkview Christian 0 (5 innings)
Indian Creek: Reese McRoberts 2-for-4, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.
Jacobs 25, Harlem 6 (4 innings)
Jacobs (5-3): Christian Graves 4-for-4, HR, 4 runs, 3 RBIs.
Joliet Catholic 17, Coal City 2 (4 innings)
JCA (7-2-1): Trey Swiderski 3-for-3, double, triple, 3 runs, 3 RBIs.
Joliet West 11, Oswego 6
Oswego (6-5): Trey Hernandez 3-for-4, 2 RBIs.
Kankakee 12, Rich Township 1 (5 innings)
Lincoln-Way Central 7, Lockport 6

Lincoln-Way Central (5-3): Collin Mowry GW 2-run HR in bottom 7th.

Lincoln-Way East 3, Briarcrest Christian (Tenn.) 2 (9 innings)

Brighton County (Tenn.) 6, Lincoln-Way East 5

Metea Valley 6, Benet 5

Metea: Mark Golminas 2-for-4, 2 runs, RBI.

Morgan Park 21, Clemente 3

Naperville Central 8, St. Charles East 4

Naperville North 10, Wheaton Warrenville South 2

Naperville North (2-1-2): Tanner Mally 3-for-4, 2 triples, 2 runs, 3 RBIs.

Neuqua Valley 6, St. Francis 2

Neuqua (5-1-1): Mark Mennecke (W) 5 IP, 0 H, 6 Ks.

Newark 18, Earlville 0

Oak Forest 7, Richards 3

Oak Forest (6-0, 1-0 SSC Blue): Trent Dian 2-for-4, double, HR, 2 runs, 4 RBIs.

Palatine 16, Highland Park 2 (6 innings)

Plainfield East 3, West Aurora 1

Rochelle 18, Hinckley-Big Rock 4 (5 innings)

Rockford Christian 15, Genoa-Kingston 5 (5 innings)

St. Charles North 15, Kaneland 5 (5 innings)

St. Charles North (4-1-1): Jackson Spring 3-for-3, run, 3 RBIs.

Schaumburg 3, Deerfield 2

Tinley Park 11, Argo 2

Tinley (3-4, 1-0 SSC Blue): Zach Hesse 2-for-3, 3 runs, RBI.

Wauconda 29, Round Lake 2 (4 innings)

Yorkville 9, Plainfield North 1

Yorkville (4-4): Kameron Yearsley 3-for-3, double, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

SOFTBALL

Andrew 8, Sandburg 2
Antioch 2, Buffalo Grove 1
Beecher 12, Clifton Central 0 (5 innings)
Beecher (9-0, 8-0 River Valley): Kamryn Koontz 2-for-3, run, 3 RBIs.
Crystal Lake Central 4, Cary-Grove 1
Dundee-Crown 3, Burlington Central 2
Dundee-Crown (4-3, 2-0 Fox Valley): McKayla Anderson CG, 4 H, 0 ER, 12 Ks.
Fremd 3, Lockport 1
Glenbard East 17, East Aurora 1 (5 innings)
Grant 11, Grayslake Central 2
Grant (5-4, 1-0 Northern Lake County): Gigi Bendinelli 3-for-5, HR, 3 runs, 3 RBIs.
Hersey 5, Mundelein 4
IC Catholic 7, Aurora Central Catholic 2
Joliet Catholic 11, Plainfield East 1 (6 innings)
JCA (4-3): Wrigley Fanter 2-for-4, triple, run, 4 RBIs.
Lake Forest 16, Wheeling 3 (5 innings)
Lake Forest (1-2): Bella Ranallo HR, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.
Lake Park 13, Waubonsie Valley 3 (6 innings)
Lakes 31, Round Lake 1 (4 innings)
Lincoln-Way East 10, Bradley-Bourbonnais 6
Lincoln-Way East (6-1): Amanda Martineck 2-for-4, 3 RBIs.
Lincoln-Way West 11, Homewood-Flossmoor 4
Lincoln-Way West (7-1): Molly Marquardt 3-for-3, 2 HRs, 2 runs, 5 RBIs.
McHenry 11, Jacobs 2
Maine South 7, Vernon Hills 1
Marist 8, Providence 0
Marist (7-1): Mari Jarmoszka CG, 2 H, 7 Ks.
Minooka 8, Metea Valley 5

Metea: Claire Desrosiers HR, 2 RBIs.

Mother McAuley 5, Lyons 1

McAuley (3-4): Mary Charniak CG, 5 H, 10 Ks.

Naperville North 14, Geneva 5

Naperville North (3-3): Charlotte Chelich 2-for-3, 2 doubles, 2 runs, 4 RBIs.

Newark 15, Earlville 0 (4 innings)

New Trier 8, Deerfield 7

Oak Lawn 12, Hinsdale Central 0

Oswego 13, Naperville Central 12

Oswego (7-2): Marissa Moffett 2-for-4, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

St. Charles East 11, Neuqua Valley 1 (5 innings)

Sandwich 21, Rochelle 3 (6 innings)

Sandwich (5-3, 1-1 Interstate Eight): Gianna Madrigal grand slam.

South Elgin 15, Streamwood 0 (4 innings)

Tinley Park 9, Argo 3

Tinley: Megan Piotrowski 4-for-4, double, HR, 2 runs, 4 RBIs.

Winnebago 5, Genoa-Kingston 4

Genoa-Kingston: Christine Venditti HR, 2 RBIs.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Andrew d. Argo 25-20, 26-24

Andrew (7-3): Luke Jett 14 kills. T.J. Dziekan 25 assists.

Chicago Christian d. Eisenhower 25-21, 15-25, 25-22

Downers Grove North d. Sandburg 25-17, 25-23

Elgin d. Harvest Christian 25-12, 25-20

Fremd d. Zion-Benton 25-22, 25-13

Glenbard South d. St. Charles North 25-18, 25-21

Glenbard West d. Naperville Central 25-15, 25-11

Joliet Catholic d. Bolingbrook 25-17, 25-18

Lockport d. Oak Lawn 25-6, 25-10

Lockport (12-3): Nate Nacino 7 kills, Josh Bluhm 7 kills.

Oswego East d. Joliet Central 25-17, 25-22

Compiled by Josh Krockey.

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

– Daily Herald –

Softball: Top 20

April 10, 2023

Softball

Records through April 9

Team Comment

1. Antioch (7-0) Sequoits beat last 4 opponents 50-3
2. Barrington (4-3) Split 4 games against state powers
3. St. Charles North (4-1) Suffered 1st loss to Barrington
4. Buffalo Grove (6-1) Only loss to state power Antioch
5. Carmel (7-0) Corsairs open ESCC slate with sweep of Nazareth
6. **Bartlett** (5-1) Wins UEC slugfest over W. Chicago 21-15
7. Lake Park (7-2-1) Lancers have won 6 straight
8. Warren (7-2) Conference wins over Stevenson, Libertyville
9. Willowbrook (5-2) Split D with Glenbard West
10. Benet (4-1) O'Rourke 1.91 ERA
11. Fremd (4-2) Allowed only 2 runs in its 4 wins

12. IC Catholic (9-1) A. Dwyer has 4 HRs
13. Hersey (5-1) Sharlau has 5 HRs, Sok a grand slam
14. **South Elgin** (5-2) Rolled by **Streamwood** in UEC opener
15. Glenbard North (2-1) Takes on Naperville North Tuesday
16. Naperville North (5-3) Swept Plainfield South
17. Downers Grove South (3-1) Ella Cushing hitting .538
18. St. Charles E. (5-3-1) Looking to rebound from tough losses
19. Huntley (5-3) Red Raiders extend FVC win streak to 45
20. Wauconda (8-4) B. Lucht hitting .579 with 2 HRs, 16 RBI

– Daily Herald –

Softball: South Elgin scores early, often vs. Bartlett

April 11, 2023

By Allen Oshinski

South Elgin scored early and often to open the conference season.

The **Storm** put up 2 touchdowns in downing **Bartlett**, 14-5, in the Upstate Eight opener for both teams in Bartlett. Sammie Jimenez led the barrage, going 4-for-4 with a home run and 5 RBI.

The **Storm** scored 4 times in the first inning and never looked back. **South Elgin** scored in every inning until the seventh, when the Storm left the bases loaded.

Jimenez had plenty of help. Leadoff hitter Cara Cruthers had 2 hits, walked 3 times, and scored 4 runs for **South Elgin**. Hannah Harms doubled, singled and scored 3 times. Anna Kiel had 2 hits, 2 walks, and 3 runs scored. Madison Hunt drove in 3 runs. Ava McDaniel and Madaline Firmstone had 2 hits apiece for the Storm (7-2 overall).

Winning pitcher CeCe Bell allowed just 1 run and 4 hits through 4 innings before the **Hawks** finally got to her in the fifth. Kiel came on in relief and got the final 8 outs.

The **Storm** jumped ahead early with consecutive run-scoring singles by Jimenez and McDaniel and Hunt's 2-run double. After plating single runs in the second and third, the

Storm added 3 more in the fourth thanks to some shaky **Bartlett** defense. The visitors broke the game wide open with a 4-spot in the fifth keyed by Jimenez's 3-run blast to right center.

The **Storm** appreciated the early offense, "especially against **Bartlett**, any time you can score in the first and put them in a little bit of a hole," said **South Elgin coach Brad Reynard**. "Luckily, we've been doing that all year. We've been swinging the bats really well. Just a huge win for us today."

"I think that [first inning] was really big for us," Jimenez said. "I think it was a big confidence boost for all of us, and it took the nerves away."

South Elgin led 13-1 after the big fifth inning. Down to their final 3 outs, the **Hawks** (3-5 overall) rallied to keep the game going, scoring 4 runs of their own in the bottom half.

Nicole Young drove in the first run of the inning, scoring Lauren Liguori with a double to left center. Losing pitcher Addie Koth knocked in another run with a fielder's choice, and Olivia Liguori's 2-run triple scored 2 more runs and kept the game alive.

"Our kids are resilient," said **Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith**. "They've been like this all season: we get down, a team scores on us, we come right back. I love that about this team: they're resilient."

– Chicago Tribune –

Paul Johnson's Aurora, Elgin, Naperville baseball rankings and player of the week

April 10, 2023

By Paul Johnson - Aurora Beacon-News

Top 10

With records through Sunday and previous rankings in parentheses.

1. Naperville Central 7-3 (1)

A 5-0 week paced by pitching staff that posts 1.63 ERA, 39 strikeouts, only 16 walks.

2. Jacobs 6-3 (2)

Anthony Edge hits walk-off two-run homer in extra innings Saturday for Golden Eagles.

3. St. Charles East 4-1 (3)

Saints bounce back from loss to Naperville Central with extra-inning win over Barrington.

4. St. Charles North 7-1-1 (7)

Red-hot North Stars go eight games without a loss heading into DuKane Conference play.

5. Oswego 7-5 (4)

Panthers recover from back-to-back losses with Saturday's win over Waubonsie Valley.

6. Neuqua Valley 5-2-1 (5)

Mark Mennecke tosses five no-hit innings Saturday in a 6-2 win over St. Francis.

7. Benet 5-3 (6)

Redwings open conference play this week with series against St. Patrick.

8. Harvest Christian 9-1 (9)

Jared Rodriguez continues strong start with five shutout innings in 10-0 win over Bremen.

9. Streamwood 8-2 (NR)

Senior catcher **Nick Weaver** goes 4-for-4 with three-run homer Saturday to lead Sabres.

10. Oswego East 7-3 (NR)

Wolves win wild 11-10 game over Bolingbrook, sixth straight, on **Eric Lewis'** walk-off hit.

Player of the Week

Cody Hazzard allowed one hit and struck out 17 Saturday for Yorkville Christian in a 9-0 victory over Momence.

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