

Press Clippings - 5/19/2023

– Chicago Tribune –

Elgin News Digest: U-46 honors music education program, head custodian;

May 19, 2023

By Mike Danahey - The Courier-News

U-46 honors music education program, head custodian

The U-46 School Board Monday recognized the district's music education program and the head custodian at South Elgin High School for honors they recently received.

For the fifth straight year, U-46 received a Best Communities for Music Education designation from the nonprofit National Association of Music Merchants Foundation, a news release said. U-46 was one of 25 school districts in Illinois to receive the accolade.

South Elgin High School head custodian Adam Bryl was the recipient of the Educational Service Personnel Award at the Kane County Regional Office of Education's annual Kane County Educator of the Year awards banquet. A former sheet metal worker, Bryl lives with his family in South Elgin and has been the lead custodian at South Elgin for 11 years.

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

– **Daily Herald** –

Crum, Batavia sail to 3rd straight sectional title

May 19, 2023

By Jake Bartelson - Shaw Local News Network



South Elgin's Elias Cole-Williams celebrates his high jump Thursday. Sandy Bressner/sbressner@shawmedia.com



Elgin's Dawwayne Evans competes in the long jump during the Class 3A Batavia track and field sectional on Thursday, May 18, 2023. (Sandy Bressner/sbressner@shawmedia.com)

Alec Crum could finally catch his breath.

Moments after finishing the 4x400 relay to close the Class 3A Batavia Sectional Meet, Crum was briefly clutching his knees and gathering himself after a symbolic marathon of a track meet.

Crum, the Batavia senior, qualified for the IHSA Class 3A state meet in the long jump (6.76-meters), high jump (1.95-meters), triple jump (13.74 meters) and as a part of the 4x400 relay.

The jam-packed schedule is by design. Crum probably wouldn't operate it any other way.

"For the first three jumps, I definitely just need to go full throttle until I can't anymore," Crum said. "Then, I have a long break until the 4x400."

It marks the second year in a row Crum qualified in the high jump. He placed 26th at state a season ago.

"... But I came really close in the triple [last year] and that was the one thing I really did want to go into [state this year]," Crum said. "So, it was kind of my comeback; to qualify in three jumps and the 4x4, it means a lot."

Batavia, as a team, won sectionals for the third year in a row with 121 points. Barrington (74) and St. Charles North (73) followed in second and third, respectively.

The Bulldogs' 4x800 relay (8:00.80) and 4x200 (1:28.75) won sectional titles. The 4x100 relay took second to set a new team PR of 42.4 seconds and their 4x400 relay qualified with a 3:28.13 effort.

Bulldogs senior pole vaulter Gabe Benkers is back to Charleston for his second time and won first place in sectionals with a 4.30-meter effort. Benkers tied for 14th last year at state.

"Once you qualify for state the first time, it gets a lot harder," Benkers said. "Because then [it's] that big mark that everyone thinks of before they get it, it's gone. You have to set your own goals [and] your own achievements. I struggled with that a little bit in the offseason.

"I slowly built up to the season. Now, I've been setting my own goals and trying to hit certain marks every day."

Benkers worked through a groin injury early in the season and now is good to go. Former high school teammate Nick Fortino also has been a helpful resource in the weeks leading up to the finish line of the season.

“He’s been working [helping] on my top half a lot,” Benkers said. “And, that’s been helping me get higher ... I was ‘this close’ to 14—6. I needed to throw my head back.”

Quintin Lowe won the 800-meter dash (1:56.33) and the 1,600-meter run (4:24.65); Ben Matthews (110 hurdles, 15.37 seconds) also qualified, as did Weston White in both the 100 dash (10.89 seconds) and 200 dash (22.05 seconds). Luke Alwin advanced in triple jump (43-11).

St. Charles North senior hurdler Bryce Thomas continued his excellent season with a sectional victory in the 110-meter hurdles (14.93 seconds) for a new personal record and the 300 hurdles (38.95 seconds), also a PR.

Thomas, who was a member of the North Stars’ 4x800 relay at state last year, has transformed himself into one of the area’s top hurdlers in just over a year’s span.

“The year before [that state relay], he did four sports: soccer, he swam; he loves everything to do with doing everything he can,” North Stars coach Kevin Harrington said. “He was sitting last year in early April and ‘Hey coach, can I try the hurdles?’

“ ... Last year, I think he PR’d six or seven times in a row and was third at sectionals; just missed state by a hair. Last year, he wasn’t hurdling. He was a fast kid jumping over things. He learned to hurdle.

After months of working on his craft, Thomas transformed himself into the high-caliber competitor he is today. In his 2023 outdoor season alone, Thomas has five first place finishes in the 110 hurdles and seven for his 300 hurdles opportunities.

“ ... Honestly, just serendipity, the former Maine South head coach Scott Sutschek contacted me. He was looking for a coaching job. He’s an expert at hurdles,” Harrington continued. “ ... Bryce, not only is awesome ... Bryce eats it up.”

“Definitely last year, I threw myself into hurdles and I was like ‘Woah, I didn’t know this is my event,’” Thomas added. “Now, I’ve had this picture of this path to state in my head. I’ve been doing work over the summer, all by myself in the winter; hurdles, upon hurdles upon hurdles and finally get my form down ... hopefully, I got two races left.”

Henry Warsaw won the shot put sectional title with a 17.82 meter effort. The North Stars’ 4x200 and 4x100 each qualified, and their 4x400 blazed to a sectional title with a speedy 3:24.20 effort. Pole vaulter Nathan McLoughlin also advanced (4.30-meters).

Geneva senior and German foreign exchange student, Karl Gattinger, qualified in the 100 meter dash with a 11.02 second finish for a personal record, and also the 200 dash (22.18 seconds). Jack Kuehl (800 dash, 1:58.64) qualified and had a PR. The Vikings' 4x200 also qualified.

St. Charles East distance standout Mitch Garcia qualified in the 3,200 meter run with a 9:18.93 finish. The Saints' 110-hurdler, Matthew Hall (15.40 seconds) also qualified.

– Chicago Tribune –

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

May 17, 2023

By From Staff Reports - Aurora Beacon-News

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BASEBALL

Carmel 1, Palatine 0

Carmel (14-15-2): Adam Galdoni CG, H, 10 Ks.

Conant 5, Geneva 4

Geneva (14-17): Nate Stempowski 3-for-4, run.

Deerfield 12, Maine East 7

Grayslake Central 6, Dundee-Crown 5

Highland Park 3, Vernon Hills 0 (9 innings)

Highland Park (13-14, 9-6 Central Suburban North): Luke Weber 8.2 IP, 2 H, 14 Ks.
Dylan Lew double, run, RBI.

St. Charles North 8, Burlington Central 1

St. Charles North (22-8-1): Parker Reinke 2-for-3, run, 2 RBIs. Alex Oddo 3-for-4, 2 runs, RBI.

Sycamore 7, Marmion 1

SOUTH ELGIN

Geneva 2, Bartlett 1

South Elgin 3, West Chicago 1

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BASEBALL

Antioch 17, Round Lake 3

Batavia 4, St. Charles North 2

Batavia (14-15, 9-12 DuKane): R.J. Bohr 2-for-3, run, RBI.

Benet 18, Glenbard South 3 (4 innings)

Benet (14-12): Cole Rosenthal 3-for-5, double, run, 4 RBIs.

Buffalo Grove 11, Jacobs 2

Crystal Lake South 10, Carmel 0 (5 innings)

Grant 3, Lakes 0

Grant (13-15, 9-8 Northern Lake County): Braden Otahal CG, 2 H, 10 Ks.

Grayslake Central 11, Wauconda 8

Grayslake Central (25-5, 17-0 Northern Lake County): Garrett Guenther 2-for-3, triple, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

Grayslake North 4, Cary-Grove 0

Hampshire 19, Woodstock 0 (4 innings)

Hersey 8, Highland Park 0

Lake Park 3, Geneva 1

Lake Zurich 12, Waukegan 2 (6 innings)

Lake Zurich (12-11, 7-7 North Suburban): Lucas Foley triple, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

LaSalle-Peru 7, Plano 0

Libertyville 19, Stevenson 9 (5 innings)

Libertyville (17-12-2, 11-3 North Suburban): Graham Goodman 3-for-5, 2 runs, 4 RBIs.
Tyler DeFranco 3 runs, 2 RBIs.

Stevenson (25-9, 11-4): Brandon Schultz 3-for-3, double, 2 runs, RBI.

Minooka 5, West Aurora 0

Mundelein 10, Lake Forest 1

Nazareth 7, Burlington Central 1

Oswego 4, Yorkville 3 (8 innings)

Oswego (22-10, 11-3 Southwest Prairie West): Cade Duffin double, run, RBI.

Plainfield North 6, Oswego East 3

Oswego East (19-10, 9-5 Southwest Prairie West): Jackson Petsche 2-for-2, solo HR.

St. Charles East 11, Wheaton North 1 (5 innings)

St. Charles East (24-3, 19-1 DuKane): Joe Arend 4-for-4, 2 runs, 3 RBIs.

Warren 10, Zion-Benton 0 (6 innings)

GIRLS SOCCER

CLASS 3A REGIONAL SEMIFINALS

ST. CHARLES NORTH

St. Charles North 8, **Streamwood** 0

Wheaton Warrenville South 4, **Elgin** 1

CLASS 1A SECTIONAL SEMIFINAL

SOFTBALL

Antioch 2, Wauconda 0

Bartlett 14, Fenton 1

Carmel 3, Dundee-Crow 1

Carmel (20-3): Grace Brown 3-for-4, HR, 2 runs, 2 RBIs.

Grant 18, Round Lake 2 (4 innings)

Larkin 4, Glenbard East 3

Marist 14, St. Charles North 4 (5 innings)

Mundelein 19, Lake Forest 1 (5 innings)

South Elgin 15, East Aurora 0 (4 innings)

Stevenson 5, Libertyville 4

Yorkville 11, Jacobs 1 (5 innings)

Yorkville (29-1): Madi Reeves CG, 2 H, 10 Ks.

Compiled by Josh Krockey.

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