

# Press Clippings - 5/23/2023

## – Chicago Tribune –

### **Elgin News Digest: five U-46 high school graduations to be held Saturday**

**May 23, 2023**

**By Mike Danahey - The Courier-News**

#### **Five U-46 high school graduations to be held Saturday**

School District U-46 high school graduation ceremonies are to be held Saturday, May 27, at the NOW Arena in Hoffman Estates.

Larkin High School will be the first of five ceremonies that day, starting at 8 a.m. It will be followed by Streamwood High School at 11 a.m., South Elgin at 2 p.m., Elgin at 5 p.m. and Bartlett at 8 p.m.

Ceremonies also will be livestreamed on the district's website. For more information, go to [www.u-46.org/classof2023](http://www.u-46.org/classof2023).

The last day of classes for U-46 schools will be Wednesday, May 31.

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

## – West Cook News –

### **"The social-emotional focus is really important;" Consultants help River Forest District 90 plans kindergarten revamp**

**May 22, 2023**

**By LGIS News Service**

River Forest District 90 has engaged "early learning" consultants to help staff figure out how to teach "full day" kindergarten to five and six year old children next year.

"The social-emotional focus is really important," said District 90 Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Alison Hawley, who outlined her plans to the new District

90 Board of Education on May 15. "Teachers are working with consultants to figure out which centers they are going to use and how that might flow throughout the day."

Hawley said she is seeking to "align instructional minutes to best practices" but admitted that full-day kindergarten is "really academic, teacher-facilitated play time."

Still, she said the district has been "engaged in professional learning sessions with consultants related to daily exploration and choice time," including Karen DuBois-Garofalo of the University of New Hampshire, who describes herself as an "early learning coach & coordinator."

DuBois-Garofalo is a self-professed devotee of the "Reggio Emilia" philosophy of teaching, which argues schools should take over the "social emotional" development of children from parents.

Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker is also mandating schools try to influence the "social emotional" development of the state's children. His new school standards ask kindergarteners to "identify family, peer, school, and community strengths", to "describe positive qualities in others", and to "identify and perform roles that contribute to one's family."

In April, Hawley told Chalkbeat she planned wholesale changes for River Forest kindergarten.

"We're changing standards for our kindergarten students. The academic standards are designed for a full year and we have a half-day program," she said.

### **Modeled on Elgin**

Sources tell *West Cook News* that Hawley is modeling District 90's new kindergarten program on that of U-46, one of the largest districts in Illinois.

U-46, which has 39,000 students, primarily serves students in Elgin, Bartlett, Hanover Park, South Elgin, Streamwood and Wayne. According to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), some four in ten U-46 students don't speak English proficiently and just two in ten are at grade level in English and Math. The district has a 38 percent chronic absentee rate.

In 2017, then-District 90 board member Rich Moore argued against full-day kindergarten, arguing it allowed his wife and child to spend more time together.

"It really was a gift for (his wife) to stay home," he told Crain's Chicago Business.

Moore, who resigned from the board before the recent April 4 elections, eventually apologized after an "uproar from working parents who didn't share his—outdated, in

their minds—vision" of a mother being a homemaker.

District 90 unanimously passed a resolution approving full-day kindergarten for River Forest on Feb. 21.

Hawley joined District 90 in 2016 and was promoted from director to assistant superintendent in June 2022, though district test scores have fallen 20 percent over her tenure, leading to the district's losing its "Exemplary" status, per ISBE.

The current District 90 board includes Katie Avalos, Sarah Eckmann, Nicole Thompson and Stacey Williams along with newly-elected members Joseph Cortese, Kristine Mackey and Eric Isenberg.

## – Daily Herald –

### **Girls soccer: Najera, St. Charles North win 20th consecutive regional title in 2-0 win over Wheaton Warrenville South**

**May 19, 2023**

**By Jake Bartelson - Shaw Local News Network**

No current St. Charles North player was even born yet when their astounding regional final streak began.

It was way, way back in 2003 -- when head coach Brian Harks was a student and senior at the very school he now coaches at each day.

Twenty years later, the North Stars are still winning regional titles. Their 20th straight came by virtue of a 2-0 victory over Wheaton Warrenville South at the Class 3A St. Charles Regional final on Friday.

"One of the things that we talk a lot about in this program is tradition and that core foundation set by [inaugural coach and 15-year North Stars coach] Ruth Vostal back when the school first opened up," Harks said. "And the success that she was able to generate.

"When I was a younger coach, just watching that and trying to absorb that and mimic that. I look to her as a mentor for the things that she did for the program."

Vostal had a phrase that has persisted ever since: 'St. Charles North, we don't rebuild,

we reload.'

"That's been true," Harks said. "The quality of players and their ability to buy into that [has consistently shown]. This group, once again, has proved that they have earned a spot in the traditions of St. Charles North."

The history and moment isn't lost on Michigan State recruit Bella Najera.

"It's a really great program with a lot of tradition and some really great players in this area," Najera said following their regional semifinal win over **Streamwood** last Tuesday. "So wearing the shield [North Stars crest] means a lot. Every time you step on the field, you just want to give it your best for the players before us and for the future players ahead of us."

Wheaton Warrenville South (8-8-5) and St. Charles North (15-3-2) battled in a genuine physical affair for the full 80 regulation minutes. Both teams found stretches in the first half for fruitful chances on rushes and windows for a shooting opportunity, which allowed both goalies, WW South's Marilyn Dixon (five saves) and SCN's Kara Claussner (five saves) to shine at center stage.

Najera managed to crack the code on a second half corner kick in traffic for a 1-0 North Stars lead with 36:11 left. Rian Spaulding later followed during a frantic full-sprint rush that Dixon initially got a piece of, but Spaulding followed on the rebound for the insurance and ultimately game-clinching goal.

"I saw the ball in front of me. I knew it was a one-on-one, [with a defender] and then the goalie," Spaulding said. "So I just had to get around them and tuck it behind the net. Plus, it was 1-0. That's not a comfortable game [and we needed another score]."

The North Stars await the Geneva-**South Elgin** winner in Saturday's **South Elgin** Regional final, for next Tuesday's sectional semifinal at West Chicago High School.

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

## — Daily Herald —

### **Boys tennis: Spurck takes title at Fremd**

**May 20, 2023**

**By Mike Garofola**

The tennis season will move into its final weekend of the season after the state field has been established following sectional play Saturday.

Here's a look at how things shook down:

### **At Fremd:**

Andrew Spurck confirmed his status among the elite singles players when the Fremd junior beat the No. 1 man in the state.

Spurck (15-1) beat Mitch Sheldon (Hersey, 18-1) in straight sets -- claiming a first set tiebreaker, before rolling to a 6-2 second set victory to win the sectional title, and likely solidify his spot as the No. 1 seed next weekend when the state tournament begins.

"(Mitch) is such a great player, so it made for the tight first set. (It) first set was 4-4, then 5-5 (with) before I was able to finally win the set 7-6(5), and once it got to 4-1 in the second set (he) gave me some points here and there, and I was able to finish off the set, 6-2," said Spurck, who took an injury fault in his final with Sheldon in the finals of the MSL Conference tournament a week ago.

Spurck, who will be joined by Shashwat Srivasta and doubles champions Jason Sze-Amaye Shyani, led the Vikings to the team title over league rival Hersey by four points, 33-29.

### **At Cary-Grove:**

It was all Barrington at host Cary-Grove as the Broncos advanced all four of its teams, including singles champion Deven Carse (19-3) who would defeat his freshmen teammate: Hadi Dossani (22-2) 6-3, 6-4.

Cary-Grove sophomore Bryce Schectman gave his program its second consecutive state qualifier with his third-place win over **Jasjeet Talwar** (13-4 of **South Elgin**).

"Bryce was a starter at one dubs for us last year, and when we needed someone to take over at No. 1 singles, he made the switch, and has done a great job for us," says Trojans head coach, Amanda Schuetzle.

**Talwar** will be joined by the **Storms'** doubles team of Cullen Watt-Matthew Benson (9-3), who dropped their third-place contest to August Nelson-Soham Kalra from Jacobs.

"We have not had a state qualifier in quite a long time, so to get two teams into the tournament is big for the players, as well as our program," said **Storm coach, Eduardo Molina**.

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

## – Daily Herald –

### Girls soccer: Hasegawa kicks Geneva past South Elgin, into sectional semifinals

May 20, 2023

By Jared Birchfield

A determined Geneva offense was thwarted by a single-minded South Elgin defense throughout Saturday's Class 3A regional championship.

The Vikings controlled the run-of-play and took over 20 shots on goal. The host Storm countered by intercepting Geneva's crosses and blocking the scoring attempts.

Geneva finally capitalized on a South Elgin miscue late in the match and scored the contest's only goal to win its first regional crown since 2017.

The Vikings advance to the West Chicago sectional and will play DuKane Conference rival St. Charles North in the second semifinal match on Tuesday.

With 11:14 left to play, South Elgin goalkeeper Karissa Cruz deflected Rilee Hasegawa's sixth shot on goal. During the ensuing scrum inside the penalty box to get control of the ball, officials whistled South Elgin for a foul.

Hasegawa, a Florida Southern commit, lined up for the penalty kick and knocked the ball into the upper left corner of the goal.

The senior had prepared for this situation.

"I went through the scenario. It's my senior year and everything is on the line. I had been visualizing the moment replaying it over and over in my head," Hasegawa said.

"We practice PKs during practice every day. I visualized where I wanted it and place it there."

Cruz stopped 15 Geneva shots. Other Viking scoring attempts were deflected by Storm defenders.

"They did a good job of playing in the back. They had five to six players in the back so it's just hard to get through," Geneva coach Megan Owens said. "Our offense was just so strong. I think offensively we dominated. We had so, so many opportunities. It was just a matter of what we had to do to finish one."

South Elgin coach Jerzy Skowron had high praise for his defenders.

"Karissa is one of the best goalkeepers in the state. Leslie (Ulloa) is one of the best defenders in the state. She's just been fantastic all season," said the Storm coach.

"Ashley (Gonzalez) was amazing today, probably the best game she's played all season."

"I think we came out really strong. A lot was on the line, a regional title," Cruz said.

The senior will continue her soccer career next year at Dubuque.

The **Storm** made few incursions into Vikings territory. **South Elgin's** best scoring opportunity came early in the second half. **Freshman Nevaeh Gyurko** got a shot off in the 48th minute from the top right corner of the penalty box that went wide.

Owens felt Geneva's defense also turned in a strong performance.

"I think my defenders, Bella Walls (a Richmond recruit), Morgan Rudowicz, Cami Bishop, Luci Okolita and at times Leyna Yonehara, did a great job of shutting them down. They did a great job of playing out of the back so we could just concentrate on our offense," the Geneva coach said. "We played total team defense and didn't give **South Elgin** the opportunity to really pressure us at all or get many (scoring) opportunities."

The Vikings will take the rest of the weekend off to savor the win and dance.

"I just want them to enjoy this moment, go out, enjoy prom. We'll regroup on Monday," Owens said. "We'll just need to go out (Tuesday) and leave it all on the field and finish some of the opportunities we create."

Geneva (18-5-1), seeded third in the West Chicago sectional, dropped a 2-1 decision to second seed St. Charles North (15-3-2) last month.

The **Storm** finished Skowron's first year as the girls coach with an Upstate Eight Conference title and a 10-9-2 record. He has headed the boys program for four years.

## **– Daily Herald – 5 burning questions posed about baseball, softball postseasons**

**May 21, 2023**

**By John Radtke**

The final postseason of the school year sure did sneak up on us, didn't it?

Seems to happen every year, though. As thoughts turn to graduation for seniors, and summer for everyone, the spring sports postseason jumps up and reminds us we still have champions to crown.

The final four of those IHSA championship trophies will be doled out the weekend of June 9-10 in Class 3A and 4A baseball at Duly Health & Care Field in Joliet for baseball, and at Louisville Slugger Park in Peoria for softball.

But before we get to that point, with regional competition beginning Monday, today we offer five burning questions in each sport. So, without further ado, we'll begin with baseball.

- Can St. Charles East send coach Len Asquini into retirement with a state title? The Saints (25-4), the top-ranked team in the Daily Herald Top 20, are the top seed in the South Elgin sectional, but they'll have to be careful to not look ahead to a potential sectional final against rival No. 2 seed St. Charles North (23-8-1). SCE beat SCN twice in their three-game series earlier this month, but all three games were close. Asquini took over the Saints' program in 1996, won a state title in 1999, stepped away in 2003, returned in 2012 and led the Saints to a third-place finish in 2013.
- Is **Streamwood** the real deal? **The Sabres** (24-8-1) came on strong at the end of the year and tied **South Elgin** for the Upstate Eight title. They are the No. 1 seed in the **Larkin** regional, but a potential sectional final date with a battle-tested Huntley squad looms.
- What about Mundelein? The Mustangs were second in the state last year and returned a huge number of players from that team. But earlier this season the Mustangs had a sizable portion of their varsity team suspended for violating the athletic code of conduct, and they faltered a bit on the field. But, they've bounced back and stand at 20-9 heading into the week. Records aside, they are likely the most dangerous 7th seed in the state. They'll probably have to get past No. 2 seed Barrington, though, to win the Hoffman Estates regional. A huge motivator for the Mustangs? They host a sectional.
- Who is the team to watch coming out of DuPage County? On paper it would appear to be Downers Grove North. The Trojans (29-4) are the top seed in the Romeoville sectional, but it would be unwise to count out any of the three seeds below them -- No. 2 Naperville Central, No. 3 Oswego or No. 4 Downers South. Also keep an eye on No. 3 seed Willowbrook in the **South Elgin** sectional.

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



## – Chicago Tribune –

### Addison Koth concentrates on hitting home runs for Bartlett. Getting intentionally walked? ‘That’s not in my control.’

May 22, 2023

By Rick Armstrong - Aurora Beacon-News



**Bartlett's Addison Koth** connects for a home run against Glenbard South during an Upstate Eight Conference game in Glen Ellyn on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. (Mike Mantucca / The Beacon-News)



***Bartlett's Addison Koth delivers a pitch against Glenbard South during an Upstate Eight Conference game in Glen Ellyn on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. (Mike Mantucca / The Beacon-News)***

The spring weather may have finally turned for the better, but senior first baseman **Addison Koth** has been on fire all season for **Bartlett**.

The NCAA Division II Maryville recruit, who has been hitting a ton, carries a .587 batting average for the **Hawks** (24-7) into a 4:30 p.m. Wednesday game in the Lake Park Regional.

**Bartlett**, seeded seventh in the Class 4A St. Charles North Sectional, will go up against ninth-seeded Addison Trail (20-8).

"**Addison Koth** is having a historic season," **Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith** said.

**Koth** is hitting .587 with a program-record 19 home runs this season, which breaks the mark of 16 she set last year. Koth also has the program record for career homers with 50.

"During travel, I stopped pitching as much, which seemed to help my hitting," **Koth** said. "This past winter I began focusing a lot on hitting and putting a lot of work into my mental approach and swing with my **hitting coach, Mark Mantucca**, and on my own at the Bo Dome.

"I never expected to hit that many homers, especially after losing my freshman season to COVID. Right before sophomore season, I began working with Mark, who had a big impact."

A returning all-state choice, **Koth** has 15 doubles and two triples. She has scored 63 runs and driven in 82.

“Her career numbers are staggering,” Wolfsmith said. “On top of that, she is a great kid, student and tremendous leader. And the most humble stud athlete I have ever coached.

“She literally lifts all the time, hits all the time. They should have a wing for her in the Rosemont facility where she works out.”

Koth has also been walked 25 times. Five of those walks — four intentional — came last week in a 5-4 loss to Glenbard South.

She followed with a home run in a 14-4 win over Fenton and another in a 15-5 win over Burlington Central, when she was intentionally walked twice.

“That’s not in my control,” Koth said. “My focus is on doing what I can to help my team win.”

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

## – Daily Herald –

### **Softball: Defending state champ St. Charles North brings experienced group back**

**May 22, 2023**

**By John Radtke**

St. Charles North's softball team proved, if nothing else, one thing last year: When it comes state tournament time, anything can happen.

The North Stars became an unlikely state champion in 2022 when they scored a run in the top of the seventh inning to beat powerful Marist 3-2 in the title game in Peoria.

So, who will be this year's St. Charles North? Will it be the North Stars again, or someone else? One thing is clear -- Marist (29-2) is again the team to beat in 4A. But there's a lot of softball to be played before any team from the Fox Valley or DuPage County can set their sights on the RedHawks, or anyone else in the state finals in Peoria.

Here's a look at the postseason.

#### **Class 4A SCN sectional**

A strong case can be made for this being the toughest sectional field in the state. And why not? The top nine seeds all have winning records. In fact, seven of those nine have won 20-plus.

The top-seeded North Stars (20-6) open regional play Tuesday at Glenbard West against the winner of Monday's play-in game between **Elgin** (1-23) and Hoffman Estates (1-24). SCN would then face either No. 10 seed Glenbard West (12-16) or a dangerous No. 8 Glenbard North (15-9-1) in the regional final.

"There are so many good teams in the sectional. It really is as challenging as I can remember," said SCN coach Tom Poulin, who is 267-94 in his 12th year at the helm. "Glenbard North is fully healthy now, so they are much better than their seed. Fremd, Conant, Lake Park, St. Charles East, **South Elgin**, are all good enough to win a sectional title and I'm sure I am forgetting some teams. The real key will be our ability to overcome the difficult situations that teams face during a tournament run. Experience and leadership are the most valuable assets."

The Stars have plenty of that. Their top three hitters and their two pitchers were all instrumental in last year's state title run.

So far this season, seniors Julia Larson (.500, 1.298 OPS, .780 SLG, 11 2Bs, 4 HRs, 35 RBI, 29 RS, 13/13 SBs), Sophia Olman (.455, 1.260 OPS, .766 SLG, 4 2Bs, 6 HRs, 35 RBI, 20 RS) and, Leigh VandeHei (.457, 1.119 OPS, .593 SLG, 2 2Bs, 3 3Bs, 1 HR, 14 RBI, 30 RS, 21/23 SBs) have led the offense while senior Ava Goettel (80.2 IP, 11-4, 29 BBs, 99 Ks, 0.95 ERA, 1.079 WHIP) and sophomore Paige Murray (59 IP, 6-2, 11 BBs, 64 Ks, 1.237 WHIP) have again been standouts on the mound.

"We are looking forward to the tourney," Poulin said. "We have tried to use each game throughout the season as another step in our preparation for the state tournament. Any adversity along the way tends to get you ready for the 'win or go home' aspect of this time of year. Our focus is on continuing to do our job in the circle, make the plays we are supposed to make and have quality at-bats that improve each time at the plate."

No. 2 seed Lake Park (22-11-1) will host a regional, where the Lancers take on No. 15 **Streamwood** (2-18) in the semifinals. Then, how's this for a 7-9 matchup? **Bartlett** (21-7) takes on Addison Trail (20-8) on Wednesday. The regional final is on Friday.

"This sectional is pretty rough, starting with the defending champion St. Charles North," said **Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith**. "But I think there are really solid teams in the top 9 or so. Right off the bat playing Addison Trail will be a tall task. They are well-coached, can play a variety of styles and are solid on D. Not looking past them but Lake Park can hit up and down the lineup and presents a rough assignment for anyone."

"Like most teams we need to play solid defense and pitch well to give our offense a chance to win the game."

**Bartlett's** explosive offense is led by senior Addie Koth (.587, 63 RS, 15 2Bs, 2 3Bs, 19 HRs, 82 RBI, 1.413 slug and .675 OBP) and junior Olivia Ligouri (.520, 46 RS, 11 2Bs, 2 3Bs, 16 HRs, 17 SBs, 62 RBI, 1.150 slug).

"As usual the St. Charles sectional is full of teams that can make it out," said Lake Park coach Tom Mazzie. "I feel like St. Charles North is the deepest and most dangerous team. They can hit for power, play small ball, run the bases and have the ability to dominate on the mound. They are just one of those teams that are not going to beat themselves -- you have to go out and beat them with a flawless game.

"The 2-10 seeds are all capable of winning multiple games. Most of the teams have either a really strong pitcher or a really good offense. Not many of the teams have both. The (DuKane Conference) teams are battle-tested. Our conference was a dogfight all year. If you didn't show up with your 'A' game you got beat, period. I like the fact the DuKane teams have faced a ton of great competition throughout the year."

Mazzie's team is led at the plate by senior Penn State recruit Michela Barbanente (.505, .598 OBP, 1.569 OPS, 52 hits, 4 2Bs, 4 3Bs, 12 HRs, 36 RBI, 57 runs, 21 BBs, 5 Ks, 39 SBs).

"Michela has been an absolute force for us hitting over .500 for the third season in a row and an OPS over 1.500," Mazzie said "She is our emotional leader on the field and in the dugout. I have never had a team that is more loose, confident and supportive of one another. When your best player is humble, coachable, aggressive and positive, it is infectious to the rest of the team."

It's a powerful offense that includes senior Mia Giammarese (.429 AVG, .459 OBP, 39 hits, 9 2Bs, 3 HRs, 23 RBI), junior Kylie Pytlak (.423 AVG, 44 hits, 14 2Bs, 7 HRs, 33 RBI, 28 runs), sophomore Ava Arenz (.392, 40 hits, 9 2Bs, 29 RBI) and senior Cailynn Gdowski (.357 AVG, .422 OBP, 33 hits, 12 2Bs, 6 HRs, 37 RBI, 29 RS, 12 BBs).

"We need to continue our offensive efficiency," Mazzie said. "Over the course of the season we have averaged 8.5 runs a game against a brutal schedule. We can hit and score with anyone. In order for us to make it through this sectional we need to keep up our offense, continue to play stellar defense and be efficient on the mound. If we keep hitters off balance from the circle we can beat any team in the state."

No. 3 seed **South Elgin** (22-5-1), the Upstate Eight champ, hosts a regional. The **Storm** takes on No. 14 Rolling Meadows (6-21) in one semifinal with No. 5 St. Charles East (16-10-1) facing No. 11 Glenbard East (12-14) in the other. The fourth regional, at Conant, is all Mid-Suburban League teams with No. 4 Fremd (22-9) the highest seed.

The SCN sectional winner returns to North for supersectional action against the Whitney Young sectional champ.

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

## **– Chicago Tribune –**

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

**May 22, 2023**

**By From Staff Reports - Aurora Beacon-News**

#### **MONDAY'S RESULTS**

##### **HIGH SCHOOLS**

##### **BASEBALL**

##### **BOYS VOLLEYBALL**

##### **REGIONAL QUARTERFINALS**

##### **FREMD**

Geneva d. Hoffman Estates 25-22, 25-16

South Elgin d. Fenton 25-16, 25-20

Streamwood d. Rolling Meadows 25-20, 25-23

Fremd d. Larkin 25-7, 25-7

##### **GLENBARD WEST**

Bartlett d. Wheaton Academy 25-22, 19-25, 25-22

Prospect d. Elgin 25-12, 25-10

#### **SATURDAY'S RESULTS**

##### **HIGH SCHOOLS**

## **BASEBALL**

Antioch 4, Huntley 3

Antioch: T.J. Schuyler 2 HRs.

Buffalo Grove 8, South Elgin 3

Burlington Central 10-3, Normal West 2-5

Cary-Grove 10, Lake Forest 1

Evanston 5, Stevenson 2

Glenbrook North 12, Libertyville 2 (5 innings)

Grayslake North 3, Wheeling 1

Grayslake North (15-16): Jacob Donohue 3-for-3, RBI.

Grant 6, Deerfield 3

Grant (13-16): Adrian Medina 2 RBIs. Caleb Royer 2 RBIs.

Highland Park 9, Evergreen Park 6

Highland Park (14-15): Nicholas Blumer 2 RBIs.

Lake Zurich 6, Grayslake Central 4

Lake Zurich (13-12): Jonathan Fleaka tiebreaking double in top 7th.

Marmion 6, Wheaton North 0

Mundelein 5, Prairie Ridge 2

Mundelein (20-9): Lucas Ganan 2-for-3, HR, 3 RBIs.

St. Charles East 2, Neuqua Valley 0

St. Charles East (25-4): Nick Miller RBI.

St. Charles North 4, Barrington 2

Waubonsie Valley 5, Romeoville 4

Wheaton Warrenville South 6, Metea Valley 2

## **GIRLS SOCCER**

## **CLASS 3A REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **SOUTH ELGIN**

Geneva 1, South Elgin 0

### **FRIDAY'S RESULTS**

### **HIGH SCHOOLS**

### **BASEBALL**

Benet 6, Bolingbrook 2

Benet (16-12): Cole Rosenthal 3-for-4, 2 runs.

Carmel 7, Vernon Hills 4

Carmel (16-15-2): Adam Galdoni 3-for-3, HR, 4 RBIs.

Cary-Grove 6, Lake Zurich 5

Geneseo 16, Plano 2 (5 innings)

Grayslake North 6, Grayslake Central 1

Grayslake North (14-16): Chris Filas 2 RBIs.

Jacobs 9, Geneva 7

Jacobs (15-18): Owen Ziaja GW grand slam in bottom 7th.

Kaneland 11, St. Charles East 4

Kaneland (19-12): Patrick Collins 3-for-4, 2 RBIs.

Libertyville 9, Highland Park 2

Lincoln-Way East 8, Neuqua Valley 5

Mundelein 6, St. Viator 2

Mundelein (19-9): Justin Clapp 2-for-3, 2 RBIs.

Warren 7, Glenbrook South 3

West Chicago 8, Larkin 5



## **CLASS 1A SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SOFTBALL**

Barrington 14, Jacobs 12

Batavia 9, Crystal Lake South 8 (9 innings)

Batavia: Bella Zagotta 2-for-4, 2 RBIs.

Carmel 6, Loyola 2

Fremd 4, Grant 0

Glenbard South 1, Larkin 1

Libertyville 6, Cary-Grove 2

Libertyville (22-11): Adriana Callahan 2 runs.

Naperville North 4, Benet 3

Naperville North (20-7): Olivia Hebron 2 runs: scored GW run in top 7th.

Oswego 6, Bolingbrook 0

Oswego (23-11): Aubriella Garza 2-for-4, 2 RBIs.

St. Francis 3, Geneva 2

St. Charles North 6, South Elgin 3

St. Charles North (20-6): Sophia Olman 2 RBIs.

Vernon Hills 10, Lake Zurich 0 (5 innings)

Vernon Hills (14-20): Katie Cir 3 RBIs.

Warren 6, Taft 1

Wauconda 4, Glenbard North 2

Wauconda (24-9): Savannah Powers 2-for-3, 3 RBIs.

Compiled by Josh Krockey.

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

# – Chicago Tribune –

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

May 22, 2023

By Paul Johnson - Aurora Beacon-News

### Top 10

*With records through Sunday and previous rankings in parentheses.*

#### 1. St. Charles East 25-4 (1)

In coach [Len Asquini's final home game](#), Saints notch 2-0 victory over Neuqua Valley.

#### 2. St. Charles North 24-8-1 (2)

North Stars are 7-1 in last eight games heading into the Class 4A Geneva Regional.

#### 3. Naperville Central 22-8 (3)

Redhawks go 11-1 in last 12 games, clinch DuPage Valley Conference title.

#### 4. Oswego 23-11 (6)

[Troy Vosburgh](#) comes up with winning hit as Panthers earn Southwest Prairie West title.

#### 5. **South Elgin** 16-7 (9)

Behind leadoff hitter [Kyle Steinhof's .452 average](#), **Storm** wins Upstate Eight Conference.

#### 6. **Streamwood** 24-8-1 (4)

Top-seeded Sabres are on mission to earn second sectional title and first since 2011.

#### 7. Oswego East 19-11 (5)

Wolves want to shake off Plainfield North sweep in the Class 4A Romeoville Sectional.

#### 8. Harvest Christian 24-5 (7)

[Gavin Duran](#) lifts Lions to winning own regional over Schaumburg Christian.

#### 9. Kaneland 20-12 (10)

[Parker Violet](#) doubled twice to lead Knights to big 7-4 victory over Batavia.

## **10. Aurora Christian 21-9 (NR)**

[Conner Kendall](#) pitches Eagles to Class 1A Granville Putnam County Regional title.

### **Player of the Week**

Junior shortstop [Gavin Duran](#) hit for the cycle Saturday as host Lions won the Class 1A Harvest Christian Regional title with a 15-4 victory over Schaumburg Christian.

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

# **– Daily Herald – Special day for Masoncup family at sectionals**

**May 23, 2023**

**By Dave Hess**

It was a great and emotional day for St. Charles North coach Sean Masoncup.

Not only did Masoncup's North Stars win its own Class 2A sectional Saturday morning, his son Tyler, a sophomore at Geneva, placed third in singles.

The second-seeded Masoncup defeated fourth-seeded St. Charles East's Tiernan Price 6-4, 6-2 in the third-place match.

Tyler's effort helped dad's team win the sectional with 17 points. St. Charles East was one point behind with 16 points.

Batavia was third with 10 points followed by Geneva (7) and [Bartlett](#) (6).

The state meet runs May 25 through May 27. The top four finishers in the singles and doubles competition qualify for the state meet.

"We lost the sectional by a point last year," said Sean Masoncup. "I am very proud of the kids. We grinded out matches. We had so many close matches. There were tremendous teams at this sectional. To have your son qualify for the state meet is surreal. It is an amazing feeling."

The sectional champs were paced by junior Jon Spicer, the top seeded singles player. Spicer, who will be making his second appearance at the state meet, defeated third seeded [Tej Shah of Bartlett](#) 6-2, 6-4 in the title match.

"I really had to dig in the championship match," said an emotional Spicer. "He ([Shah](#)) is

a phenomenal player. My forehand and serving really carried me. It will help me next week (state meet) because I was there last year.”

The North Stars also got a third place effort from the doubles team of Kam and Cole Weddle. The Weddles defeated Alex Sternowski and Teige Donehoo of St. Charles East 6-2, 6-2.

The runner-up Saints’ best performance came from the doubles team of top-seeded Quincy Moss and Sam Evans.

The senior duo defeated second seeded TJ Stras-Erik Warner of Batavia 6-1, 6-4.

It will be Moss’ third trip to the state meet while Evans is making his first trip to the state finals.

Evans has certainly been through enough adversity through his high school career.

The senior missed his freshman year because of COVID, the postseason of his sophomore year because of a family matter, and most of his junior season because of a tibia fracture.

“Because of all I have been through this feels so good to qualify for state,” said Evans. “It has been a rough road. Quincy and I have a good chemistry.”

Moss is happy for Evans.

“Sam has been through so much,” said Moss. “He is a great partner. We communicate well. Our goal is to win two matches next week.”

Stras-Warner, 24-8 this year, will make their straight trip to the state meet.

“We are happy for TJ and Erik,” said Batavia coach Brad Nelson. “They played a tough schedule which includes 8 state qualifying teams.”