

# Press Clippings - 9/06/2023

## - The Examiner -

### Crash turns deadly for South Elgin High students

By: Seth Hancock and Bruce Leighty

September 6, 2023

What began as an ordinary school morning, on Thursday, Aug. 31, for four high school students was abruptly changed by a horrific collision on their journey to school. That crash which claimed the lives of two students and sent two others to the hospital with injuries left **South Elgin High School** staff and student body in mourning.

According to reports, the crash, at the intersection of Illinois Route 25 and Kenyon Road, involved a 2002 Honda Civic with four female South Elgin students and a 2007 Mack semi-tractor trailer with a male driver.

The Bartlett Police Department and South Elgin Fire Protection District responded to the scene at approximately 7 a.m., according to a Bartlett Police Department press release.

While the names of the victims were not initially revealed, both the Kane County Coroner's Office and the Bartlett Police Department later identified the deceased as Bartlett resident Kamorra Campbell, 17, and Elgin resident Tahlulay Henry, 16. One was pronounced dead at the scene and the other was transported to a hospital where she later died as a result of her injuries.

Of the two other injured student passengers, according to an updated police press release, one "suffered nonlife-threatening injuries" and along with the driver of the truck "were transported to area hospitals. A female passenger of the Honda Civic suffered life-threatening injuries and was transported to an area hospital, and then airlifted to another hospital.

"Bartlett police later reported that following a preliminary investigation, they "alleged the Honda Civic was traveling northbound on Route 25 when it failed to yield turning left onto Kenyon Drive on a green light. The vehicle was then struck by the Mack semi-tractor trailer traveling southbound on Route 25.

Students were understandably stunned and shakened by the deadly collision. Flowers and candles were soon placed at the site of the crash and among the South Elgin High School student body's reaction was the release of brightly colored balloons from the school campus on Sunday, Sept. 3.

Bartlett community officials reacted to the tragic event as well, issuing a statement last

Friday.

“Words cannot capture the pain of losing two young women far too soon,” said Village of Bartlett President Kevin Wallace. “Though their lives were short, there is no doubt that they brought love and joy to those they touched, teachers, classmates, friends, and family, and that they will be forever remembered.”

Wallace added: “We also extend our support to the two young women and the truck driver who experienced the trauma of this accident. We wish them comfort and healing during this sad time.”

School District U-46 released a statement which said that counselors and social workers had been made available for emotional support.

“Our thoughts, prayers, and most sincere condolences are with the families and loved ones of the students during this incredibly difficult time,” the statement added.

## **- The Examiner -**

### **U-46 Board of Education to vote on SRO contracts**

**By: Seth Hancock**

**September 6, 2023**

The Board of Education in **School District U-46** is set to vote on \$1.2 million in expenditures at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Sept. 11. The items were presented on Aug. 21.

Included is \$1,153,449 total with the villages of Bartlett, South Elgin and Streamwood as well as the City of Elgin for school resource officers (SRO) at the district’s secondary schools. It will be paid through the education fund if approved.

“School District U-46 has established intergovernmental agreements with the City of Elgin, Village of South Elgin, Village of Bartlett, and Village of Streamwood, in the interest of promoting, maintaining a safe, secure, and nurturing school learning environment that is flexible in meeting the academic, social, and emotional needs of each student, staff, and visitor,” the proposal states.

The proposal adds: “The goal of the program is to create a safe school environment, while providing a law enforcement resource to school administrators, teachers, students and parents. The School Resource Officer will not enforce school rules, policy or discipline, but instead will serve the recommended TRIAD roles of: 1) Law Enforcement; 2) Teacher and; 3) Informal Counselor/Mentor.”

The contracts include 14 total SROs, eight for middle schools and six for high schools. The total cost is an increase of 5 percent from last year.

It includes seven Elgin officers totaling \$545,662 (hourly overtime rate of \$71), three from Streamwood totaling \$251,620 (overtime \$73.81), two from South Elgin totaling

\$200,759 (overtime \$76.14) and two from Bartlett totaling \$155,408 (overtime \$56.04).

Additionally, the board will vote on a contract renewal costing \$25,679 (education fund) with Unified Business Solutions for Microsoft software that “is used for the purchasing and financial reporting for the district,” the proposal states. The cost is 6.3 percent higher than last year.

## **- The Examiner -**

### **Social media lawsuit likely to be joined by Dist. U-46**

**By: Seth Hancock**

**September 6, 2023**

**School District U-46** plans to join over 300 school districts from 11 different states in a lawsuit against social media companies over harm the platforms allegedly do to children.

The Board of Education will vote on a resolution to join the lawsuit at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Sept. 11. It was presented at the Aug. 21 meeting.

The attorney-client fee contract states that 25 percent “of any monetary settlement or recovery” would go to Frantz Law Group, a California-based firm that is leading the lawsuit.

The resolution states that “in recent years the proliferation of and widespread access to and use of social media among public school students has expanded dramatically, leading to significant risks of anxiety, depression, thoughts of self-harm, and suicidal ideation among students,” and U-46 students “have been part of this phenomenon by engaging with social media in school and on school grounds in addition to outside of school.”

The social media companies listed in the resolution are “Meta Platforms, Inc. Facebook Holdings LLC, Snap Inc, TikTok Inc., Alphabet Inc. and other parties responsible.”

Some legal experts have weighed in suggesting the lawsuit has little merit, according to the Associated Press.

“The underlying argument is that the tech industry is to blame for the emotional state of teenagers, because they made recommendations on content that has caused emotional harm,” Carl Szabo, vice president and general counsel for NetChoice, told the AP. “It would be absurd to sue Barnes & Noble because an employee recommended a book that caused emotional harm or made a teenager feel bad. But that’s exactly what this lawsuit is doing.”

Eric Goldman, law professor at Santa Clara University School of Law, said there’s

evidence that social media has had both negative and positive effects.

“What we don’t know is what the distress rate would look like without social media,” Goldman said. “It’s possible the distress rate would be higher, not lower.”

## **- Daily Herald -**

### **Girls volleyball / Top 20**

**9/5/ 2023**

Girls volleyball

Team Comment

Records through Monday, Sept. 4

1. Glenbard West (8-0) Unbeaten start includes win over Benet
2. Barrington (7-1) Only loss to OP-RF
3. Benet (6-1) Beat LW-East, Metea after loss to GW
4. Huntley (5-0) Fast start in FVC for Red Raiders
5. Willowbrook (8-0) Rolled to title at own invite
6. Stevenson (9-3) 5th place at Scholten Classic
7. St. Francis (3-2) Losses are to Marist, Joliet West
8. Naperville North (4-2) Fell to St. Francis, Stevenson
9. Metea Valley (9-3) Second at Willowbrook Invite
10. St. Charles North (6-2) Has won 3 straight
11. Libertyville (7-2) 2nd in own Crosstown Invite
12. York (6-1) Only loss to Glenbard West
13. IC Catholic (6-1) Falduto returns for Knights
14. Hersey (1-1) Topped Maine South (8-5) in 2
15. Warren (10-3) Hosts Libertyville on Wednesday
16. Timothy Christian (7-2) Trojans welcome Vander Wal back
17. **Bartlett** (7-3) Hawks off to nice start
18. WW South (5-4) Set to host Wheaton Classic this weekend
19. Geneva (6-2) Vikes have won 4 in a row
20. Burlington Central (4-1) Surprise of FVC so far

## **- Daily Herald -**

### **Boys cross country: Scouting DuPage County and Fox**

**By: John Bumbales**

**9/5/ 2023**



Kaneland's Evan Nosek placed seventh at the Class 2A state meet last year. ( *Brian Hill | Staff Photographer* )

Glenbard South is one boys cross country program that has caught a lot of people off guard over the years starting with the Raiders' run to the Class AA state title in 2001, a third in 2002, and a second in Class 2A in 2011 under former coach Andy Preuss.

After an 11-year hiatus, Glenbard South returned to the podium in impressive fashion last year as the Raiders brought home the third-place trophy, just getting edged out for second place by Belvidere North 155-157 under the guidance of coach Doug Gorski.

Glenbard South lost No. 1 runner Ryan Chung (23rd in Class 2A), Caleb Walter (58th), and Matthew King (90th) to graduation. But the three-time defending UEC champion Raiders do have senior all-stater Jaden Frederick (25th) ready to lead their pack along with senior teammates Tim Jochum (31st), Lucas Newman (76th), Ben Zima (165th) and Michael Bailey. Glenbard South (fourth at sectionals) expects to reach the state meet for the fifth straight year with support from juniors Luke Van Tholen, Logan Price, and freshman Tom Jochum.

#### Addison Trail

The Blazers did not advance out of regional competition last year as they lost seniors Mike Juarez, Peter Callas, and Carlos Argueta to graduation. Addison Trail will continue to see a ton of tough competition in the West Suburban Conference, including teams like Hinsdale Central (second in Class 3A), Downers Grove North (third in Class 3A), perennial power York, and Downers Grove South (16th in Class 3A). Daniel Lupa reached sectionals for the Blazers last fall.

#### Benet

The arrow is definitely pointing up for the Redwings this season as they return their top eight runners from last year, including junior Finn Richards (45th in Class 3A), and senior Charlie Phelan (77th). Benet is gunning for an astounding 25th straight ESCC

title this fall. It should have a good shot at that milestone behind experienced runners Aiden Hulett, Danny Shannon, Jacob Molloy, Ryan Amidei, Jeff Lange, and Matt Spellman. After placing 10th at sectionals last year, the Red Wings should have an even better shot at earning a berth downstate this year as they are moving down from Class 3A to Class 2A for the IHSA state series.

#### Fenton

The Bison finished eighth in the UEC, fifth at regionals, and 17th at sectionals last fall. Elite No. 1 runner Victor Vazquez (15th in Class 2A in 2021) will really be missed at the front of Fenton's pack as well as now graduated Gael Flores. The senior trio of David Severiano, David Aviles, and Eric Ziehm will be pack leaders. Coach Patrick Fritsch is projecting freshman Matt Andersen, and sophomore Jose Honorato as potential top-five scorers on the team. Juniors Alejandro Zavala and Omar Alkahla-Seoane are other key runners hoping to help the Bison improve on their showing at sectionals last year.

#### Glenbard East

The Rams are coming off a fifth-place finish in the UEC last year as senior Ryan Van Dam was Glenbard East's top runner in that 3-mile race with a seventh-place finish. Sophomore Mason Hephner placed 24th for the Rams in the UEC meet as coach Chris Pietsch is hoping his team can finish in the top half of the conference this fall.

#### Glenbard North

The Panthers placed ninth at regionals as key seniors Logan Alwan, Connor Sisco, Jack Martinez, and Robby Lubas all graduated. Glenbard North will have a pretty inexperienced squad returning as it tries to move up the rankings in the DuKane Conference in 2023.

#### Glenbard West

After reaching the sectional meet last year the Hilltoppers have a lot of senior experience back in Chuck Halden, Anthony Nitti, and Julian Hernandez. Juniors Graham Faris, Liam Grady, Ryan Fader, and Cayden Camp will provide a great nucleus of runners for coach Kyle Nugent's team. Glenbard West will be pushing to finish in the top half of the WSC this season before hoping to make a serious run for the state meet in Peoria on Nov. 4.

#### Lake Park

After qualifying for the sectional meet last year with a fifth-place finish at regionals, the Lancers have a very young squad returning led by junior James Jalowiec, sophomore Nick Sheklarevski, and sophomore Jamarious Bassette. The junior trio of Lucas Skupien, Holden Anderson, and Daniel Bernal should also bolster the scoring for coach Joey Pacione. Zach Torres is the lone senior contributor back in the fold. Junior Brendan Gaffey and sophomore Nick Zegger will use this season as a springboard to next year.

### Lisle

The Lions did not have any depth to fall back on last season as they only had four runners compete in their own Class 1A regional, including now graduated Max Foursayev and Zeke Gonzalez. Juniors Eli Carson and Belal Harb were Lisle's top two runners last year at regionals as Harvest Christian Academy won that 11-team meet with 33 points. The Lions will be hoping to improve their showing in the ICEC standings in 2023.

### Metea Valley

The Mustangs head into the DVC competition without graduated No. 1 runner Sam Urbon (North Central College) or Connor Vine. But Metea Valley does have a strong senior back in Austin Brown, who was a state qualifier in the 1,600 and 800-meter runs last spring. Senior Rameez Abrar (state qualifier in 800) was Metea Valley's No. 2 runner at regionals last year. Coach Ruben Nino's team will be counting on a strong pack made up of Nathan Behr, Isaiah Rodriguez, Josh Murray, Ian French, Zach Johnson, and Dylan Bennett Garza. The Mustangs are looking to make history and become the first team in school history to qualify for the sectional meet.

### Montini

The Broncos only lost one of their top seven runners to graduation last year in Michael Crowley, and they have state qualifiers Nolan Ferris (34th in Class 1A), and Hugh Flannery (110th) returning. Montini will turn to senior Gabriel Blanco for additional leadership along with junior teammates Conor Kaefer and Max Neal. The freshman trio of Nino Pesola, Gavin Conway, and Owen Ferris will gain valuable experience on varsity for coach Eric Brechtel during the 2023 campaign.

### Naperville Central

After placing 20th in the state in Class 3A, the Redhawks were hit hard by graduation as Lucas De La Cruz, Luke Noren (Lewis University), Thomas Mask, and Sam Barnard (UNC-Greensboro) are all gone. The senior trio of Tyler Browning, Foster Shelbert, and Nick Kamp all return with state meet experience while seniors Max Henige and Julian Brozek were alternates for the state meet. Senior Brayden Groenenboom, and junior Patrick Clune should be key contributors. Coach Grant Baganz believes his squad is among the top five to 10 teams in the state with the potential for something special if they can stay healthy, hungry, humble, and motivated.

### Naperville North

The Huskies took fifth place at regionals and eighth at sectionals as they waved goodbye to seniors Colin Corcoran, Addisu Wolski, Sean Chilcoat, and Gabe Russell following the 2022 season. Naperville North will have its work cut out rebuilding in the DuPage Valley Conference with many new runners stepping up into much larger roles.

### Neuqua Valley

The Wildcats lost four seniors to graduation from their 12th-place state team, including Ryan Palmer (69th in Class 3A, EIU). But Neuqua Valley should be able to continue its very successful program behind juniors Zac Close (15th, sixth at 3,200 meters), Robert Glenn (57th), and Tony Hinderliter leading the way. Newcomers to the pack for coach James Janota's squad will be Tony Pastore, Josh Nauman, Aaron Hamilton, Jacob Lane, Ryan Adamski, Neel Chawla, and Liam Yack. The defending DVC champions have been a model of consistency with three state titles, a second-place finish, and four thirds since 2007. The Wildcats also have 17 top 10 finishes and three top 15 finishes in their 20 appearances downstate to go along with 11 regional and seven sectional titles.

### St. Francis

The Spartans lost their top three runners in seniors Andrew Hernandez, Daniel O'Connell, and Sam Andrzejewski to graduation from their 11th-place sectional team. Coach Jason Accardi expects senior Charlie Coyle, and sophomore Michael Coco to be top runners along with seniors James Keegan and Brendan Spahn. Junior Gavin Grover is a top-five runner with newcomers Nolan Kiley and Alex Keough ready to make an impact for St. Francis which should have a strong pack according to Accardi.

### Waubonsie Valley

The Warriors' young squad did not make it out of the regional last year as current seniors Zach Self (1,600-meter state qualifier), Austin McInturff (800-meter state qualifier), and Zack Hayden were their top three runners in that meet. With some solid experience now under their belts, those three runners along with teammates Tyler Heap and Kyler Beitler should make Waubonsie Valley a much stronger team this season under the guidance of coach Kevin Rafferty.

### Wheaton Academy

Not only have the Warriors moved into the Chicagoland Christian Conference this season, but they have the daunting task of moving up from Class 1A to Class 2A when the IHSA state series rolls around in late October. Wheaton Academy is fortunate to have lost no seniors to graduation, and current seniors Joey Urban and Shaymis Powell are expected to be a couple of the front-runners this fall. Freshman Miguel Boney is going to jump right into the mix of the varsity team for coach Chris Felinski, who hopes to make a run for the conference championship, qualify for sectionals, and finish in the top 10 in that meet.

### Wheaton North

The Falcons graduated three key seniors in Caleb Youngstedt (Hillsdale College), Ben Shebar, and Aidan Herbel from their 21st-place state meet team. Wheaton North finished second in both the DuKane Conference and regionals before placing fourth at sectionals. Junior Aidan Murphy (42nd in Class 3A) will be a strong No. 1 runner for the Falcons with great support from teammates Jude Hubbard, Luke Haworth, Isaac



Schuda, Quinn Murphy, Jack Syme, Donovan Lake, Jack Sanders, and Daniel Xochitecatl. Coach Nate Roe hopes that his squad can compete for a DKC championship before finishing higher at the state meet. He said they will rely heavily on their top four runners since the team will probably not be as deep as they were last year.

#### Wheaton Warrenville South

The Tigers lost five of their top seven runners from last year's 13th-place state meet team, including Nathan Virginelli (32nd in Class 3A, Illinois State), Luke Yonker, Colin Nelson, Sam Cruz (EIU), and Caleb Hatzinger. WWS has juniors Josiah Narayanan and Aiden Noel back with state meet experience. Seniors Ben Adkins, Jayden Bauer, Angelo Ruggio, and Christopher Striedl will be good leaders. Juniors Jamie Childress, Atticus Cunningham, Sam Purdue, and Jack Ruswick give the Tigers a lot of depth for co-head coaches Craig Lawrence and Chris Kuntz. The Tigers are coming off conference, regional, and sectional crowns in 2022. WWS won the state title in 2018 before placing second in 2019.

#### West Chicago

The Wildcats placed eighth at regionals as they lost sectional qualifier Connor Zentner, Noah Herbst, and four of their other top seven runners to graduation. West Chicago did have an outstanding season from Judah McClean, who advanced to the sectional meet as a sophomore. With so many losses to graduation, the Wildcats will need to get some new runners to step into much bigger roles if they hope to be able to keep up with some of the top teams in the UEC.

#### Willowbrook

The Warriors lost state qualifier Kevin Diederich (COD) to graduation. But they still have three seniors returning for coach T.J. Artman's squad in Declan Abercrombie, Evan Weder, and Alex Perry. Juniors Kasen Blain, Adriano Quintero, and Jake Skibbie give Willowbrook a solid nucleus to build around for the future. Sophomore Miteku Branch should be another key runner on varsity as the Warriors' team has set high goals to go as deep as they can in the state series.

#### York

It takes a long time to count the number of IHSA first-place trophies that the legendary Dukes' program has brought home, but that total would be 28 in a 50-year span from 1962 to 2012 under former coach Joe Newton. York did not reach the state meet last year after placing 11th at sectionals. But the Dukes do have juniors Max Zangan and Jack Sebastian returning with sectional experience. Coach Charlie Kern said that the team is in a two-year build and they are primarily focused on micro improvements and microloading new training stimuli. Senior Iain Davies will be joined by junior teammates Zack Saltiel, Evan Zapata, Emmett Bradford, and Sam Kehoe, who expect to return to the state meet in November.

## FOX SCHOOLS

### **Bartlett**

The Hawks placed fifth in the UEC last year, and they have senior Luke Regalado returning as well as senior teammate Arturo Martinez back after he did not compete as a junior. Junior Whalan Eid and senior Noah Moose Lopez will be key runners at the front of Bartlett's pack. Sophomores Aimad Ourahou and Joseph Bagnuolo will be running at the varsity level. Coach Alex Serluco is hoping the Hawks can qualify for the sectional meet if all goes well in late October.

### Batavia

The Bulldogs lost a great leader in all-stater Quintin Lowe (20th in Class 3A, Purdue) to graduation as they placed fourth in the DuKane Conference and eighth at regionals. Senior Colin Knowles is expected to be a front-runner along with all-conference junior Francesco Benelli. Juniors David Bednarek, Ethan Storie, and senior Felipe Wickler will probably round out the top five. Coach Bronco Meeks said that the team is larger than other post-pandemic squads with sophomore Gavin Warpinski and freshman Eddie Polaski ready to help focus on pack running since they no longer have a clear-cut No. 1 runner anymore.

### Burlington Central

With returning senior state qualifier Ryan Kries (94th in Class 2A) leading the way, the Rockets are looking to have a stronger finish than last year (eighth in FVC, eighth at regionals). Seniors Logan Karottu, Adam Hinkelman, and Kries should give Burlington Central a strong top trio with excellent support from teammates Jayden Beecroft, Alan Perez, and Robert Anderson. Freshmen Danny Burke and Brandon Pflug will have major impacts on the team scoring according to coach Vince Neil, who mentioned that Beecroft is coming off a great track season.

### Cary-Grove

The Trojans lost Anthony Zamudio (Cornell College) to graduation after they placed fifth in the FVC, fifth at regionals, and 12th at sectionals last season. Sophomore Jameson Tenopir is a proven runner after placing 37th in Class 2A as a freshman while junior Ethan Waddell, senior Alex Demas, and junior Aiden Kyle should give Cary-Grove a solid front pack to rely on. Senior Luke Boldwyn brings a lot of experience to the pack while freshmen teammates Lucas Kephart and Nate Kephart will be thrust into some pretty key roles as the Trojans hope to make large strides of improvement compared to last year.

### Crystal Lake South

The Gators did not lose any seniors to graduation after finishing ninth in the FVC and 10th in regionals last year. Junior Adam Strombom and sophomore Joey Gonzalez should be solid leaders for CLS along with senior teammate Lucian Tyndall. Sophomore Chad Wehby is another runner to watch for coach Nick Willhoit's team while Sebastian

Castillo brings a lot of senior leadership to the table for the Gators, who are looking to earn a berth to the sectional meet for the first time since 2018.

#### Dundee-Crown

The Chargers bring back an experienced young trio in senior Tim Navarro, junior Joe Hillyer, and junior Eddie Leon, who were the top three runners on the team at the powerful Palatine regional last year. Dundee-Crown coach Matt Michalski did lose three of his top seven runners to graduation. But the addition of junior Zach Michalski along with freshman teammates Josh Michalski and Frank Moskalik should help the young squad continue to build for the future.

#### Elgin

The Maroons are hoping to finish in the top three in the UEC, qualify for the sectional meet, and advance to the state meet despite losing Jack Allen (UW-Parkside), and Diego Valdivia (Dominican University) to graduation. Elgin was the runner-up in the UEC last year, and it has juniors Cole Tupper and Richie Loeza returning to help lead their pack. Senior Ricky Ripka is another key runner returning along with sophomore David Dorantes, junior Ian Godinez, sophomore Daniel Valdivia, and senior Ben Hall-Skank. Coach Christopher Vargas wants his young team to continue to build on last season's success, exceed expectations, break school records, and show that they have no limits.

#### Geneva

The Vikings lost four seniors to graduation, including Anthony Ross from a team that placed fourth at regionals and 13th at sectionals. The junior pack of Julian Hipp, Dominic Ross, Luke Gaston, and Noah Martin will be keys along with seniors Cam Lotspeich, Jackson Avery, and Jack Riviere. Coach Peter Raak will see how juniors Aidan Cook, Drew Hosman, Dominic Savarese, and Ernie Bebe fit into the mix. Geneva is aiming to move up in the DuKane Conference standings while making a potential run for the state meet after putting together a strong summer of training.

#### Hampshire

Untimely illness and injuries really hurt the Whip-Purs down the stretch last season so staying healthy is going to be a major factor if they hope to improve their standings in the FVC (seventh), regional (fifth), and sectional (15th) according to coach Ryan Hollister. Juniors Jack Sheets and Nolan Sheets turned in the best times on the team last year and sophomore Marcus Davis provides Hampshire with a strong top trio to build around. Juniors Cody Dobush and Sam Beamon are other key runners as is sophomore Marshall Waldau. Hollister said the competition for the top seven varsity spots should help the team improve.

#### Huntley

The Red Raiders lost state qualifier Ty Rasmussen and Hudson Fisher (Grace College) to graduation from a team that placed second in the FVC, first at regionals, and eighth at

sectionals. Huntley has two state qualifiers back in junior Tommy Nitz (55th) and senior Zach Zuzzio. They will be supported by teammates Luke Grubbs, Andrew Raistrick, Zach Donlea, and Logan Barreto. Coach Matt Kaplan said newcomers Nathan Sauber and Brandon Thompson could be top-seven runners by the postseason. The Red Raiders are hoping to reach state after just missing qualifying with eighth-place sectional finishes the last two years.

#### Jacobs

The Golden Eagles won the FVC meet, but they lost Alec Melendez (72nd in Class 3A, Rose-Hulman Institute), Aidan DeMuth (state qualifier at 3,200 meters), Julian Van Antwerp (UW-Stout), and Adam Lakeman to graduation. Jacobs just missed state with an eighth-place finish at sectionals, but senior Andrew Beyer (150th) reached state as an individual. Senior Matt Andreano should be the No. 2 runner behind Beyer with strong support from junior teammates Max Sudrzynski and Isaac Pepin. Senior Jake Fetting is another runner to watch along with teammates Michael Moore and Ethan Aichholz. Coach Kevin Christian is expecting this squad to be even better than last year as Beyer and Andreano are ahead of where they were last year. Sudrzynski is the biggest surprise in the area after being a state qualifier in the 4x800 relay as a sophomore.

#### Kaneland

The Knights are coming off a strong campaign as they won the Interstate 8 Conference, placed second at the Sterling regional, and eighth at their own powerful sectional which produced the top three teams at state. Kaneland has a great front-runner in junior Evan Nosek, who placed seventh in Class 2A and sixth in the 3,200-meter run. Senior David Valkanov placed fifth in the state at 3,200 meters while sophomore Evan Whildin and junior Zachary Murdock had solid track and cross country campaigns. Senior Collin Reutimann and Liam Lentz should be key pieces to the puzzle for coach Chad Clarey, who said his team is hungry for a chance to get back to the state meet.

#### Larkin

The Royals still have a pretty young team returning, but they are hoping to move up the ladder in both the UEC and regionals after placing ninth and 10th respectively in those meets. Coach Nathan Williams has the junior trio of Cruz Bravo, Alex Lopez, and Rafael Valdes to help lead his troops along with great support from senior teammate Mark Lawson. Sophomore Michael Hammond is hoping to make a big impact for Larkin along with junior teammates David Lawson and Xavier Deleon as the Royals hope to finish in the top six at regionals.

#### Marmion

The Cadets have two really strong runners returning in all-state senior Connor Carlson (15th in Class 2A) and junior John Daffenberg (36th) after placing fourth in the Chicago Catholic League, third at regionals, and ninth at sectionals. Marmion hopes to return to the state meet behind sophomore Michael Whitacre, senior Robert Gramley, junior

Matthew Sullivan, senior Nathan Brandon, and sophomore Joseph Dorando coming of age for coach Andrew Lifka this season.

### South Elgin

The Storm finished third in the UEC before finishing in a fifth-place tie with Lake Park at regionals to advance to sectionals. South Elgin's top seven runners are not set yet, but senior Ricky Ardisana is one returning athlete who should be counted on this fall.

Juniors Noah Callahan, Logan Lott, and Brody Mills should be other keys for coach Kari Turcan while sophomores Aldrin Boongaling and Josiah Lindsey should pick up some great experience on varsity. The Storm has been rebuilding since seeing a decline in participation after the pandemic. But they are always aiming for a conference championship and a berth to the sectional meet.

### St. Charles East

The Saints lost senior Mitch Garcia (state qualifier in 3,200, UW-LaCrosse), and Lexton Rockwell to graduation from a team that took third in the DKC, fifth at sectionals, and 24th downstate. Seniors Jed Wilson and Oscar Frontjes (114th in Class 3A) should be good leaders for St. Charles East. Junior Greyson Ellensohn, sophomore Mikey Wilson, senior Adrian Ahuatl, junior Ryan Tobin, and senior Connor Reed will be key performers. Coach Chris Bosworth's team is striving to reach the state meet for the 10th straight year while hoping to improve in all of the final four Saturday meets of the season.

### St. Charles North

The North Stars were in a rebuilding mode last year as they placed eighth in the DKC before not making it out of regionals. But St. Charles North did not graduate any of its top five runners from last year. Behind seniors Will Stone, Will Lackner, and Owen Santos coach Kevin Harrington expects the team to be much improved. Junior Noel Sookswat, sophomore Lucas Reed, and sophomore Matthew Russell should help the North Stars look like a different squad this year as they are focused on rebuilding the SCN running culture.

### St. Edward

The Green Wave lost their top three runners to graduation in Jorge Reich, Thomas Walla, and Maxwell Holland after competing in the Class 1A Lisle regional last season. Junior Evan Wagh was St. Edward's fourth runner in that 11-team meet as the team will be pushing to move up the ladder in Chicagoland Christian Conference competition this season.

### Streamwood

The Sabres fielded a young and inexperienced squad last season as only four runners competed in the Class 3A St. Charles East regional. Streamwood did get some strong performances from Alex Harrison last year as he placed 33rd at the Lake Park sectional

before he advanced to the state meet as only a sophomore. The Sabres should be battle-tested after competing in the UEC leading up to the IHSA state series.

West Aurora

The Blackhawks placed seventh at regionals without any seniors among their top seven runners competing in the 11-team meet. The youthful West Aurora squad was led by two state qualifiers in 2022 as Sean Heetland placed 106th in Class 3A as a junior while freshman teammate Nathan Gehrmann placed 187th in the big meet at Detweiller Park. West Aurora will hope to keep building on its momentum this fall in the Southwest Prairie Conference which includes defending state champion Plainfield South.

## **- Daily Herald -**

### **Boys cross country: Scouting DuPage County and Fox**

**By: John Bumbales**

**9/2/ 2023**



Katherine Klimek is one of two returning all-state runners for York. The Dukes have high hopes again this fall after winning the 2021 Class 3A state cross country championship and taking second to Prospect last year. *(Patrick Kunzer/for the Daily Herald)*

The York girls cross country program may have been overshadowed by their legendary boys program over the years with the boys bringing home a state-record 28 first-place trophies.

But the Dukes' girls squads have had an impressive run of their own lately, with nine top-three trophies overall, including a first in 2021, and a second in 2022 for coach Lauren Deangelis. The team also won the WSC and Waubonsie Valley sectional last year.

York lost three key seniors to graduation in Bria Bennis (third in Class 3A, Vanderbilt), Brooke Berger (26th, Kentucky), and Lily Beerhalter (27th, Carnegie Mellon University).

Returning all-state seniors Michaela Quinn (seventh) and Katherine Klimek (ninth) will be huge factors for the Dukes while sophomores Maggie Quinn (28th) and Lillian Bianchi (58th) also ran downstate. Senior Maggie Owens is joined by teammates Sophia Galiano-Sanchez, Anna McGrail, and Gigi Hill to set up another potential showdown with defending state champion Prospect for the 2023 state title.

#### Addison Trail:

The Blazers lost Lettia Hoda (Lake Forest College) and Ximena Juarez (Ripon College) to graduation. But they have four senior leaders back in Monserat Abarca, Natalie Lupa, Jackie Tecuanhuehue, and Gia Garza ready to help lead their pack. Junior Sandra Olascoaga is ready to be Addison Trail's lead runner while teammates Katelyn Ford and Zuzanna Kwasniewski are hoping to push their squad farther up the standings in the West Suburban Gold and regionals this fall.

#### Benet:

The Redwings graduated top runner Louisa Diamond (22nd in Class 3A, West Point), and Makenna Jedlicka following their 25th-place finish at state. Now moving down to Class 2A for the next two seasons, coach Katie Paski has a lot of experience back including seniors Grace Andringa and senior newcomer Ashley Donovan. Returning runners with state meet experience are Andringa, Delilah Helenhouse, Keira Jenke, and Anielia Gaudio. Freshmen Payton Mathelier and Faye Ferrell are key newcomers along with teammates Sophia Olivares, Kailey Frangella, Terese Tully, Liliana Pervan, Carlin Kelly, and Emma Greco. Benet won the ESCC last year, and it is hoping to return to the state meet again in November.

#### Fenton:

The Bison placed ninth at the Class 2A Hinsdale South regional as seniors Tania Miranda and Danna Melendez were lost to graduation. Sophomore Anastasija Jankovich was Fenton's top runner last year in the postseason. Competing in the Upstate Eight Conference should provide the Bison with a lot of big challenges again this fall as the team should be much more experienced in 2023.

#### Glenbard East:

The Lady Rams are coming off a first-place finish in the UEC last fall and they are hoping to repeat that accomplishment this season. Sophomore Kathleen Nevels was Glenbard East's top finisher last year at the conference meet with a 10th-place finish followed by junior teammate Brissa Sarabia in 13th. Seniors Maya Reinheimer (17th), Anabelle Stevenson (21st), Erica Long (22nd), and Sammy Kelly (24th) displayed outstanding pack running at the UEC meet, and they hope to continue that trend as the upcoming campaign unfolds.

#### Glenbard North:

The Panthers lost a real superstar to graduation in Notre Dame-bound Grace Schager, who rolled to the Class 3A title in 16:40 to beat Glenbrook North runner-up Juliet Frum by a whopping 36 seconds. Schager was also a two-time state champion in the 3,200-meter run in track and her leadership and presence will be missed dearly. Coach Eric Day said that the post-Schager era will be a period of rebuilding and growth as senior Avery Abderhalden and sophomore Peyton Marshall will be among the leaders for the Panthers' young and inexperienced squad this fall.

#### Glenbard South:

Sectional qualifiers senior Lauren Price and junior Diana Kalvelage are hoping to take their running to an even higher level this season as the Raiders' young team continues to grow despite a lack of great depth or experience returning. Juniors Taylor Koenig and Simone Witort will be key scorers at the varsity level as will senior teammate Mary Kate Pinkelman for coach Dan Bledsoe's rebuilding squad in the UEC.

#### Glenbard West:

The Hilltoppers lost state qualifier Carlin Hass to graduation from a team that placed fourth in the West Suburban Silver and ninth at sectionals. Glenbard West has many seniors back to rely on including Maggie Hibbard (52nd in Class 3A), Maddie Morgan, Moira Ahern, and Sophie Mitra. Sophomores Ella Demchinski, Alexa Novak, and Mackenzie Gilbert (all-state in 800-meter run) will also be keys to success. The Hilltoppers will try to return to the state meet after missing a trip downstate for the first time in 12 years last season.

#### Lake Park:

The Lancers will really miss Jade Benavides (71st in Class 3A, Elmhurst University) as well as several seniors who played key roles on the varsity team. Senior Maya Seger is a returning leader while junior teammate Brynn Ellenbecker narrowly missed qualifying for state last year. Coach Jay Ivory is looking to grow their team numbers, finish in the top half of the DuKane Conference, and qualify for the sectional meet.

#### Lisle:

The Lions were really short-handed last year as they only had two runners compete in their own Class 1A regional meet held at Lisle Community Park. The duo of freshman Anya Kutkoski and sophomore Piper Waggoner were Lisle's only runners as Rosary (third in Class 1A) rolled to the team title by a comfortable 41-87 margin over runner-up Willows Academy. Lisle will be more experienced this season as it will try to move up in the Illinois Central Eight Conference standings.

#### Metea Valley:

With consistent, captain-led runs on the weekends, the Mustangs turned in a great summer of training. They have an abundance of seniors back in Maya Hall, Zoe Kirkman, Brooke Horning, Kamea Baker, and Keira Nelson. Hall and Kirkman are back



with state meet experience under their belts. Teammates Julia Hannon and Bella Sieben are coming off strong track seasons which should help them round out the front of Metea Valley's pack. Coach Eric Anerino saw Hall and Kirkman reach the state meet last year, now he is hoping that the entire team can earn a trip downstate to run on the fabled 3-mile Detweiller Park course.

#### Montini:

The Broncos placed fifth at regionals and 12th at sectionals despite not having a single senior in their seven-runner lineup last fall. While Montini did not advance to the state meet as a team last year, it did have an all-stater in freshman Sydney Gertsen (21st in Class 1A), and a state qualifier in freshman Ashlynn Lindt (72nd) compete at the state meet. The Broncos will face a lot of competition during the regular season in the GCAC as they will have to go up against teams like Fenwick, Loyola Academy, Mother McAuley, and Providence Catholic.

#### Naperville Central:

The Redhawks will be without the services of graduated Addison George (Elon University), who was a multiple state qualifier in cross country and track. Naperville Central placed sixth in Class 3A and it has five runners back with state meet experience in seniors Liv Phillips (59th, all-state at 3,200 meters), Ava Hendren (48th), Abby Mogg, Becca Liaw, and junior Lola Satre-Morales (83rd). Junior Lydia Park will be joined by sophomore Eloise Graft to give coach Matt Blondell's team a chance to turn in another outstanding performance at the state meet. The Redhawks are aiming for a third straight trip to Detweiller Park. Senior Kate Tueting (57th) was their No. 2 runner at state, but a lingering foot injury is expected to keep her sidelined until she hopefully returns for the track season.

#### Naperville North:

After bringing home the third-place trophy in Class 3A, the Huskies will have to replace graduated senior Logan Brennan (55th, University of Kentucky) this season. Naperville North is the defending DVC champs, it took first at regionals, and second at sectionals. The Huskies have six runners back with state meet experience including all-stater Julie Piot (20th), Shania Tandon (33rd), Rianna Tandon (56th), Sennah Rashidian (125th), Anika Lovisa (131st), and Lexi Pera (156th). Senior Kayla Marx and junior Emma Berres give Naperville North added depth to make a run for the 21st top-three trophy in school history. Coach Dan Iverson has been North's coach for nine of their 10 IHSA titles which is a state record for Class 2A or Class 3A teams, including four crowns in a row from 2016 to 2019.

#### Neuqua Valley:

The Wildcats placed fourth in the DVC and seventh at regionals while losing state qualifier Gretchen Leland (69th in class 3A) to graduation. Seniors Grace Anderson, Ava Stipp, and Manasi Karat are back while juniors Elizabeth Hall (sectional qualifier),

Maggie Kalish, Sienna McEneaney, and Katelyn Shen will be keys for coach Matt Johnson's team. Sophomores Olivia Dalson (sectional qualifier) and Natassa Papadakis will be a part of Neuqua Valley's push to improve upon last year's DVC finish and qualify for sectionals.

#### St. Francis:

The Spartans placed 20th in Class 2A behind all-state sophomore Margaret Andrzejewski's 22nd-place finish and junior Cate Earl's 81st-place run. Coach Jason Accardi's squad also returns junior Diya Khatau (190th), sophomore Ashley Spahn (191st), and junior Nella Ksiag (217th). Freshman Ali Sheldon is among a group of strong young runners competing for St. Francis with teammates Elena Mamminga, Sienna Schwan, Erin Hinsdale, and Amelia Whitacre putting the team in the mix to bring home a trophy in early November according to Accardi.

#### Waubonsie Valley:

The Warriors placed 10th at the Class 3A Hinsdale Central regional as Lily Baibak advanced to Waubonsie Valley's own sectional meet with a 15th-place finish in that meet as a sophomore. This season the Warriors will once again face a lot of the top teams in the state in the DuPage Valley Conference, including Naperville North (third in Class 3A), and Naperville Central (sixth in Class 3A).

#### Wheaton Academy:

The Warriors will be in a rebuilding situation this season as they move up to Class 2A while also moving into the Chicagoland Christian Conference this year. Coach Chris Felinski has junior Rachel Nelson as his top returning runner after Nelson just missed earning the final individual at-large berth to the state meet by one place last fall. Freshman Addie Painter is Wheaton Academy's top newcomer on the scene; she will try to help the Warriors finish in the top two in their conference and qualify for sectionals.

#### Wheaton North:

The Falcons qualified for the state meet for the first time since 2006 last year while also winning their first regional title since that same season last year. Wheaton North did lose three of their top seven runners to graduation. But it has the junior trio of Maddie Romaine, Hannah Tebbe, and Rebecca Farrell returning and ready to make an impact. Sophomore Ema Eissler is a returning runner to watch while sophomore teammate Sienna Keith ran downstate last year. Other runners aiming for the top seven spots are Mackenzie Skidmore, Brigitte Noyes, Gianna Carroll, Emily Offutt, and Annika Carlson.

#### Wheaton Warrenville South:

The Tigers have two individual state qualifiers back in the lineup in juniors Nicole Poglitsch (31st), and Frida Martinez (76th) as the team finished second in the DuKane Conference and third at regionals. Coach Rob Harvey's strong senior class includes Jenna Bachara, Haley Phillips, and Claire Siebert while WWS lost three key seniors to

graduation. Harvey said that the team has used a very successful track season as a springboard into a very good summer which he hopes will translate into an outstanding 2023 season. The squad has numerous juniors and sophomores who are ready to make an impact on the varsity level.

#### West Chicago:

The Wildcats placed eighth at the Class 3A St. Charles East regional as sectional qualifier Vanessa Munoz was a very key leader that graduated. West Chicago's Sneha George had a strong freshman campaign last year as did sophomore teammate Helena Jankowska in 2022. West Chicago will hope that its young core of runners can keep improving against some tough competition this fall in the UEC.

#### Willowbrook:

The Warriors placed seventh at the Class 3A Lyons regional as Amelia Barrington was a key runner that graduated. Willowbrook did have two sophomores advance to the Waubonsie Valley sectional last year, including Amelie Ojeda and Malin Meeker. The Warriors will hope that their young nucleus of runners will allow them to move up the leaderboard this season in the West Suburban Conference.

#### FOX AREA

##### **Bartlett:**

The Hawks took third place in the UEC last year as many of their runners earned all-conference honors in the meet. This season Bartlett will be counting on Kristin Farabaugh and Francesca Bove for senior leadership. The Hawks' young squad also features four sophomores in Alyssa Gregory, Venice Lopez, Allison Fluder, and Emely Villafuerte. Coach Christina Karbowski is hoping the team can move up the UEC standings before making a run for the sectional meet in late October.

#### Batavia:

The Lady Bulldogs won their sixth DuKane Conference title in the past nine years before just missing a berth to the state meet by five points last year at sectionals. Graduated seniors Liliana Bednarek (75th in Class 3A, Carthage College), Ava Thomas (Marquette), and Brook Silbernagel will be missed. But sophomore Maddie Cassidy (80th) is poised to step into a bigger role for Batavia. Coach Chad Hillman will turn to seniors Alli Olson and Taylor Schaffer for experience while juniors Liv Gebhardt and Maddy Wnek should be top runners in the pack. Sophomore Chloe Kammes will gain valuable experience on varsity as Batavia hopes to peak at the end of the season.

#### Burlington Central:

The Rockets finished third at regionals and 11th at sectionals as junior Abby Burke finished 58th in Class 2A last year. This fall, Burlington Central's young squad will also feature junior Teagan Cathcart and the sophomore foursome of Emie Davis, Carmie Winkelhake, Aanya Vyas, and Ivy Didomenico. Coach Vince Neil said that Burke is

hoping to make a bid for the all-state (top 25) team with Cathcart and Davis joining her to give Burlington Central a strong top-three trio of runners that can go deep into the postseason.

#### Cary-Grove:

The Trojans placed third at regionals, fifth at sectionals, and 11th in Class 2A as Jocelyn Onstot, Ada Saletnik, Juliana Ferrara, and Kathleen Apaez all graduated. Cary-Grove placed fourth in the McHenry County meet last weekend behind seniors Kate Aniolkowski, Charlotte Hastings, Aeryn Costello, and Zoe Hubka. Cary-Grove coach Mark Anderson's squad will be facing some tough competition in the FVC as usual this season against the likes of defending FVC champion Huntley, Crystal Lake South (fourth in Class 2A), and Hampshire to mention a few. Sophomores Claire Brown and Avery Boone competed at the county meet as the team prepares its lineup for the long season.

#### Crystal Lake South:

The Gators had a great 2022 season as they just missed bringing home the third-place trophy in Class 2A by a 150-154 margin to Washington. That team did lose seniors Isabella Gonzalez (20th, Santa Clara University), Gianna Pinta (49th), and Anna McDermott to graduation. The Gators also placed second in the FVC before winning regional and sectional titles. Abby Machesky (46th), and Colette Bacidore (146th) will provide senior leadership for coach Ken Greenfield's team along with juniors Olivia Pinta (37th), and Victoria Pinta (48th). Senior Brie James has been running with the top four in practice while teammates Carly Gorman, Lexi Brooks, Natalia Banasik, and Kelsey Kos have all shown flashes of being able to contend for top-seven spots. Newcomers Laynie Ripley, Lily Brooks, Cece Piemontese, and Sedona Semradek provide a great future for the squad.

#### Dundee-Crown:

The Chargers lost three of their top four runners to graduation in Kaylee Brodie, Lydia Anderson, and Jacqueline Juarez as the team competed at the powerful Class 3A Palatine regional last season. Dundee-Crown will have its work cut out to compete in the rugged FVC. But seniors Yvonne Castro and Val Ortega are expected to be among the top runners for coach Matt Michalski's squad this fall as the Chargers are currently going through a rebuilding process.

#### Elgin:

The Maroons' top returning runner is sophomore Xenia Salas while senior Gabby Bautista was the No. 2 runner on the team in 2022. Elgin will have a very young and inexperienced team competing with freshman Teagan Culver, sophomore Emma Valdivia, and sophomore Tala Okasha ready to compete in the UEC. Coach Alicia Knoll is excited about the hard workouts the team is going through together, and the Maroons are hoping to qualify for the sectional meet for the first time in school history.

#### Geneva:

The Vikings have the luxury of sophomore state qualifier Sofia Borter (78th in Class 3A) returning after they placed 11th at sectionals last year. Geneva did lose two of its top seven runners to graduation, but it does have Agnes Bolender and Lila Storaasli back to provide senior leadership. Other potential varsity athletes for the Vikings and coach Beth Morrison will be the sophomore trio of Gretchen Drexler, Lucina Lechtenberg, and Taylor Peahl as the team hopes to better their standing at the sectional meet. Geneva won back-to-back state crowns in 2007 and 2008.

#### Hampshire

The Whip-Purs have their top nine runners returning this season from a team that placed third at the Harlem regional and 13th at sectionals last year. Coach Ryan Hollister believes his incredibly strong pack led by senior Ella Perrone, sophomore Annabelle Haskins, and junior Hudson Szymonik should have a chance at qualifying for the state meet if they can stay healthy. Juniors Hannah Jones and Kassidy Papa will be joined by sophomores Kaley Byhre and Alyssa Garcia to round out the top seven runners. The team of Perrone, Szymonik, Jones, and Garcia qualified for the state track meet in the 4x800 relay last spring.

#### Huntley:

After taking first place in the FVC, regionals, and sectionals last year, the Red Raiders will have to move forward without Breanna Burak (12th in Class 3A, Illinois State), Brittney Burak (21st, Indiana State), and Molly Allen (43rd). Huntley's 13th-place state meet team returns five of their top eight runners including senior Ava Allison. The sophomore trio of Aspen Maldonado, Cori Kilvinger, and Gabby Sweeney are also back. Juniors Mackenzie Billard, Maddie Stien, and Ava Berardi will be keys along with sophomore Izzy Ciesla. Freshmen Haley Rahman and Morgan Sauber should have an impact on varsity. The Red Raiders took the state by storm last spring when they won the Class 3A state track title behind graduated superstar Alexandria Johnson (Arizona State).

#### Jacobs:

Jacobs was hit very hard by graduation as it lost five seniors from their second straight state qualifying team, including Natalia Maciorowski (92nd in state, University of South Florida), Adeline Gorman (184th), Alyssa Madera (200th), Natali Varela (205th), and Christina Beyer (219th). The Golden Eagles have juniors Bailey Schwartz (46th) and Kathleen Kania ready to lead their pack along with senior Madeline Osmanski (180th). Sophomore Matylda Maciejczyk, Hannah Hedrick, Megan Retzer, and Fernanda Banuelos will all be in the mix after putting in a ton of miles this summer according to coach Kevin Christian.

#### Kaneland:

The Knights will really miss graduated senior Lindsey Andrae (Marquette University) after the team placed second in the Interstate Eight Conference. The Knights will turn to

seniors Abby Fitts and Olivia Pastovich as leaders along with juniors Abigail Lechocki, Jade Unzueta, and Audrey Walker. Sophomores Danielle Bower and Graycen Cole will also be keys while freshman teammate Natalie Atenco will add depth on varsity as Kaneland returns six of its top seven runners.

Larkin:

The Royals lost Heather and Hannah Durrant (University of the Cumberland) and Jinni Jimenez (Governors State University) from a team that placed fifth in the UEC, fifth at regionals and 15th at sectionals. Larkin has some young leaders returning for first-year coach Ezra Steffen's team, including junior Caitlin Sweeney, sophomore Makayla Preuss, and sophomore Brinlee Jimenez. Coach Steffen is hoping to see his pack run closer times together this season while making a return trip to the sectional meet.

Rosary:

The Royals are coming off a banner season as they held off Winnebago 198-202 to capture the third-place trophy in Class 1A for their first state trophy in school history. Senior Annie Hathaway (Elmhurst College) graduated, and Rosary has now been bumped up to Class 2A. Coach Vic Mead's squad has their top four runners back in junior Chiara Surtz (16th in Class 1A), senior Olivia Kunio (34th), senior Vivian Wyller (44th), and junior Natalie Goettsch (69th). Freshmen Kayla Garcia and Caroline Grottsch join the team as the Royals will be aiming to get as many runners downstate as possible.

South Elgin:

The Storm lost 2021 state qualifier Angelica Harris and Roberta Morales to graduation from a team that placed fourth in the UEC last year. After losing the majority of its varsity runners the past two years, South Elgin will look to junior Janeth Ortega for leadership this season on varsity. But coach Jorie Bartholomew said that for the first time in a long time the remainder of the varsity spots will be up for grabs this fall with any number of individuals on the team right now ready to step into much bigger roles this fall.

St. Charles East:

The Saints lost graduated runners Morgan Sandlund (St. Louis University), and Lauren Lewison, who were both on St. Charles East's 4x800 all-state relay team. Senior Marley Andelman will try to lead the Saints (22nd in Class 3A) back to state while sophomore Amalia Im and freshman Nicole Mayer should be front of the pack runners. Juniors Ally Walker, Kendall Crossen, and Kaitlyn Kreeger will be key factors along with senior Colleen Thumm. "Our team will be very new to the varsity level as we graduated five varsity members from last year's state team," said coach Brad Kaplan. "It will be a season of learning to race up at the new varsity level and that's great. We're going to take

our time and be ready to run when it counts later in the season." The Saints won back-to-back state titles in 1997 and 1998.

#### St. Charles North:

The North Stars finished seventh in the DKC, fourth at regionals, and 10th at sectionals without a single senior on the varsity roster. St. Charles North is lucky to have two state qualifiers back in junior Norah Dorrance (67th in Class 3A), and senior Camille Sabau (157th). Sophomore Paiten Kruse is expected to be another top runner for the North Stars as are senior Zoe Ulaszek, and junior Tia Kilroy. Senior Liza Kudyschak gives coach Shari Hays' team more experience to go along with sophomores Rachel Watts, Skye Santiago, and freshman Gwen Hobson as the team will thrive to finish higher in the state series.

#### St. Edward:

The Lady Wave's team had little depth or experience to fall back on in 2022 as freshman Sophie Holland and sophomore teammates Liz Leadley and Madeline Sasis were their only competitors at the Class 1A Lisle regional. St. Edward will be focused on improving their times and placing higher this fall in the Chicagoland Christian Conference.

#### Streamwood:

With Ashley Harrison now graduated, the Sabres are going to lean heavily on the experience of Sophia Baumert, who is a two-time all-conference runner as well as a two-time sectional qualifier. Baumert was also the UEC champion in the mile run last spring in track, and coach Dylan Lau said that she is a great leader who is ready to step up and take the next leap to make the state meet. Jazlynn Castelan and Alin Candia are other runners who are expected to be leaders on the young and new look Sabre team.

#### West Aurora:

The Blackhawks placed eighth at regionals as Darragh Creaney was the only runner in their top five that graduated. A lot of young runners paced West Aurora's pack last year including freshman Abbey Hauser, and sophomore Avery Littlejohn. Freshman Itzel Figueroa and sophomore Baylee Geni were also a part of the Blackhawks' top-four pack last season. West Aurora will face a lot of tough competition again with many big challenges in the Southwest Prairie Conference.

## **- Daily Herald -**

### **Week 2 football roundup for DuPage County and Fox**

**By: Dick Quagliano**

**9/2/ 2023**

It took a lifetime and then a little more, but West Chicago beat Bartlett for the first time.

Vincent Muci scored the go-ahead touchdown in overtime on a five-yard run. He then had a tackle for a loss from the two-yard line on the final play of the game to preserve the victory as West Chicago stunned Bartlett 21-14 Friday in West Chicago.

"I am so proud of the kids," West Chicago coach Adam Chavez said. "We are building this program with toughness on offense and physicality on defense. That showed up on Friday night. We are seeing improvements every week."

Muci had 26 carries for 122 yards and two touchdowns. Louis Zeitler had a 26-yard touchdown run for West Chicago.

Filip Szeszko scored both touchdowns for the Hawks.

Marmion Academy 40, Curie 0:

The Cadets (1-1) were dominating on both sides of the ball to pick up their first win. Jacob Sullivan ran for a touchdown and three another to Braden Harms. Jack Leshner, Jacob Nelson and Christian Favia also had touchdown runs while the Marmion defense held the Condors to minus 52 yards of total offense.

Waubonsie Valley 20, Plainfield East 7:

Chrisjan Simmons 20-yard touchdown run for the Warriors (2-0). Luke Elsea to Brady Teeple on four-yard touchdown pass on a fourth and goal play. Jakob McBride two-yard touchdown run. Sean Carroll forced a fumble that was recovered by Stafan Popov. Julian Johnson blocked a punt that set up the Warriors' first score.

St. Charles North 30 Crete-Monee 14:

Ethan Plumb threw for two touchdowns and ran for another as the North Stars (2-0) rallied from an 8-0 deficit in the second quarter. Jake Furtney and Jake Mettetal each caught a touchdown pass while Joell Holloman had a two-yard touchdown run. Hunter Liszka added a 42-yard field goal.

Benet 38, Moline 7:

Benet (2-0) built a 24-0 lead and never looked back to make their trip to the Quad Cities a successful one. Ryan Kubacki threw for 181 yards and three touchdowns.

Glenbard South 56, Fenton 0:

The Raiders (2-0, 2-0) piled up all their points in the first half and cruised to the win. Michael Champagne had a 79-yard run and threw a trio of touchdowns to Zach Hyzy. Jonny Baldauf had a 54-yard punt return, Carter London had a 4-yard touchdown run, Cam Williams a 68-yard scamper for a score and Anthony Colby had a touchdown run.

Montini 44, Hillcrest 24:

Gaetano Carbonara threw four touchdown passes, two of which went to Santino Florio. Alex Marre had three touchdowns on runs of 19 and 18 yards. He also had a 50-yard touchdown reception. George Asay added a 45-yard rushing touchdown as the Broncos (2-0) rolled.

Riverside-Brookfield 35, Hinsdale South 27:



The Hornets (0-2) fell behind 21-3 and tried to make a late run thanks to 505 yards of total offense. But their comeback just fell a bit short. Sam Schuyler had six catches for 163 yards and a touchdown while Ayden Farrare had four catches for 78 yards and two touchdowns.

Lake Park 18, Oak Park-River Forest 16:

Lake Park (2-0) won its first two games of the season for the first time since 2017. Matt Rodriguez's 99-yard kickoff return late in the fourth quarter gave the Lancers the final lead of the game. Lake Park survived a missed field in the closing moments to preserve the victory. Robert Munaco had a touchdown run while Chaz Orrico had a long touchdown reception for the Lancers. Jimmy Celli, Anthony Marchese, Nate De La Rosa and Nick Cairo all had a solid game defensively.

East Aurora 28, **Elgin** 0:

Ken Cooley three touchdowns. He scored on a 54-yard pass reception from Amado Martinez, a punt return and a 40-yard fumble return. Jeremiah Brown added a touchdown run for the Tomcats (1-1, 1-1).

Plainfield Central 15, Metea Valley 12:

Metea Valley (0-2) failed on a pair of two-point conversion attempts to come up a bit short. Charles Flowers had a 66-yard burst for a touchdown while Da'mrion Lewis had a one-yard touchdown run.

Naperville Central 6, Plainfield Central 3:

The Redhawks won a battle of field goals. Logan Ellison booted a 37-yard field goal with just over five minutes to play to lift Naperville Central (2-0). Ellison also kicked a 27-yard field goal in the first quarter to tie the game at 3-3. The Redhawks defense, led by Troy Kashul, Maverick Ohle, Christian Kuta, Gaven Wade, Aaron Nussbaum, Daniel Nussbaum, Sam Figg and Jason Figg has held its first two opponents to just one touchdown and 13 points overall.

Westmont 27, Prosser 21:

The Sentinels (1-1) picked up their first win of the season and the first for head coach Lee Maciejewski.

Seneca 40, Lisle 7:

Drew Nigro threw a touchdown pass to sophomore Myloe Thordson as the Lions (1-1) fell on the road.

Kaneland 40, Wauconda 13:

Kaneland (1-1) raced out to a 34-7 lead in the third quarter and cruised from there.

Addison Trail 21, North Chicago 7:

Addison Trail improved to 2-0 for the first time 2017.

West Aurora 45, Noble/Bulls 24:

The Blackhawks (2-0) had an easy time with the representative from the Chicago Public League.