

Press Clippings - 9/11/2023

- Daily Herald -

Suburban Mosaic: Racial Equity Week events begin today in Cook County

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy

9/11/ 2023

Latino gala

Centro de Información in Elgin will host its annual benefit gala at 6 p.m. Sept. 30, at Q Center, 1405 N. 5th Ave., in St. Charles.

This year's theme is "Taking Flight: New Beginnings, New Joys." The center's staff capacity has doubled in the last 12 months to better meet increased demand for services. Administrators have been developing a new strategic plan to best serve the projected growth in the state's Latino population, estimated to be 3.5 million people -- 30% of Illinois' total population -- by 2040.

Centro's team of caseworkers trained to welcome new immigrants has seen more than four times as many clients in the fiscal year that ended June 30. The nonprofit has helped thousands of clients since its founding 51 years ago. Its mission is to empower Hispanics to effectively integrate into the greater community through facilitation of information, education, citizenship and well-being.

This year's gala will feature a lead singer and musician from Venezuela who won last spring's Elgin Area **School District U-46** TalentFest. A digital adaptation of artwork by Mexican American artist Cristina Colunga of Elgin also will be featured.

For tickets, visit <https://e.givesmart.com/events/wAo/>.

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

- Daily Herald -

'A horrible hoax': School swatting takes phony threats to a new, emotional, costly level

The toll, costs of swatting at schools

By: Alicia Fabbre

9/9/2023



School swattings made headlines in the 2022-23 school year. Dundee-Crown High School fell victim to a swatting call on Aug. 30. Swatting occurs when a caller phones in a fake report of violence or threat of violence in the hopes of drawing a large police presence. (Brian Hill | Staff Photographer)

Students were just arriving for school when the call came in at Dundee-Crown High School.

The male caller, who also contacted Carpentersville village hall, said he Though there were signs the Aug. 30 call could be a hoax, the school went into full lockdown. Police from Carpentersville and surrounding areas descended on the grounds to do a full sweep of the building.

By 11:30 a.m., Carpentersville police had cleared the building and confirmed the school was the victim of a swatting call that appeared to have come from an out-of-state number with no ties to Dundee-Crown.

"Swatting" -- prank calls designed to draw a law enforcement response to a particular place -- create chaos and emotional distress. Law enforcement officials treat swatting calls as real threats until they can determine otherwise and ensure the target is secure.

While Algonquin-based Community Unit District 300, which includes Dundee-Crown High School, has seen its share of threats on social media, the swatting call was a first.

"We have never experienced someone calling in and saying they were going to do something and take it to that level," District 300 Superintendent Susan Harkin said.

School swatting is a newer trend, making headlines in the 2022-23 school year. From mid-September 2022 to March 31, the National Association of School Resource Officers logged 153 media reports of school swatting in 42 states.

On March 30 alone, 226 schools across New York were targeted by 36 phony reports of mass shootings, according to an ABC News report. At that time, U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York called for an FBI investigation into the incidents.

In one day last April, 21 schools across Illinois, including some in Rockford and Chicago, were the target of swatting calls, according to news reports.

While the calls often come into police departments or schools, apps that help bounce the calls to various locations or disguise the original number make it difficult to track the caller.

"I had allowed myself to think maybe this was a one-year thing and maybe this is going to go away," said Mo Canady, president of the National Association of School Resource Officers. "I'm hopeful that will happen, but we're going to have to see how these next few weeks and months play out."

He noted the incident at Dundee-Crown High School is the first he had been made aware of for the 2023-24 school year. Since then, the association learned of two other school swatting calls -- one in Tennessee on Wednesday and another in Oklahoma on Thursday.

While no one was physically injured, the experience at Dundee-Crown shook many.

Students were pulled into classrooms with teachers as armed police searched the building. Those just arriving on buses had to wait in their seats as worried parents looked on.

Students and parents were visibly shaken as they were reunited once the all-clear was given.

"It was very emotional," said Carpentersville Village President John Skillman, whose brother teaches at Dundee-Crown. "It took a lot out of everybody."

District 300 deployed its crisis response team in the following days to provide additional support for students and staff members.

"It was a horrible hoax that got pulled on our school," Harkin said. "We want people to know that our schools are safe for them."

In addition to the emotional toll, officials point to the massive police response prompted by such calls.

Carpentersville Police Chief Todd Shaver said at least 20 of the department's officers were on scene with dozens of officers from about 20 other law enforcement agencies. He estimates the cost of man-hours for his department alone to be in the thousands.

"I know that a call like that is very stressful to deal with," Shaver said. "But they (first responders) did what they had to do to safeguard everybody."

Earlier the same week, two phony bomb threats at **South Elgin High School** prompted similar responses.

"We will always do our due diligence," said Kane County Sheriff Ron Hain, whose office assisted at all three calls. "It's still good to make sure we take it from A to Z to make sure

there is no real threat."

Shaver said police continue to investigate the Dundee-Crown incident and the department has requested records from the app used to make the initial call.

And for Dundee-Crown, the focus now is on moving forward and assuring students and staff members the school is safe. Harkin encouraged parents to talk to their students about swatting.

"Safety is our highest priority," Harkin said "There are many caring people in the school district who will do whatever they can to keep kids safe."

- Daily Herald -

Elgin Sports Hall of Fame announces new class

By: Daily Herald Report

9/9/2023

Two former standout athletes from **Elgin High School**, two from Larkin and one from Burlington Central will be inducted to the Elgin Sports Hall of Fame on Sunday, Nov. 5, when the organization holds its annual banquet and induction ceremony at the Edward Schock Centre in downtown Elgin.

Those set to be inducted are Wes Boelkens, Kayla Oranger Johnson, Max Pokorny, Matt Schabert and Mark Stettner.

Boelkens is a 1970 Larkin grad who will be inducted as an all-around athlete for his achievements in football, wrestling, and track. Oranger Johnson is a 2009 Burlington Central product who is being inducted for softball, while Pokorny is a 1970 Elgin alum being inducted for tennis. Schabert graduated from Larkin in 2000 and is being inducted for football, and Stettner, a 1974 Elgin grad is also being inducted for football.

Keith Bohlin will receive the Vic Masi Award, which recognizes those who have contributed to the Elgin Sports Hall of Fame, to athletics and sports in the city of Elgin, and/or to an Elgin school or schools. Bohlin is receiving the award for his contributions to youth athletics.

For more information on the ESHOF, log onto eshof.org.

-Daily Herald -

Week 3 football scores

9/9/2023

Cook

Barrington 27, Glenbrook South 19

Buffalo Grove 62, Vernon Hills 14

Deerfield 42, Conant 26

Elk Grove 40, Maine East 7

Fremd 30, Evanston 14

Hersey 42, Glenbrook North 0

Hoffman Estates 40, Niles West 3

Maine South 28, Palatine 21

Prospect 24, New Trier 20

Highland Park 42, Rolling Meadows 35

Maine West 12, Schaumburg 6

St. Viator 36, Marian 14

Niles North 10, Wheeling 2

DuPage

Andrew 31, Metea Valley 10

Batavia 47, Lake Park 21

South Elgin 79, Fenton 7

Glenbard East 47, West Chicago 6

Glenbard South 35, **Larkin** 0

Lyons 42, Hinsdale Central 17

IC Catholic Prep 34, Benet 9

Wilmington 49, Lisle 7

Lockport 31, Naperville Central 24

Naperville North 51, Bolingbrook 49

Montini 24, Nazareth 23

Lincoln Way East 35, Neuqua Valley 7

Seneca 1, Westmont 0

St. Charles East 14, Glenbard North 0

Wheaton North 35, St. Charles North 23

St. Francis 43, St. Laurence 28

Homewood-Flossmoor 28, Waubonsie Valley 26

Wheaton Academy 35, Chicago Christian 0

Geneva 28, Wheaton Warrenville South 6

Willowbrook 42, Addison Trail 0

York 47, Downers Grove South 7

Fox

East Aurora 42, Bartlett 36

Batavia 47, Lake Park 21

Burlington Central 35, Crystal Lake South 21

Crystal Lake Central 55, Dundee Crown 19

Streamwood 20, **Elgin** 12
South Elgin 79, Fenton 7
Glenbard South 35, **Larkin** 0
Huntley 40, Jacobs 21
Marmion Academy 42, Leo 14
Cary-Grove 42, McHenry 13
Morris 43, Kaneland 33
Prairie Ridge 50, Hampshire 12
West Aurora 56, Romeoville 14
St. Charles East 14, Glenbard North 0
Wheaton North 35, St. Charles North 23
Aurora Central Catholic 42, West Carroll 20
Geneva 28, Wheaton Warrenville South 6

Lake
Antioch 48, Lakes 6
Carmel 46, DePaul 14
Grant 34, Grayslake North 6
Grayslake Central 15, North Chicago 7
Lake Zurich 21, Stevenson 16
Warren 28, Libertyville 8
Mundelein 21, Zion-Benton 0
Wauconda 56, Round Lake 0
Buffalo Grove 62, Vernon Hills 14

- Daily Herald -

South Elgin scores 50 points in 1st quarter in win over Fenton

By: Craig Brueske

9/8/2023

Junior quarterback Jack Ginnan enjoyed a career night, throwing 3 touchdown passes, running for a pair of scores, and adding a 2-point conversion pass during **South Elgin's** Upstate Eight Conference clash with visiting Fenton Friday night.

And that all happened in the opening quarter.

The Storm (3-0, 3-0) exploded for 50 first-quarter points on the way to a 79-7 triumph over the Bison (0-3, 0-3) -- extending their UEC winning streak to 27 games and their home victory streak to 22.

"That first quarter -- 57 points if you count their (Bison) touchdown -- I've never seen anything like that in my life," said South Elgin coach Dragan Teonic. "We ran 23 plays in

the first quarter and had 50 points.

"Fenton is rebuilding. They've got a new coach and they're starting it up. They're building from scratch. We're in year six, so it's going to look different. I'm proud of our guys. They prepared well all week."

South Elgin grabbed the lead for good on the first play from scrimmage, as Brandon Berrios took a pitch from Ginnan and raced 67 yards around the right side for a touchdown.

Five plays after London Leflore recovered an onside kick, Ginnan tossed a 1-yard TD pass to junior receiver Ishmael George to make it 13-0.

After defensive end Styles Owens recovered a fumble, the Storm extended its lead to 21-0 on Ginnan's 42-yard touchdown pass to George, who caught 3 passes for 76 yards and 2 TDs.

"He's a big target," Ginnan said of the 6-foot-2, 200-pound George. "We've been working since February on this. He's one of our playmakers. I've always known he has speed. We have that connection. I know where he's going to be. When I throw it up, I know he's going to go get it."

Ginnan added touchdown runs of 22 and 23 yards, respectively, while also firing a 7-yard TD pass to Aidan Beebe. Derek Thavisay's 36-yard TD jaunt and Ginnan's 2-point conversion pass to Berrios capped the early 50-point onslaught.

Malachi Thompson and DeAngelo McCullough had first-half touchdown runs covering 1 and 21 yards, respectively, while junior quarterback Kevon Brooks, Jr. capped the scoring touchdown runs of 16 and 25 yards.

South Elgin finished with 582 total yards of offense -- 499 coming on the ground. Brooks, Jr., Stewart Williams, Jr., and Bode Schneider each had an interception.

Fenton's lone score came on a 1-yard touchdown pass from Nathan Stewart to Ivan Medrano (5 catches, 51 yards). Stewart, who completed 9 of 18 passes for 70 yards, was 6-for-6 for 35 yards on the scoring drive.

Prior to the game, both teams took a knee at midfield for a moment of silence honoring South Elgin students Kamorra Campbell and Tahlulay Henry, who passed away in a car accident last week.

- Daily Herald -

Williams stars in Glenbard South's shutout win at Larkin

By: Dave Hess

9/8/2023

Glenbard South coach Ryan Crissey wants to make sure standout wide receiver Cam Williams gets as many touches as possible.

Mission accomplished.

Williams caught 7 passes for 189 yards including TD passes of 34 and 69 yards to help the Raiders get past Larkin 35-0 in Upstate Eight Conference action at Elgin's Memorial Stadium Friday night.

The Notre Dame commit also scored on a 9-yard TD run and intercepted a pass.

"Cam is special," said Crissey. "He is a starter on offense and defense. The only special team he is not on is the kickoff team. We try to get him the ball as many times during a game as possible."

Williams is happy with his college choice and his multiple roles on the team.

"I am comfortable with my decision to go to Notre Dame," said Williams. "I can just relax and enjoy my senior season. I want to help the team win. One of our goals is to win conference. I like running the jet sweep and I was in the right place for the interception."

The Raiders (3-0, 3-0) led 14-0 at halftime on a 9-yard run by Williams and a 34-yard TD pass from Michael Champagne.

Despite the two-touchdown lead at halftime, Crissey wasn't happy with his team's performance during the 24 minutes of play.

"We truthfully underestimated Larkin in the first half," said Crissey. "We didn't play with our brains or our hearts in the first half. We responded with a much better second half. We did what we wanted to do."

DeVontae Clark, who played mainly defense in the first half, gained 78 yards on 8 carries including a 9-yard TD run.

The Raiders intercepted 6 passes -- one each by Williams, Zachary Nyzy, Anthony Colby, Ari Ioannou, Joe Villa and Evan Bogue.

Terrance Boone caught 6 passes for 73 yards for the Royals (1-2).

"We played hard and were aggressive," said first-year Larkin coach Vincent Ray. "We are laying the foundation in our first year. We've got kids buying in."