

Press Clippings for 1/11/2023

## – Chicago Tribune & Elgin Courier-News –

### Many kids miss school

### Officials: 40% out 8 or more days during first half of academic year

Jan. 10, 2023

By Mike Danahey - Courier-News



About 14,000 of the 35,377 students enrolled at U-46 schools missed eight or more days of class through Dec. 23, district officials said. (Mike Danahey / The Courier-News)

Forty percent of District U-46 students were “chronically absent” during the first half of the 2022-23 school year, district officials said.

About 14,000 of the district’s 35,377 students missed eight or more days of class between mid-August and Dec. 23 because of illness, truancy or other reasons, Brian Tennison, executive director of high schools, told the U-46 School Board at Monday night’s meeting.

“We know that attendance is important as a leading indicator as students need to be in school to receive core instruction and ultimately succeed in the classroom as well as form meaningful relationships,” Tennison said.

Having 40% of students “falling into this (chronic absentee) category ... is too many,” he said.

Identifying those who are missing a lot of time and getting them back to the classroom will be an important focus for the second half of the year, he said.

Weekly attendance stands at 88% across the district, slightly below where it was at this time last year, **Tennison** said.

“COVID-related absences continue to play a major role,” said Tennison, who noted that nearly 50% of the missed days were attributed to the virus or virus-related precautions the district needed to take.

**Board President Sue Kerr** asked **Tennison** if he thought the numbers could be the result of the depression or discouragement students felt as a result of the pandemic, which required that classes be held remotely rather than in person for many months.

He acknowledged this could be a residual effect.

“I think the reality is that the impacts of COVID have yet to be fully realized by our society,” **Tennison** said. “I think students probably express it the most honestly with frustration or just being disconnected.”

But, he added, there are other reasons for the high rate of absenteeism as well.

“I think school personnel are highly aware and concerned about truancy,” he said. “I think there’s a whole lot of effort by school teams and mental health workers that are in the building and the teachers on the front lines that are really trying to connect to those students.”

And **U-46** is not alone in grappling with the problem, **Superintendent Tony Sanders** said.

“For school superintendents across the state and the country, this is the number one issue that every school district is facing,” **Sanders** said. “I think the principals would concur that their colleagues in other districts are seeing this as well. Attendance and chronic truancy have become the big topic right now.”

The technology that allows students to stay at home and learn still exists, he said, “so I think there’s a percentage of students who, if they don’t feel engaged in school, will tend to stay home and still access their coursework ... and not necessarily come to school if they don’t feel like coming to school.”

**Tennison** added that the norm now is a student is feeling ill, they will stay home. That’s something the district had been promoting during the pandemic because COVID is so contagious, but the impact of that is being seeing now, he said.

**Board Vice President Melissa Owens** she information she'd garnered from other sources backs up what **Tennison** and **Sanders** said.

“My sense from talking to other people is this is a large issue, at least in our area, not just in our district but across the Chicagoland area,” **Owens** said.

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

## – Examiner of Bartlett –

### **Expense items, bills gain approval from U-46 board**

**Jan. 11, 2023**

**By Seth Hancock**

The Board of Education in **School District U-46** voted 6-0, **board member Veronica Noland** was absent, on \$1 million in expenditure items and a hazardous transportation area designation resolution at its Monday, Dec. 12, 2022 meeting.

The largest expenditure was a three year contract costing \$250,000 annually, from the education fund, with Alliant Insurance Services for health insurance broker/consultant services.

“An insurance broker/consultant is the intermediary between the district and insurance companies, marketing the district’s programs as needed and educating the insurance committee on performance of the district’s health insurance programs,” the proposal stated. “The current contract for health insurance broker/consultant services is set to expire on January 31, 2023.”

The proposal added: “The district uses an insurance broker/consultant as the intermediary between the district and the various employee benefit providers. The broker/consultant negotiates the contracts with the providers on behalf of the district. The broker/consultant also advises the district Health Insurance Committee and district administration regarding the benefit plans.”

A contract with Roosevelt University for 15 staff members to seek bilingual endorsements was approved costing \$213,300, to be paid for through federal grant funds.

A contract renewal with PowerSchool was approved costing \$83,420 (education fund) for Naviance, which has been in use in the district since 2017.

“Naviance by PowerSchool is providing **School District U-46** with a comprehensive college and career planning tool that allows us to provide efficient services to our students and families,” the proposal states. “This platform provides us with data tracking tools for state’s College and Career Readiness Indicators and our post-secondary success work.”

The approved resolution adds South Channing Street and Villa Street for **Elgin’s Channing Elementary School** students to the hazardous transportation area designation list. The designation is used for the district to receive state reimbursements for transportation of students who normally are considered walkers, with 1.5 miles of the school, but there’s a dangerous crossing. The added area is the 49th on the district’s list.

The board also approved \$13.8 million in itemized bills.

## – Examiner of Bartlett –

### Tidbits By Rachel...

Jan. 11, 2023

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April 4 marks the date for the biennial local consolidated elections. This is the opportunity to elect local candidates for city, village, park district, library and school boards.

A local focus is on **School District U46**. This spring, the six candidates listed below will be campaigning for four, 4-year term seats: Kathleen “Kate” Thommes (incumbent), Susan Kerr (incumbent), Chanda Schwartz, Samreen Khan, Maureen Morris and Heather Manzella.

Parents and Taxpayers for Children (PTC) believe that the community deserves to understand the positions of these candidates and how their election to the **U-46 Board of Education** will best serve the well-being and academic future of our children, respect the taxpayers and honor our community at large.

In the effort to gather this vital information, the PTC is forming a candidate questionnaire and interview process. To do this successfully, your input is critical. Please let the PTC know what you would like to know about these candidates. What questions about their backgrounds, qualifications and the issues would you have for them?

Is it government mandates, spending, the advancement of ideologies? Do you want to know how proficiency failures will be cured? The courtesy of your response by Jan. 17 will be appreciated. To participate in the questionnaire go to: <https://forms.office.com/pages/res>

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If you are interested in serving on the Interview Committee, please contact us at  
ptceducation@protonmail.com.

## **– Examiner of South Elgin & Streamwood– Four U-46 Board seats sought by six candidates**

**Jan. 11, 2023**

**By Seth Hancock**

There will be at least two new members of the **School District U-46 Board of Education** as only two incumbents filed for reelection with four open seats, and six candidates in total filed.

Bartlett resident **Sue Kerr, the board's president**, filed on the first day of the filing period, Dec. 12, 2022 and Elgin resident **Kate Thommes, the board's secretary pro-tem**, filed on Dec. 14, 2022. **Kerr** was first elected in 2015 and reelected in 2019, while **Thommes** was elected in 2019.

**Board members John Devereux and Eva Porter** did not file for reelection with their terms expiring this year. Four challengers filed including Bartlett resident Samreen Khan, Elgin resident Heather Manzella and Streamwood resident Maureen Morris who all filed on Dec. 19, 2022 and Bartlett resident Chanda Schwartz filed on Dec. 15, 2022.

“The Board of Education is responsible for determining the policies which guide the operation of **School District U-46**,” the district’s website states.

“State law holds school boards responsible for policies in these areas: approval of courses of study and textbooks, adoption of an annual budget, construction, furnishing and maintenance of facilities, employment and evaluation of the superintendent.”

The website adds: “Elected members serve four-year terms and are not paid for their services. To be eligible to serve, a school board member must meet the following requirements on the date of election: a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old, a registered voter, a resident of the State of Illinois, and a resident of **School District U-46** for at least one year immediately preceding the election. All seven **U-46 Board members** have completed the Open Meetings Act Training as required under the Illinois School Code, (5 ILS 120/1.06) and the Professional Development Leadership Training.”



### Observing upcoming elections

Pictured is the Elgin National Watch Company Observatory in Elgin, built in 1910, now owned by School District U-46. Observing may be of keen interest to many area residents that will be interested in the results of the upcoming April 4 elections that will feature six candidates, including two incumbents, competing for four open seats on the U-46 board of education. The observatory was constructed to record and transmit precise time from the movement of the stars to the local Elgin National Watch Factory. In 1959 the building was donated, along with its observatory to U-46. *(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)*

## – Elgin Courier-News –

### LOCAL SCOREBOARD

Jan. 11, 2023

#### MONDAY'S RESULTS

##### HIGH SCHOOLS

##### BOYS BASKETBALL

Elgin Academy 54, Schaumburg Christian 42

Glenbard South 58, Larkin 53

Grayslake North 66, Crystal Lake Central 52



Grayslake North (7-9): Dominic Jankowski 18 points. Uros Mitrovic 15 points. Jayden Hunt 10 points.

Vernon Hills 59, Buffalo Grove 41

Vernon Hills (8-10): Milan Raval 14 points. Nolan Lazor 10 points.

## **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Aurora Central Catholic 53, Wheaton Academy 31

Grayslake North 49, Woodstock North 36

Grayslake North (13-6): Peyton Gerdes 33 points. Makayla Campbell 10 points.

Hinckley-Big Rock 50, Earlville 21

Hinckley-Big Rock (13-7, 3-2 Little Ten): Anna Herrmann 18 points. Sami Carlino 11 points.

Neuqua Valley 69, West Aurora 50

Rolling Meadows 55, Vernon Hills 47

Vernon Hills (11-8): Grace Koepke 21 points. Ava Barszcz 10 points.

St. Charles North 65, Rockford Auburn 33

St. Charles North (14-4): Alyssa Hughes 23 points. Reagan Sipla 21 points. Erin Stack 11 points.

## **ELGIN CITY CLASSIC**

**Elgin** 42, St. Edward 33

Elgin: Jocelyn Bardesi 13 points. Alyssa Wysuph 11 points.

**Larkin** 54, Harvest Christian 32

## **SATURDAY'S RESULTS**

### **HIGH SCHOOLS**

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

Benet 57, Marist 47

Carmel 74, Marian Central Catholic 45

East Aurora 82, West Aurora 80

Geneva 40, Hampshire 33

Glenbard North 43, St. Charles North 38

Grayslake Central 60, Round Lake 31

Grayslake Central (15-1, 4-0 Northern Lake County): Jake Gibson 12 points. Jack Gerbasi 11 points.

Grayslake North 50, Antioch 46

Grayslake North (6-9, 2-2 Northern Lake County): Dominic Jankowski 22 points. Jacob Donohue 12 points.

Antioch (6-10, 1-3): Carter Webb 20 points.

Jacobs 68, Butler 42

Lakes 73, North Chicago 28

Lakes (11-4, 4-0 Northern Lake County): Bryce Lucas, Brock Marino 15 points. Jimmy Kania 10 points.

Lockport 40, Naperville Central 27

Metea Valley 59, Taft 57

Mount Carmel 69, Waubonsie Valley 56

Naperville North 58, Lindblom 34

Plano 66, Somonauk 49

Plano (5-14): Chris Kebela 13 points, 11 rebounds. Ayden Olson 12 points.

St. Charles East 49, Batavia 48

St. Francis 53, Marmion 49

Marmion (12-5): Collin Wainscott 16 points, 6 rebounds. Trevon Roots 13 points.

Schaumburg 48, Elgin Academy 26

## **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Benet 61, Joliet Catholic 18

Carmel 57, Marist 40

Marian Central Catholic 51, Rosary 39



Metea Valley 60, South Elgin 46

Neuqua Valley 62, Oswego East 53

Oswego East: Cami Phillips 14 points. Maggie Lewandowski 13 points. Aubrey Lamberti 11 points.

Naperville Central 56, Plainfield Central 49

Ottawa 59, Kaneland 48

Kaneland (8-9, 4-2 Interstate Eight): Kailey Plank, Kendra Brown 14 points. Lexi Schueler 11 points.

Plano 46, Somonauk 41

Plano (8-12): Mikayla Walls 18 points, 10 rebounds. Ryssa Woodhouse 10 points.

St. Charles North 59, Glenbard North 54

St. Charles North (13-4): Reagan Sipla 26 points. Alyssa Hughes 15 points. Katrina Stack 14 points.

Sandwich 34, Morris 31

Warren 36, Round Lake 30

Warren (8-9): Mariah Phelps 12 points.

Round Lake (9-9): Lilli Burton 10 points.

Waubonsie Valley 88, Oswego 21

West Aurora 53, East Aurora 45

### **ELGIN CITY CLASSIC**

Elgin 55, Harvest Christian 36

Elgin (5-13): Izzie Castro 14 points. Izzy Vidallo 12 points.

St. Edward 44, Westminster Christian 12

### **SUGAR BOWL NATIONAL PREP CLASSIC**

At Westwego, La.

Bartlett 61, Kenwood 51

### **FRIDAY'S RESULTS**

## **HIGH SCHOOLS**

### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

Benet 67, St. Patrick 36

Burlington Central 58, Cary-Grove 42

DeKalb 54, Naperville Central 46

Dundee-Crown 57, Wauconda 45

Dundee-Crown (6-8): Kuba Senczyszyn 24 points. Tyler DiSilvio 14 points.

Wauconda (7-7): Braeden Carlsen 12 points, 4 rebounds.

Geneva 58, Wheaton North 45

Geneva (13-3, 4-1 DuKane): Mick Lawrence 21 points.

Glenbard South 80, Streamwood 35

Hinckley-Big Rock 77, Somonauk 59

Hinckley-Big Rock (13-5, 4-0 Little Ten): Martin Ledbetter 29 points, 10 rebounds.

Somonauk (5-12, 2-2): Coleton Eade 20 points.

Joliet Catholic 60, Carmel 48

Kaneland 72, Sycamore 52

Kaneland (15-3, 7-0 Interstate Eight): Troyer Carlson 20 points. Freddy Hassan, Johnny Spallasso 14 points.

Lake Forest 58, Lake Zurich 49

Lake Forest (7-7, 1-3 North Suburban): Asa Thomas 15 points, 7 rebounds. Tommie Aberle 15 points, 10 rebounds.

Larkin 69, Bartlett 60

Marmion 65, St. Charles East 53

Marmion (12-4): Henry Dalmann 18 points. Collin Wainscott 17 points, 10 rebounds, 4 steals. Trevon Roots 16 points, 3 blocks.

Metea Valley 50, Naperville North 47

Metea (9-5, 2-2 DuPage Valley): Jahki Gray 20 points. Will Ashford 14 points.

Naperville North (9-8, 2-2): Luke Williams 23 points. Bryce Welch 15 points.

Morris 63, Plano 52

Plano (4-14, 1-6 Interstate Eight): Davione Stamps 14 points. A.J. Johnson 13 points.

Newark 72, Indian Creek 54

Newark (7-8, 3-2 Little Ten): Zach Carlson 19 points, 9 rebounds. Blake Wallin 12 points, 7 rebounds. Joe Martin 10 points.

Niles North 51, Vernon Hills 46

Vernon Hills (7-10, 2-2 Central Suburban North): Milan Raval 20 points.

Oswego 85, Plainfield Central 63

Oswego East 47, Romeoville 39

Oswego East (15-3): Mekhi Lowery, Jehvion Starwood 11 points.

St. Edward 50, Elmwood Park 35

Sandwich 68, Rochelle 65

South Elgin 57, East Aurora 56

Stevenson 61, Zion-Benton 38

Stevenson (12-2, 4-0 North Suburban): David Sulnius 14 points, 5 rebounds. Aidan Bardic 13 points.

Zion-Benton: Rmoni Beals 11 points.

Warren 59, Waukegan 42

Waubonsie Valley 49, Neuqua Valley 27

Yorkville 57, Joliet Central 52

Yorkville (14-3): Jason Jakstys 23 points. Dayvion Johnson 14 points.

## **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Burlington Central 56, Cary-Grove 38

Burlington Central (12-5, 5-2 Fox Valley): Page Erickson 23 points, 8 rebounds, 3 steals. Samantha Origel 16 points, 6 rebounds.

Downers Grove North 42, St. Charles East 37

Geneva 54, Wheaton North 40

Grant 37, Round Lake 25

Grayslake Central 58, North Chicago 19

Grayslake North 42, Lakes 30

Grayslake North (12-6, 4-2 Northern Lake County): Makayla Campbell 21 points. Peyton Gerdes 16 points.

Lakes (8-9, 2-4): Jessica Oman 12 points.

Hinckley-Big Rock 42, Morris 39

Hinckley-Big Rock (12-7): Kylee Hellebrand 16 points. Devin Werner 11 points.

**Larkin** 36, Prairie Ridge 33

Romeoville 34, Oswego East 30

Vernon Hills 70, Niles North 36

Vernon Hills (11-7, 5-1 Central Suburban North): Grace Koepke 20 points. Ava Barszcz 16 points. Alexa Cieslinski 12 points.

Warren 51, Waukegan 37

Warren: Mariah Phelps 17 points. Nari Powers 14 points. Shay Love 10 points.

Yorkville Christian 62, South Beloit 36

Compiled by Josh Krockey.

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

## – Daily Herald –

### **DuPage County girls basketball notes: Norkus provides spark for surging Neuqua Valley**

**Jan. 10, 2023**

**By Bobby Narang**

Neuqua Valley junior guard Kylee Norkus is rapidly turning into one of the top players in the Chicago area this season.

Norkus can impact the outcome of a game on both ends of the court. She has deceptive quickness and can push the pace with her ability to snag a rebound and bring the ball up the court. She plays with confidence, attacks the driving lanes with strength and can battle inside for rebounds and sparks rallies with her defense and finishing ability following steals.

Her nonstop energy is also contagious.

The 5-foot-11 Norkus scored a career-high 28 points against Trinity on Dec. 30 to raise her season averages to 16.5 points, 8.0 rebounds and 3.0 steals per game despite missing the first three games with a broken finger suffered in a flag football game. In her last four games, Norkus is averaging a robust 22 points for the Wildcats (12-8, 4-0 DuPage Valley Conference) in her last four games.

"Confidence is definitely a big key," Norkus said. "I've mentally been prepared and that's helped my game a lot. It's 100 percent mental."

Led by Norkus' strong play in the last month, Neuqua Valley coach Mike Williams said his team is rounding into shape after playing a packed schedule in December.

"Kylee always plays hard and at 100 miles per hour," Williams said. "She's been a pleasure to have around, and is just a good hard player."

Norkus, who has offers from Valparaiso and Evansville, said she's excited for her future in basketball.

"Right now, I'm feeling everything out and still have visits to go and a lot of things left in the recruiting process," Norkus said. "I'm not going to push that process. It's a different journey. I'm grateful for this opportunity."

**Glenbard South update:**

Through 18 games, Glenbard South is on track toward a 20-win season. The Raiders (13-5, 7-1 Upstate Eight Conference) are two wins away from equaling last season's win total despite a roster full of inexperienced players.

"We're a team that has a lot of young players," Glenbard South coach Eric Daca said. "Our girls work hard and put forth maximum effort. We just need to maintain our focus and execution for all four quarters. In three of our losses, we have been leading going into the fourth quarter, but failed to close out the game. Through experience in these tight games, I'm confident we will learn what it takes to play a full four quarters."

The Raiders suffered a major blow during the holiday tournament season, when starting freshman point guard Rheayanna Ferguson suffered a season-ending ACL injury. Junior guard Allie Mizwicki is helping to pick up the slack, averaging 11 points per game on 43 percent shooting from beyond the arc. She has scored at least 20 points in three games this season. Sophomore center Brooklynn Moore is averaging 9 points and 9 rebounds, highlighted by a 25-point, 17-rebound effort against South Elgin. She had 13 points and 15 rebounds against Streamwood on Thursday.

"I like how our girls are playing and feel good about where we stand in the conference," Daca said. "We have a tough assignment with regionals, but it will be a good test for us. I'm excited that our team is young and built to sustain this level of play for several more years."

"Our goal heading into the end of the season is to finish our conference schedule strong and contend for a conference title while gaining momentum and confidence going into regionals."

Fenton update:

Fenton coach Dave Mello put a twist on the holidays by changing his defense. Thus far, the Bison (8-9, 2-6 Upstate Eight Conference) have made some progress by winning two of their last four games, including a quality win over West Chicago on Thursday.

The Bison, who have prided themselves on shooting an abundance of 3-pointers in Mello's tenure, limited West Chicago to 39 points.

"The key to our last few games has been the improvement of the new defense we put in after Thanksgiving," Mello said. "All five girls on the court are beginning to work as one and they have been communicating much better. Even in the loss to **South Elgin** on Dec. 20, we played really well on defense for three quarters. The West Chicago win was huge for us as it showed that we can win a game that is lower scoring than we like.

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

## – Daily Herald –

### Fox boys basketball notes: Blakley's return sparks Larkin

**Jan. 11, 2023**

**By Craig Brueske**



**Larkin's Jakob Blakley**, left, scored 25 points in his first game back from an off-season injury.



Blakley also scored 25 points in a win over **Bartlett** that handed the **Hawks** their first Upstate Eight loss. *Paul Valade | Staff Photographer*

After sitting out the early portion of the season while recovering from a summer injury, **Larkin junior guard Jakob Blakley** made a triumphant return to the basketball court during last month's Hinkle Holiday Classic at Jacobs.

Blakley, who was a sophomore starter on the **Royals'** Class 4A sectional championship team a year ago, was expected to shoulder a lot of the scoring load for the Royals this season.

Unfortunately, the summer injury kept Blakley from **Larkin's** lineup for the first 10 games, and at one point, the hope was for him to return this month.

"We always knew that he could be back by late December but definitely didn't want to put that type of date on him in terms of pressure of coming back," said **Larkin coach Deryn Carter**.

Blakley made his season debut during the **Royals'** 79-71 victory over Elk Grove on Dec. 27 at Jacobs. The 6-foot guard scored 13 of his 25 points in the opening quarter, connecting on three 3-pointers, during **Larkin's** lone win in 4 tries at Jacobs.

Two days later, Blakley returned and scored 23 points, 14 of them coming in the fourth quarter, during the **Royals'** 57-49 loss to Prairie Ridge.

"I am not sure if he is ahead of schedule as much as it is just a testament to his work ethic and support system," said Carter. "Yes, he played well -- still probably not completely back yet, but even in those games he has shown glimpses of how special he can be."

As expected, Blakley did not play in the other 2 tournament games.

"It wasn't because of any setbacks or anything -- more just because of caution and not wanting that much stress on his legs," said Carter.

Last Friday, Blakley poured in a game-high 25 points, including 17 in the second quarter, during **Larkin's** 69-60 victory over Upstate Eight Conference front-runner Bartlett (13-4, 6-1).

Blakley figures to suit up Friday night when the **Royals** (6-10, 4-4) host cross-town rival **Elgin**.

"I'm not sure of the plan going forward," said Carter. "If it were up to him, he would play all four games (in 6 days). However, we will play it by ear. I would be surprised if we played him in all four games."

Marmion (12-5) has been without the services of senior guard Jabe Haith the past few weeks due to a sprained ankle.

However, that has opened the door for the emergence of 6-4 senior forward Henry Dalmann, who scored a game-high 18 points in the Cadets' 65-63 victory over St. Charles East last Friday.

"I give Henry a lot of credit," said Cadets coach Joe Piekarz. "With Jabe being out, he has just come in and completely taken advantage of the opportunity. He has waited his turn and once Jabe comes back, he'll still get added minutes.

"Jabe should be back soon -- I'd say in the next week or two."

During holiday break, Marmion turned in a strong second-place finish at the 59th annual Plano Christmas Classic. The Cadets downed Morris, Ottawa, and Kaneland before dropping a 58-41 title decision to Burlington Central.

In addition to last Saturday's game against St. Francis (Marmion lost 53-49), the holiday tourney gave the Cadets a chance to see some teams they will likely meet again come postseason time.

Marmion is in the Burlington Central Class 3A Sub-Sectional along with Cary-Grove, Kaneland, Sycamore, Wauconda, St. Francis, IMSA, Plano, and the host Rockets.

"I think we learned that we're a good basketball team, and that there are other really good basketball teams," Piekarz said of the Plano tourney experience. "When we start getting into postseason play, it's going to be a lot of fun."

St. Charles East (8-8, 3-4) experienced an up and down weekend, edging Batavia 49-48 a day after losing to Marmion.

Jack Borri led the Saints with 15 points (all on 3-pointers), while Steven Call added 11 points and 5 rebounds, and Eddie Herrera had 9 points against Batavia.

"We're not going to scare anyone no matter how good we're playing," Saints coach Patrick Woods said after the Marmion loss. "We've got to do it with execution, focus and details."

**Bartlett** (13-4) and **South Elgin** (9-8) are tied with Fenton atop the Upstate Eight with 6-1 records heading this week's action. Junior guard Kelton McEwen scored 83 points in 4 tourney games at Jacobs, including a 31-point effort in the **Hawks'** 90-74 win over Rockford Jefferson, while junior Nathan Searce had a team-high 17 points in a 63-61 win over Prairie Ridge. **Bartlett** finished 3-1.

Meanwhile, Elias Cole Williams scored 22 points in **South Elgin's** 55-52 win over Grant, while Sean Harvey had 17 points in a 71-56 win over Marian Central. The **Storm** finished 2-2.

Aurora Christian (13-4) recently split 4 games at the State Farm Classic.

Cam Morel scored 16 points in the Eagles' 43-29 win over Providence-St. Mel, while Jalen Carter had 8 points in a 39-34 win over Tri-Valley.

Freshman Marshawn Cocroft scored a team-high 15 points in a 50-43 loss to Rock Falls.