Press Clippings - 2-8-2023

- Elgin Courier-News -

Elgin News Digest: Black music exhibit, gospel concert at Elgin library; sky show being presented Tuesday at U-46 Planetarium; Larsen's Marc Spacone named Middle School Principal of Year

Feb. 7, 2023 By Mike Danahey - The Courier-News

Sky show being presented Tuesday at U-46 Planetarium

A new public sky show, "Perseus and Andromeda: Legends of the Night Sky," will be presented at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, at the School District U-46 Planetarium in Elgin.

The show includes a brief history of the planetarium along with a viewing of the overnight stars, planets and other interesting sights.

Doors will open at 4 p.m., with seating on a first-come, first-served basis. Admission is cash only - \$2 per person or \$10 per family.

The planetarium is located at 312 Watch St., Elgin. There is free parking one block away at Raymond and National streets.

For more information, go to www.u-46.org/Page/9102.



Marc Spacone, principal of Larsen Middle School in Elgin, is the Illinois Principal Association's 2022-23 Middle School Principal of the Year for the Kishwaukee Region. (School District U-46 / HANDOUT)

Larsen's Spacone named Middle School Principal of Year

Marc Spacone, principal of Larsen Middle School in Elgin, has been named the Illinois Principal Association's 2022-23 Middle School Principal of the Year for the Kishwaukee Region.

Spacone has been principal at Larsen since 2021 and was assistant principal for five years prior to that, a School District U-46 new release said. He has held administrative and teaching positions in several other school districts since starting his career in education in 1998.

Larsen is one of eight middle schools in District U-46, with an enrollment of more than 650 students in 7th and 8th grades.

- Daily Herald -

Awareness about the world

Elgin High School hosts annual student-led National Biodiversity Teach-In Fridays in February

Feb. 8, 2023 By Tara Burghart (Elgin Area School District U-46)

A new group of Elgin High School students is continuing an initiative launched 10 years ago designed to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity.

Featuring webinars led by renowned scientists, the National Biodiversity Teach-In is focusing on issues near (plastic pollution in the Great Lakes) and far (contaminants in the Arctic) and aims to inspire its participants to take action in environmental protection.

More than 25 webinars, all free and open to the public, are offered on Fridays in February. The first programs were held on Feb. 3.

Other subjects to be addressed during this year's Teach-In include Arctic plants, reefs in the Great Lakes and native plants, as well as presentations that center on polar bears, wolves, elephants, snow leopards, amphibians, sharks, whales, and bats.

As in previous years, the 2023 Teach-In is expected to draw environmental science enthusiasts and whole classrooms of students from around the globe. Over the years, it has registered more than 110,000 participants from more than 27 countries.

Environmental students at Elgin High School, guided by several teachers, have been working on the 2023 Teach-In for several months.

Student organizers delegate the event responsibilities by committees. They troubleshoot technology issues, register participants, respond to media requests, advertise, and create promotional materials.

Elgin High senior Sabrina Gomez is a member of the Teach-In's "action team," responsible for identifying opportunities for webinar viewers to learn more or get more involved.

"I hope, more than anything, that the Teach-In accomplishes awareness about our world. The majority of the Earth's most vital issues go unnoticed," Gomez said. "I hope the viewers of the webinars walk away with a sense of purpose; a purpose to spread the message of the Teach-In and do their part to take care of our singular, vital Earth and its inhabitants — human and nonhuman."

The webinars are scheduled during the school day on Fridays through Feb. 24. Each speaker will give a presentation based on their specialty and also include dedicated time for questions and answers.

As was the case the last few years, the Teach-In will feature a day of sessions with nearly all female presenters for International Day of Women and Girls in Science, a declaration from the United Nations General Assembly to encourage a new generation of female scientists to tackle the major challenges of our time by leading innovation in science and technology.

Among the women presenting Friday, Feb. 10, are Jillian Morris, a marine biologist and a shark conservationist; Dr. Bonnie Hamilton, a ecotoxicologist who studies contaminants in the Arctic; Dr. Thea Bechshoft, a marine mammal biologist who studies polar bear ecology; and Deanna Leonard, a marine biologist who focuses on whales as ecosystem engineers.

Student organizers of the Teach-In made an effort this year to add programming on topics that have mass appeal.

For instance, Rebecca Shaw, who is chief scientist and senior vice president at the World Wildlife Fund, will present on the status of the world's biodiversity to close out the program at 2 p.m. Feb. 24.

"We have a very exciting roster of presenters with a wide variety of expertise, including people who study ecosystems and how humans are impacting it all," said EHS science teacher Brigid Trimble, who helped launch the event back in 2013.

"It is very encouraging to see and hear from these scientists and feel the enthusiasm they show for their field of study."

The webinars first began at Elgin High School in 2013 to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity. The 100th anniversary of the extinction of the passenger pigeon in 2014 and the story of Martha, the last known living passenger pigeon, increased the students' interest and desire to discuss biodiversity with some of the best experts in the field.

The Teach-In website, <u>www.nationalbiodiversityteachin.com</u>, has a full schedule and details on the speakers and topics being discussed. Those who register to attend a webinar will receive a personalized Zoom link.

Webinars also will be livestreamed on the Teach-In's social media channels on the day of the event

atyoutube.com/@nationalbiodiversityteachin,www.instagram.com/natbioteachin/,www.tiktok.com/@natbioteachinorwww.facebook.com/natbioteachin.

- Daily Herald -

2023 National Biodiversity Teach-In presenters

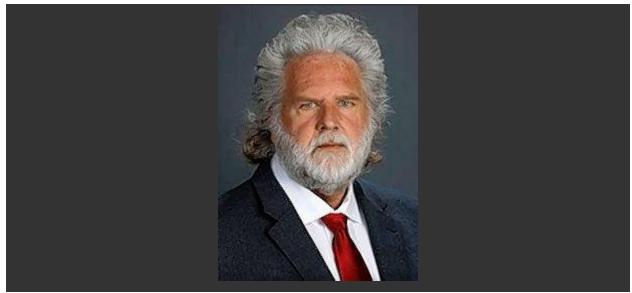
Feb. 8, 2023

Feb. 17

Rick Wood on "Human vs. Monkey Conflicts in Urban Areas" at 8 a.m.; Naomi Rose of the Animal Welfare Institute on "Captive Cetacean Welfare" at 9 a.m.; Stephanie Schmidt of the International Crane Foundation on "Whooping Cranes in the Eastern Migratory Population: Saving a Species from the Brink of Extinction" at 10 a.m.; Carol Buckley of Elephant Aid International on "Captive-held Elephant Rehabilitation" at 11 a.m.; Peggy Doty of University of Illinois and Pam Otto of the Hickory Knolls Discovery Center on "Backyard Birding the Correct Way" at 1 p.m.; and Elgin High alumni Autumn McGowan of The Nature Conservancy on "Reefs in the Great Lakes" at 2 p.m.

- Daily Herald -

Elgin native Huxtable lands 1st NFL job



Elgin native Dave Huxtable was hired this week as a senior defensive assistant coach by the Atlanta Falcons. (Courtesy of Kent Gidley)

Feb. 7, 2023 Special Edition to the Daily Herald

Elgin native and 1975 Larkin High School graduate Dave Huxtable, a career college football coach, has landed his first NFL job.

The Atlanta Falcons announced earlier this week they have hired Huxtable, 66, as a senior defensive assistant coach.

The 1979 Eastern Illinois alum has been a college football coach for 43 years. He's coordinated defenses at Georgia Tech, North Carolina, N.C. State and Pitt, among other stops along the way, including being linebackers coach at Wisconsin in 2012 when the Badgers went to the Rose Bowl.

A 2017 inductee to the Elgin Sports Hall of Fame, Huxtable was named national linebackers coach of the year in 2011 by Football Scoop.

He most recently spent the past two years as a defensive analyst under Nick Saban at Alabama.

Huxtable was the defensive coordinator for N.C. State all three seasons when new Falcons defensive coordinator Ryan Nielsen was the defensive line coach and run game coordinator there.

Huxtable was also the DC at North Carolina when current Falcons head coach Arthur Smith was an offensive lineman for the Tar Heels.

- Examiner of Bartlett -

Sanders leaving U-46 to take state educator post

(This article appeared in the Examiner of South Elgin/Examiner of Streamwood)

Feb. 8, 2023 By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 will be seeking a new superintendent after the announcement that Tony Sanders will be stepping down to become the Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) state superintendent of education.

The announcement was made on Jan. 31 by the ISBE in a press release which stated Sanders "will assume his duties in late February." Democrat Gov. J.B. Pritzker said for the ISBE release: "Dr. Sanders' breadth of experience as superintendent of School District U-46 and his entire background have prepared him to take on this role. His focus on innovation, social emotional development, and academic excellence make him an extraordinary pick."

Sanders wrote in a Jan. 31 statement: "While I have such a strong connection to U-46, I have always set my sights on serving in the role of state superintendent. It is the only position that I would consider leaving U-46 to accept, and the fact that I was selected is an honor that I cannot decline."

Sue Kerr, the U-46 Board of Education president, told The Examiner that the board would hold a closed session meeting on Feb. 6 "to discuss next steps." Sanders' final day with U-46 hasn't been officially set yet, she added.

In a statement, Kerr wrote that the board was "sad to see... Sanders leave, but knows that the children of the state of Illinois will benefit from his leadership at the Illinois State Board of Education." She added that Sanders "has never hesitated to reach out to state legislators and the media to advocate on U-46's behalf."

Sanders was named the U-46 CEO in 2014 when Superintendent Jose Torres left the district. He did not have the legal qualifications at the time as the district chose to keep Sanders as CEO while paying for a part-time interim superintendent, Kenneth Arndt, who was paid up to \$70,000 a year to sign documents.

U-46 and Sanders lobbied the Illinois General Assembly for a special carveout that solely benefitted Sanders allowing him to be CEO without an interim superintendent, which took effect in 2017. He later used funding to achieve his superintendent certification, which he achieved in 2020.

Sanders' time as CEO/superintendent has been paralleled by consistently declining scores across most ISBE academic measures as well as eight straight years of spending increases with enrollment declines. Spending has increased 62 percent and enrollment dropped by 14 percent since 2012.

Examiner of Bartlett Curriculum, expense items poised for U-46 board vote

(This article appeared in the Examiner of South Elgin / Examiner of Streamwood)

Feb. 8, 2023 By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 is set to vote on \$18.6 million in curriculum and expenditure items at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Feb. 13. The items were presented on Jan. 23.

Three curriculum items were presented all from the education fund, the largest cost being \$700,399 for a three-year contract for the GALE: In Context For Educators program for secondary schools.

"Gale In Context: For Educators is a digital content platform that combines student-facing databases with tools for teachers that supports the U-46 language arts curriculum at the secondary level for CCSS (Common Core State Standards) Reading for Information as well as in other content areas," the proposal states.

The district is asking for \$505,000 for resources and program fees to offer the International Baccalaureate at Elgin High School's gifted and talented academy.

Costing \$152,635 with Cengage Learning, U-46 is looking to purchase updated textbooks and resources for business courses in the career and technical program including accounting, college accounting, introduction to global business, management and entrepreneurship.

"Career and Technical Education focuses on continuously improving instruction for students by assessing, analyzing, and updating our textbooks and supplemental materials," the proposal states. "We provide rigorous instruction by considering multiple options for textbooks and support materials that will engage students and broaden their understanding of the subject."

There are several operations and maintenance bids including a \$5.1 million bid with Monaco Mechanical for boiler, electrical switchgear and generator replacement at Streamwood High School with the current items having "far exceeded their useful life expectancy," the proposal states.

There are four roof replacements proposed at four schools with roofs all at least 26 years old. Included is Elgin High School (\$5.4 million, L. Marshall, Inc.), Elgin's Huff Elementary School (\$2.4 million, Preservations Services, Inc.), Elgin's Lords Park Elementary School (\$2.3 million, Elens and Maichin Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc.) and South Elgin's Fox Meadow Elementary School (\$1.3 million, Elens and Maichin).

Two contracts were proposed to be paid by the nation's taxpayers through COVID bailout funds. Included is \$448,116 with Crisis Prevention Institute for training and materials and \$363,420 with Care Solace for "mental health care coordination service with a mission to provide easy access to care regardless of circumstance," the proposal states.

- Chicago Sun Times -

Seeding the Class 4A and Class 3A sectionals A look at how the top eight seeds should shake out this week.

Feb. 7, 2023 By Joe Henricksen

We will all find out the early state tournament matchups and pairings later this week. Coaches throughout the state will seed their respective sectionals by Thursday at noon.

The hope here is the coaches — all of the coaches — find the time to do a little homework in preparing to seed their sectional. We're here to offer a little help.

It's fun to project and analyze. This is the annual City/Suburban Hoops Report's sectional seed forecast, where each local Class 3A and Class 4A sectional is broken down. There is research done and reasons why that are provided.

The seeds are based on all that has transpired since the season tipped off Thanksgiving week. There is a lot to take into consideration. It's more than just the win total when you have head-to-head play, schedule strength, quality wins, how a team is currently playing and the eye test to include.

Here is how I see the sectional seed breakdown.

Class 4A: Barrington

- 1. Libertyville (21-5)
- 2. Stevenson (19-5)
- 3. Palatine (20-6)
- 4. Prospect (16-10)
- 5. Barrington (17-4)

- 6. Fremd (15-8)
- 7. Warren (15-13)
- 8. Hersey (16-11)

Overview: What's tricky in this sectional is the top three teams have all played each other and beaten each other. Then there is a fourth team lurking with wins over a couple of the top three.

Let's sort it all out.

Since a 3-3 start to the season, Libertyville has gone an impressive 18-2, including a win over Stevenson. The Wildcats won the Wheeling Hardwood Classic and beat talented Glenbrook North along the way. Despite being absolutely throttled in its last game to Rolling Meadows, they have earned the top seed.

Palatine is also a hot team. And it beat Libertyville way back in early December. But Stevenson knocked off Palatine at Thanksgiving. Palatine's overall résumé isn't quite as strong, particularly with hiccup losses to sectional teams Fremd and Lake Zurich. Stevenson has beaten Lake Zurich twice.

Stevenson gets the second seed and Palatine is third. But hold on ...

Want to throw a wrench into the whole thing? Prospect has beaten both Palatine and Stevenson — by a combined two points. And the Knights are smoking hot since the calendar turned to 2023. Prospect has just two losses in its last 12 games. Prospect had a shot at the buzzer to win both of those games.

There are few sectional seeds that will or should change over a Tuesday-before-seeds result. But could this be one of them?

Prospect plays Hinsdale Central Tuesday night. If the Knights find a way to beat one of the hottest teams in the state, it might be time to move Prospect up. That would be wins over Stevenson, Glenbrook South and highly-ranked Hinsdale Central in the last two weeks. They are too hot and playing too well not to reward them. Bump them up a seed or two if it beats Hinsdale Central.

It's been a nice, surprising season for Barrington. The Broncos settle in as the fifth seed.

Fremd has some very good wins over sectional opponents. The Vikings split two games with Barrington, beat both Prospect and Palatine and knocked off Warren.

Then it's Warren, Lake Zurich and Hersey rounding out the seventh, eighth and ninth seeds. Warren beat Lake Zurich in late January and Hersey pounded Lake Zurich earlier this season.

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New Trier (25-4)
* Rolling Meadows (23-4)
* Glenbrook North (23-3)
Glenbrook South (20-8)
Evanston (20-7)
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Class 4A: New Trier

6. Loyola (20-8)

8. Taft (17-9)

7. Niles North (22-6)

Overview: This loaded sectional has sorted itself out in recent weeks. Despite so many 20-win caliber teams, there are really only a couple of seeds that still need to be figured out.

New Trier is very much deserving of the No. 1 seed. The body of work the Trevians have put in with non-conference wins over Rolling Meadows and Loyola — and being on top of a conference that features the three other top teams in this sectional — is impressive.

The No. 2 and No. 3 seeds should be determined Tuesday night. Rolling Meadows and Glenbrook North play one another with the winner getting the two seed, the loser dropping to the third line.

The quandary is in the four through six seeds among Evanston, Glenbrook South and Loyola, teams with similar résumés and records.

Glenbrook South and Evanston have both lost to New Trier twice. They've both lost to Rolling Meadows. And they've split the two games they've played each other this season. But GBS won the most recent game in early January and gets the edge between two teams with similar schedules and records.

Loyola, which has lost to Taft and De La Salle in the past two weeks, lands at No. 6. The Ramblers have a heck of a win over Brother Rice to pump themselves up, but they fell to Evanston in overtime back in December. And that recent Taft loss is lurking.

The only question remaining that would throw things back up in the air a little is if Glenbrook South loses to Conant on Tuesday night. That would be a loss to a lower-seeded team in this sectional — and the fifth loss in the last seven games. The Titans need that win Tuesday night to solidify the No. 4 seed.

Niles North has the wins but just hasn't played the schedule the six teams ahead of it have played.

Taft, Conant and Niles West will all be jockeying for seeds 8-10. Taft has 17 wins and a quality sectional victory over Loyola and has also beaten Niles West.

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Class 4A: Bartlett
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- 1. Benet (25-1)
- 2. Wheaton South (22-4)
- 3. Geneva (22-5)
- 4. Metea Valley (19-8)
- 5. Lake Park (18-8)
- 6. Naperville North (16-11)
- 7. Glenbard West (17-9)

8. Bartlett (17-10)

Overview: The top two seeds are easy. Benet is a clear top pick. Wheaton South checks in at No. 2.

Geneva has lost a couple of late. But the Vikings have done enough to secure the third seed, while Metea Valley lands the four seed. Metea Valley has the win total and took care of Bartlett, Naperville North and Lake Park during the regular season.

Glenbard West has 17 wins while playing in the strong West Suburban Silver Conference. The Hilltoppers, though,

Lake Park is playing its best basketball of the season with eight wins in its last nine games.

Glenbard West has 17 wins while playing in the strong West Suburban Silver Conference. The Hilltoppers, though, have struggled against the DuPage Valley, losing to DeKalb and Naperville North, while also falling to Lake Park.

Bartlett has 17 wins but has scuffled in the second half of the season. The Hawks are just 4-7 since Christmas tournament time. But Bartlett's wins over Hinsdale Central and Geneva back in December keeps the Hawks in the top eight.

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Class 4A: St. Rita
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- 1. Kenwood (21-5)
- 2. Brother Rice (24-4)
- 3. St. Rita (16-10)
- 4. Marist (22-5)
- 5. Bloom (16-8)
- 6. Oak Lawn (18-8)
- 7. Homewood-Flossmoor (16-11)

8. Thornwood (17-10)

Overview: Kenwood is the obvious No. 1 seed.

St. Rita has played an outstanding schedule. And it did beat Brother Rice. But it was way back in December and we've learned a lot about these two teams over the past two months.

Brother Rice has just been too consistent and edges ahead based on that consistency and wins over ranked teams in Curie, Bloom, Bolingbrook, Marist, Rolling Meadows and Mount Carmel. The expectation is for St. Rita and Brother Rice to meet in a rematch in the sectional semifinals.

Bloom suffered recent losses to Proviso East, Homewood-Flossmoor and Thornwood but played shorthanded with injuries. The schedule the Blazing Trojans have played, which also includes wins over H-F and Thornwood, pushes them to the No. 5 seed. Bloom has beaten Mount Carmel and New Trier while losing to Kenwood, Lincoln-Way East and Hillcrest.

It's Oak Lawn and Homewood-Flossmoor with the fifth and sixth seeds, respectively. H-F has played a tougher schedule. But Oak Lawn has some wins that resonate, including a victory over Mount Carmel, beating Lemont and losing to highly-ranked Hinsdale Central in overtime.

Thornwood's late January wins over Rich and Kankakee gives the T-Birds the No. 8 seed.

Class 4A: Hinsdale Central

- 1. Curie (19-9)
- 2. Young (20-6)
- 3. Hinsdale Central (25-3)
- 4. Downers Grove North (23-3)
- 5. Lyons (21-4)

- 6. Proviso East (19-6)
- 7. Riverside-Brookfield (20-5)
- 8. Lincoln Park (9-15)

Overview: This will be interesting as there are highly-ranked teams and high win totals up and down this sectional. Then there was a pretty shocking blowout on the eve of seeding the sectional.

Curie dominating Young on the road Tuesday night in the city quarterfinals adds another big-time win for the Condors. Curie, which has played a rugged schedule, now has signature wins over Young, Simeon and Joliet West. When you also include wins over New Trier, Oswego East and Riverside-Brookfield, the loss total, which includes a forfeit loss and not a single bad loss, is overlooked.

Young has still lost to just three in-state opponents: Kenwood by two points, to Joliet West and then the lopsided loss to Curie. The Dolphins have beaten St. Rita, Kenwood and a host of out-of-state teams. Young slides down to the No. 2 seed.

Hinsdale Central is rolling and is without question the No. 3 seed with a 16-game winning streak.

Downers Grove North has won nine straight with impressive wins over Glenbrook South and Bolingbrook during that stretch. DGN split with both Hinsdale Central and Lyons. But the most recent Lyons matchup went DGN's way in late January. Downers North is the fourth seed.

Lyons has beaten Glenbrook South, Proviso East and Riverside-Brookfield in recent weeks and locks up the fifth seed.

With nearly identical records, it's a toss-up between Proviso East and Riverside-Brookfield for the sixth and seventh seeds. But Proviso East has played the tougher schedule and has beaten St. Rita and Bloom while playing Benet and Lyons very tough. Lincoln Park, Oak Park and Lane are all hovering around the No. 8 seed with similar records. Lincoln Park has played the best schedule and has beaten Lane while Oak Park has sputtered, losing six of its last eight.

Class 4A: Bolingbrook

- 1. Joliet West (22-5)
- 2. Bolingbrook (21-6)
- 3. Oswego East (22-5)
- 4. Lincoln-Way East (21-4)
- 5. Romeoville (19-10)
- 6. Neuqua Valley (21-7)
- 7. Lockport (16-10)
- 8. Plainfield North (14-11)

Overview: There is a clear top four in this sectional with similar records that will all be expected to advance to the sectional semifinals. This is going to be a fun sectional with four teams that have played and beaten one another and in close games.

Joliet West built a schedule loaded with high-profile, highly-ranked teams. Thus, the record the Tigers have heading into sectional week stands out.

There was a loss to Oswego East. But Joliet West's slate is long and impressive with wins over St. Rita, Metamora, Rolling Meadows and Young. And there is no shame in losing to the likes of Kenwood, Benet Curie and Oswego East.

Bolingbrook is playing very well and has a tight win over Oswego East and two victories over Lincoln-Way East. The Raiders land the second seed with Oswego East and Lincoln-Way East to follow neatly in line.

Romeoville and DuPage Valley Conference leader Neuqua Valley are next in line. Neither has a true statement win on the résumé. But Romeoville has definitely played the tougher schedule with losses to Joliet West (twice), 3A power Springfield Sacred Heart-Griffin, Brother Rice, Bolingbrook and 22-win Yorkville.

There is a glut of teams with 14, 15 or 16 wins that will land somewhere between the seventh seed and the 11th seed. Take your pick among Lockport, Plainfield North, Waubonsie Valley and West Aurora.

We'll rule out West Aurora as a top eight seed; the Blackhawks have bottomed out with seven losses in their last eight games.

Lockport gets the No. 7 seed with Plainfield North and Waubonsie Valley as a toss-up between the 8-9 seeds. But Plainfield North's win over Naperville North last weekend gives them the edge.

Class 4A: Rockford Jefferson

Sub-Sectional A

- 1. DeKalb (19-9)
- 2. South Elgin (17-9)
- 3. Hampshire (13-14)
- 4. Larkin (13-14)

Sub-Sectional B

- 1. Huntley (19-7)
- 2. Rockford Guilford (19-7)
- 3. Rockford Auburn (16-11)
- 4. Rockford East (17-10)

Overview: DeKalb has played the better schedule and has the most wins in Sub-Sectional A and receives the No. 1 seed. With two wins over Larkin, it's South Elgin with the No. 2 seed.

Hampshire has quietly put together some nice wins — and played some quality non-conference opponents in losses — to inch past Larkin. The Whip-Purs just beat Huntley and have played a host of 20-win teams and conference champs.

Huntley's holiday tournament win in December over Rockford Guilford was an important one. With a win over NIC-10 leader Guilford, Huntley gets the top seed in the sub-sectional.

Guilford, fresh off a nice win over Stevenson, has victories over both Rockford Auburn and Rockford East, while Auburn has played a quality schedule and beat Rockford East in late January.

Class 3A: De La Salle

- 1. De La Salle (18-9)
- 2. St. Ignatius (17-9)
- 3. Fenwick (16-12)
- 4. Westinghouse (17-10)
- 5. Payton (15-10)
- 6. Perspectives-MSA (12-15)
- 7. Prosser (3-20)
- 8. Bulls Prep (15-13)

Overview: The top seed comes down to two teams whose arrows have been pointing in different directions.

A month ago it was a foregone conclusion St. Ignatius would be the top seed and heavy favorite in this 3A sectional. However, the Wolfpack have struggled mightily in the past month, losing seven of its last 12 games.

De La Salle, meanwhile, has been on the rise. The Meteors are also fresh off a win over Loyola, a team that beat Ignatius last month.

The two teams do meet very soon in the regular season. But while St. Ignatius plays in the much tougher Catholic League Blue — De La Salle leads the Catholic League White — there is no denying which team is playing better basketball right now. De La Salle gets the nod.

Fenwick's schedule gets them the No. 3 seed while Westinghouse, which doesn't have a marquee win, earns the No. 4 seed while playing in the Public League's Red-West/North.

Payton beat Bulls Prep this season and leads the Public League's White-West.

Yes, Prosser's paltry record gets them in the top eight. Prosser, which plays in the Red-North/West, is simply better than the other contenders.

Class 3A: Grayslake Central

- 1. Lake Forest (16-10)
- 2. Deerfield (20-5)
- 3. Grayslake Central (22-3)
- 4. St. Patrick (14-9)
- 5. Notre Dame (13-13)
- 6. St. Viator (11-15)
- 7. Antioch (13-12)
- 8. Fenton (20-7)

Overview: Lake Forest has played the toughest schedule of teams contending for the No. 1 seed. Plus, the Scouts buried Grayslake Central 55-34 and beat Deerfield in January. Yes, records matter. But so does head-to-head and schedule strength.

After Deerfield and Grayslake Central, it's a quagmire among several teams.

St. Patrick has the most impressive wins among a bunch of teams vying for a top four seed, beating Loyola, Marist and Marian Catholic. The Shamrocks split with Notre Dame this season and get the No. 4 seed.

St. Viator will be overlooked in this seeding process by many. But they battled injuries early in the year. When the Lions lost to Antioch at Thanksgiving, their top player and scorer, Eli Aldana, was out with an injury. St. Viator has played a very good schedule in the East Suburban Catholic Conference and non-conference games with Libertyville, Evanston, Niles North and Stevenson.

With seven wins in its last nine games, Antioch is playing the best among the rest. Plus, the Sequoits own a win over Deerfield. They split with Lakes but won the most recent matchup between the two.

Where do you seed Fenton? The wins are there. But the quality wins aren't and they've lost three of their last five heading into Tuesday. But the Bison fall somewhere in that 7-9 range.

Lakes (16-7) has a nice record but has not fared well against sectional foes with losses to Antioch, Grayslake Central, Carmel and Deerfield.

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Class 3A: Hillcrest
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- 1. Hillcrest (25-2)
- 2. Marian Catholic (21-7)
- 3. Lemont (22-6)
- 4. Kankakee (18-9)
- 5. TF North (17-5)
- 6. Thornton (12-10)
- 7. Brooks (12-12)
- 8. Evergreen Park (15-13)

Overview: This sectional has an overwhelming choice at the top and breaks down quite easily. Hillcrest is the prohibitive favorite and easy top seed.

Marian Catholic has played a very strong schedule, owns some quality wins and has put together a good record over the past month (12-2 in its last 14 games). The Spartans get the No. 2 seed.

Lemont recently knocked off Brother Rice and TF North while Kankakee split with Thornton this year but won the most recent matchup.

Class 3A: Glenbard South

- 1. Simeon (23-3)
- 2. Mount Carmel (22-5)
- 3. Hyde Park (22-5)
- 4. St. Laurence (18-10)
- 5. Lindblom (17-14)
- 6. Bogan (14-10)
- 7. Glenbard South (14-11)
- 8. Nazareth (11-15)

Overview: Simeon is a clear top seed while Mount Carmel and Hyde Park, likely to meet in the sectional semifinals, settle in at two and three.

Hyde Park did beat Kenwood — and Mount Carmel has lost three straight — but it's the Caravan with more quality wins over the course of the season. Mount Carmel has beaten Curie, Loyola, Moline and St. Rita.

St. Laurence is young, keeps getting better and has been sneaky good against some quality teams.

Bogan beat sectional foe Kennedy by double digits and has played both Kenwood and Hyde Park tough this year.

Nazareth's record may not be impressive, but the Roadrunners do play in the East Suburban Catholic Conference and recently beat St. Ignatius.

Class 3A: Burlington Central

Sub-Sectional A

- 1. Burlington Central (22-5)
- 2. Marmion (17-9)
- 3. Kaneland (23-5)
- 4. Wauconda (12-11)

Sub-Sectional B

- 1. Crystal Lake South (20-7)
- 2. Rockford Boylan (18-9)
- 3. Freeport (11-14)
- 4. Prairie Ridge (12-13)

Overview: There shouldn't be too much drama in seeding these two sub-sectionals.

Burlington Central beat Marmion. Marmion beat Kaneland. Those are your top three seeds in sub-sectional A.

It is a bit debatable at the top in sub-sectional B, though it really shouldn't make a whole lot of difference at the end of the day.

There are very few common opponents between Rockford Boyland and Crystal Lake South. They both handled Jacobs. However, one solid team they both played is Huntley. Boylan lost to Huntley in January while Crystal Lake South is 2-1 against Huntley, including a win last Friday.

- Examiner of Streamwood -

Sabres girls hoops absorb close losses, snap streak

Feb. 8, 2023 By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood girls basketball team went back-and-forth with Bartlett but dropped a close 49-45 game in Upstate Eight Conference play on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at Streamwood.

The Sabres led 11-10 after one quarter but fell behind 24-20 by halftime. From there, it was even 10-10 and 15-15 frames in the third and fourth respectively.

Brianna Coffey(20 points, 16 rebounds, three steals) and Jamia Gatlin (14 points, 16 rebounds) led Streamwood. Despite the loss, the Sabres partnered with the American Cancer Society to host a Coaches vs. Cancer game. Sabres coach Elizabeth Endriukaitis, who recently lost her godmother to cancer, said when her team chose the game, Bartlett coach Tanner Gardon was supportive from the start.

"With so many people being affected in some way by cancer, it is important for us as people to support the efforts to save as many lives as we can," Endriukaitis said. "Cancer doesn't discriminate. Every year we lose people of all ages; people we love dearly. I'm grateful to have been able to bring this event to Streamwood, and hope to make it an even bigger success next year."

The Sabres were coming off another close loss, 48-42 in non conference play to Zion-Benton on Monday, Jan. 30 at Streamwood. After being outscored 29-7 in the middle frames to face a 42-22 deficit, the Sabres rallied with a 20-6 fourth that came up just short.

Gatlin (15 points, five rebounds) and Coffey (14 points, eight rebounds, four assists) led the effort.

Despite the losses, Streamwood has been playing better and it followed up by snapping an 11-game losing streak with a 49-39 non conference win over Hoffman Estates on Thursday, Feb. 2 at Streamwood. The Sabres (3-25 overall, 1-15 UEC) dropped a 44-29 UEC game against Fenton on Friday, Feb. 3 at Fenton.

"I feel we are finally playing how I know we should have been playing two thirds of the season," Endriukaitis said. "We have been playing without our starting point-guard and players have been stepping up to fill the position.... Once the girls started playing as a team, everything shifted."

The Sabres were coming off UEC losses, 47-38 to Elgin on Tuesday, Jan. 24 at Elgin and 68-43 against South Elgin on Thursday, Jan. 26 at South Elgin.

Elgin Courier-News –

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

Feb. 8, 2023 Compiled by Josh Krockey

MONDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Cary-Grove 43, Dundee-Crown 41

Deerfield 74, St. Viator 38

Deerfield (23-5): Nikki Kerstein 19 points, 6 steals, 5 assists. Lexi Kerstein 13 points.

Glenbard East 49, Elgin 14

Hampshire 60, Prairie Ridge 49

Hinckley-Big Rock 64, Indian Creek 24

Hinckley-Big Rock (19-10, 7-2 Little Ten): Anna Herrmann 17 points. Kylee Hellebrand 14 points.

Huntley 68, Burlington Central 39

Burlington Central (18-10, 10-6 Fox Valley): Samantha Origel 11 points, 4 rebounds.

Joliet West 65, West Aurora 50

Lake Forest 46, Grant 27

Lake Zurich 47, Waukegan 29

Larkin 61, Bartlett 42

Libertyville 50, Carmel 47

Libertyville (26-4): Kate Rule 18 points. Emily Fisher 12 points.

Marengo 55, Grayslake North 45 (OT)

Grayslake North (18-11): Peyton Gerdes 29 points.

Mundelein 42, Grayslake Central 35

Newark 59, Earlville 35

Wauconda 45, Warren 42

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Antioch 64, Wauconda 58

Batavia 49, St. Charles East 39

Batavia (17-11, 9-4 DuKane): Brooke Carlson 17 points.

Geneva 62, Wheaton North 48

Grayslake Central 58, North Chicago 8

Grayslake Central (17-10, 12-1 Northern Lake County): Madison Hoffmann 11 points.

Grayslake North 47, Lakes 38

Grayslake North (18-10, 9-4 Northern Lake County): Peyton Gerdes 24 points, 9 rebounds.

Lake Zurich 37, Palatine 27

Libertyville 45, New Trier 36

Libertyville (25-4): Kate Rule 23 points.

Prospect 73, Stevenson 58

Stevenson (19-10): Emory Klatt 29 points.

Rock Falls 52, Genoa-Kingston 36

Genoa-Kingston (14-13, 2-7 Big Northern): Ally Poegel 18 points.

St. Charles North 53, Glenbard North 22

Waubonsie Valley 55, St. Francis 39

Willows 47, IMSA 11

York 50, Oswego East 24

GIRLS BOWLING

REGIONALS

KANELAND

Advancing local teams: 2. South Elgin 5,392, 3. Kaneland 4,801.

Top local individuals: 1. Lida Burgos, St. Charles East, 1,264; 3. Paige Rawlings, South Elgin, 1,213; 5. Abby Watermann, Rosary, 1,184; 6. Hailey Leuze, South Elgin, 1,158; 9. Emma Pernice, Kaneland, 1,097; 10. Preslee Sutherland, Kaneland, 1,090.

Advancing local individuals: Burgos, St. Charles East, 1,264; Watermann, Rosary, 1,184; Gwyn Stanford, St. Charles North, 1,039; Veronika Cisar, St. Charles North, 1,000; Marion Miller, St. Charles East, 955; Emily Sheluga, St. Charles North, 905.

MARENGO

Advancing local team: 1. Grant 5,106.

Top local individuals: 2. Savannah Dixon, Grant, 1,243; 5. Breanna Perez, Jacobs, 1,102; 6. Emily Hawkins, Grant, 1,092; 9. Shelsea Corona, Dundee-Crown, 1,058; 10. Desiree Dickson, Grant, 1,047.

Advancing local individuals: Perez, Jacobs, 1,102; Corona, Dundee-Crown, 1,058; Elizabeth Suchor, Wauconda, 1,024; Kylie Hanson, Dundee-Crown, 1,006; Jessica Rosales, Streamwood, 960; Isabella Bratko, Dundee-Crown, 902.

WRESTLING

INDIVIDUAL REGIONALS

CLASS 3A

STREAMWOOD

Top local teams: 2. South Elgin 175.5, 6. Elgin 73.

Local winners: 106: Demetrios Carrera, South Elgin. 132: Andre Rios, South Elgin. 138: Leo Rosas, South Elgin. 145: Nico Clinite, South Elgin. 170: Fabian Ramirez, Elgin. 285: Adam Lambaz, Elgin.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS BASKETBALL

Antioch 49, Grayslake North 44

Antioch (13-12, 7-4 Northern Lake County): Nate Young 13 points.

Batavia 48, Geneva 37

Benet 57, Marian Catholic 49

Benet (25-1, 13-0 ESCC): Brady Kunka 20 points.

Burlington Central 79, Cary-Grove 50

Deerfield 54, Highland Park 38

Dixon 60, Genoa-Kingston 56

Genoa-Kingston (9-16, 1-6 Big Northern): Hayden Hodgson 18 points.

Dundee-Crown 61, Jacobs 48

Dundee-Crown (10-13, 6-8 Fox Valley): Tyler DiSilvio 14 points.

East Aurora 61, West Chicago 59

Fenton 57, Streamwood 37

Grayslake Central 68, Round Lake 8

Grayslake Central (23-3, 10-1 Northern Lake County): Chris Isaacson, Jack Brown 9 points.

Hampshire 65, McHenry 62 (OT)

Kaneland 66, Plano 37

Kaneland (22-5, 12-0 Interstate Eight): Gevon Grant 20 points.

Plano (9-18, 3-9): Ayden Olson 14 points.

Lake Forest 62, Lake Zurich 35

Lake Forest (15-10, 7-4 North Suburban): Asa Thomas 24 points.

Lakes 88, North Chicago 52

Lakes (17-7, 9-2 Northern Lake County): Brock Marino 27 points.

Larkin 55, Elgin 49

Libertyville 72, Mundelein 45

Libertyville (21-4, 10-1 North Suburban): Kaj Sorensen 21 points.

Marmion 58, Providence-St. Mel 41

Marmion (16-9, 5-6 CCL White): Trevon Roots 16 points, 5 blocks. Jabe Haith 15 points, 3 steals.

Naperville Central 47, Naperville North 39

Naperville Central (7-17, 1-7 DuPage Valley): Simon Krugliakovas 19 points.

Neuqua Valley 57, Metea Valley 49

Oswego 63, West Aurora 58

Oswego East 59, Yorkville 48

Oswego East (22-5, 14-0 Southwest Prairie West): Mekhi Lowery 15 points. Javion Starwood 13 points.

Yorkville (22-5, 11-4): Jory Boley 15 points.

St. Charles North 69, St. Charles East 62

St. Edward 63, Elmwood Park 48

St. Viator 73, Carmel 68 (3 OT)

Sandwich 51, LaSalle-Peru 41

Stevenson 72, Zion-Benton 37

Stevenson (19-4, 10-1 North Suburban): David Sulnius 16 points, 5 rebounds. Brandon Sorokin 15 points.

Zion-Benton: Rmoni Beals 11 points.

Vernon Hills 57, Maine East 52

Vernon Hills (14-13, 5-4 Central Suburban North): Nolan Lazor 14 points, 11 rebounds. A.J. Morgan 13 points, 6 rebounds.

Waubonsie Valley 44, DeKalb 34

Wauconda 62, Grant 52

Wauconda (12-11, 5-5 Northern Lake County): Braeden Carlsen 22 points, 7 rebounds, 3 steals.

Grant (6-17, 3-7): Pryde Mendoza, Braylon Gray 10 points.

Waukegan 70, Warren 69

Waukegan (12-13, 4-7 North Suburban): Nehemiah Dunn 30 points, 5 rebounds.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

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Burlington Central (18-9, 10-5 Fox Valley): Page Erickson 17 points, 4 rebounds, 3 assists.

Dundee-Crown 31, Jacobs 27

Hampshire 66, McHenry 36

Lake Forest 39, Mundelein 29

Larkin 56, Elgin 53 (OT)

Elgin (8-21): Izzie Castro 16 points. Izzy Vidallo 15 points.

South Elgin 55, Bartlett 40

South Elgin (13-15, 10-6 Upstate Eight): Chloe Kmiec 17 points.

Streamwood 49, Fenton 39

Vernon Hills 60, Maine East 21

Vernon Hills (18-10, 8-2 Central Suburban North): Grace Koepke 27 points.

Westminster Christian 37, South Beloit 32

Zion-Benton 57, Hope Academy 56

Zion-Benton: Jaliece Russell 30 points.

Compiled by Josh Krockey.

To read the full article, click here.

- Chicago Tribune -

Basketball scores for Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County

Feb. 7, 2023 By From Staff Reports - Aurora Beacon News

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HIGH SCHOOLS

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Harlem 50, Lake Forest Academy 47

Marmion 68, Glenbard South 51

Marmion (17-9): Jabe Haith, Trevon Roots 17 points.

Metea Valley 57, Conant 48

Plainfield North 66, Naperville North 45

Naperville North (16-11): Luke Williams 12 points.

Rockford Guilford 74, Stevenson 68

Stevenson (19-5): Jack Dabbs 18 points, 4 rebounds, 3 steals. Aidan Bardic 15 points, 9 assists.

Rolling Meadows 69, Libertyville 43

St. Edward 58, West Chicago 50 (OT)

Vernon Hills 55, Lake Zurich 45

Vernon Hills (15-13): Milan Raval 22 points. Dylan Chung 14 points.

KRISTINA M. COLOMBE

HOOPS FOR A CURE SHOOTOUT

Kaneland 71, Woodstock 40

Kaneland (23-5): Gevon Grant 23 points. Johnny Spallasso 12 points.

Neuqua Valley 79, Bartlett 59

Oswego 78, Prairie Ridge 74 (2 OT)

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