

Press Clippings for 9/22/2022

---The Daily Herald---

Sep. 21, 2022

Communication and drama teachers assemble for annual state summit

By: ICTA

High school teachers and college professors from across Illinois will converge upon the College of DuPage this weekend for ICTA "En Pointe: Keeping Us on Our Toes in 2022, the 93rd annual Illinois Communication and Theater Association Conference, from Thursday to Saturday, Sept. 22-24.

ICTA is the state's oldest, largest nonprofit professional affiliation for secondary and higher education teachers and coaches of communication, speech, debate, drama, and media.

The organization "advocates for the betterment of education in Illinois," said Ed Schwarz, ICTA executive director.

"All students, at all levels, deserve the best instruction possible from the best instructors possible," added Dana Trunnell, ICTA vice president. "As speech and theatre educators, we teach tomorrow's leaders the communication skills necessary for college- and workplace-readiness and constructive citizenship."

The conference features dozens of workshops and panel discussions on timely topics in education, including but not limited to reducing students' communication anxiety, using the performing arts to promote community service, highlighting the diversity of voices in public speaking and theatre, and incorporating mental health resources in speech, debate, drama, and media classrooms.

"ICTA engages educators through programming specific to current issues and important trends in communication and theatre education," Trunnell said.

ICTA also will present several awards, celebrating the accomplishments of teachers and students who demonstrate excellence in the fields of speech and drama.

- The Edith Harrod Award will go to **Bartlett High School** speech and debate teacher Anthony Zoubek. The award, which acknowledges Zoubek's work on the ICTA Advocacy Committee, is the highest lifetime achievement honor that an Illinois speech, debate, and theater educator can receive while still working in the field. Zoubek has taught since 2006, and has coached Bartlett's competitive forensics team since 2007.

Over the last several years, Zoubek collaborated with the Illinois Education Association and several state legislators. That work led to bipartisan legislation, which added speech-debate to the Illinois School Code.

In a video address prepared for the convention, IEA President Kathi Griffin said, "Anthony is a force to be reckoned with. His passion for his work, for the betterment of students and for implementing change, is such a big part of why (the legislation) passed."

Lauren Morgan, professor of speech communication at College of DuPage, assembled Zoubek's nomination packet, which included letters from colleagues statewide.

Zoubek graduated with bachelor's degrees in Mass Communication, emphases in journalism and film study, and Speech Education from Illinois State University, and a master's degree in English Studies from Elmhurst University.

With Zoubek as its coach, the Bartlett speech and drama team won six of the last eight Upstate Eight Conference championships. In February 2020, Bartlett won the IHSA Regional championship -- a first for any speech and drama team in Elgin Area **School District U-46**.

The Harrod award was named after the late Edith Marjorie Harrod, who served as president of the Illinois Speech Association, was a member of the Illinois Board of Education, taught high school drama and English, and later became an associate professor of creative arts.

- The W.P. Sanford Award will go to Harper College speech professor Jeff Przybylo.

The award is named after the late University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana professor W.P. Sanford, who served as the Association's President in 1930 and 1931. The award honors an educator "who provides exceptional service to the association over an extended period of years and significant contributions to the field of speech and theater."

Przybylo "is one of the most revered teachers, coaches, and professionals in the State of Illinois," Lauren Morgan, professor of speech communication at College of DuPage, wrote in her nomination letter. "He is truly an inspiration to his students, his colleagues, and the ICTA community for his lifetime achievements."

Przybylo, who earned his undergraduate degree through Northern Illinois University and his master's degree through Illinois State University, is an ICTA past-president. He has presented over 50 panels and workshops at the annual convention. A professor of Communication Arts at Harper Community College, Palatine, for 27 years, Przybylo has also chaired the communication arts department and acted as interim Dean of Liberal Arts. Additionally, Przybylo served as the President of Phi Rho, the national community college speech and debate association, for nine years.

In its convention program, ICTA lauds Przybylo for being "at the forefront of the movement" to bring technology into the communication classroom: "Throughout his career, he's seen the basic speech course as an opportunity to not only teach basic public speaking skills but to engage students in technology, leadership, teamwork, and peer-coaching... He aims to shed the image of the professor as 'sage on the stage' and instead act as a coach who develops strategies to encourage students to get actively involved in their education."

ICTA members, including Judy Santacaterina, Director of Forensics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Northern Illinois University, helped assemble Przybylo's nomination packet.

"Jeff leads with an open mind, a compassionate heart, and beautifully exhibits the lost art of listening," Santacaterina wrote in her nomination letter.

Before they became colleagues, when Przybylo was a college undergraduate, Santacaterina was one of his teachers.

"Jeff is emblematic of the great reciprocity we find in teaching," Santacaterina wrote. "Those who were once the student are now the teacher, and those of us who were once the teacher are now the student. My former student continues to inspire me and motivate me. Through the darkest of times, Jeff Przybylo has been a shining star, providing students, colleagues, and community with inspiration, laughter, and hope."

- Richard A. Hunsaker High School Award will go to **Bartlett High School** graduate Joyce Yang. The award is given to a student who has been active in speech and drama activities and made significant contributions to their community and school. Now a student at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, Yang participated in Bartlett forensics, among other activities.

Anthony Zoubek, Bartlett High School speech and debate teacher, assembled Yang's nomination packet with the help of her former teachers and coaches.

In his nomination letter, Zoubek wrote, "I've never met a student like Joyce, who so fully and acutely meets the Hunsaker award's requirements. She is an emissary of **Bartlett High School**. What she does after high school will make her new peers as proud to work with her as we at **BHS** were saddened to see her go."

In addition to forensics, Joyce also participated in Bartlett's Mock Trial program.

In his nomination letter, Richard Johnson, **Bartlett High School** law teacher and Mock Trial coach, wrote, "Joyce is one of the hardest working students I have come across in my 20 years

of teaching. She is incredibly intelligent and never takes anything for granted. She works hard, asks great questions, and is always humble."

Yang's nomination was based on a number of accomplishments. She won multiple forensics Upstate Eight Conference Champion medals. As a junior, she qualified for the IHSA State Championship in two separate speech categories. Joyce double-qualified again, in her senior year, earning "Straight-1s" in preliminary and final rounds at the Regional and Sectional. The last time any School District U-46 student did this was in 1950.

As a high school senior, Joyce won first place in the 19th annual Voice of Democracy speech competition, a statewide program sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. She maintained a 5.0 GPA in the dual credit program at Elgin Community College, earned Illinois Seals of Biliteracy in both Spanish and Mandarin, and was a member of four different Honors Societies--National, Science, Spanish, and International Phi Theta Kappa. Additionally, she started her own program to provide free English lessons to ESL students from China.

The Hunsaker award was named after Richard A. Hunsaker, who served as ICTA's President in 1972. He built a distinguished 30-year career with a longstanding impact on his students, teaching speech, drama, and debate at Belleville West High School, and later as a speech and debate coach at McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill.

"As an organization with statewide membership, we encourage Illinois educators to continue doing what they do best--enriching students' lives," Schwarz added. "By rewarding the state's best teachers, and some of their students, we don't just 'set a standard' for excellence. We raise the bar."

This year's conference also includes a keynote speaker, dance-related well-being events, mindfulness activities, a special performance of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Clybourne Park," and tours of COD's state-of-the-art Virtual Reality Lab and Speech Lab, and COD's homeland security training facility.

---The Daily Herald---

Sep. 20, 2022

Elgin Area School District U-46 to host building tour and open house this month

By: School District U-46



Sign up to tour Ellis Middle School, which first opened during the 1951-52 school year, on Saturday, Sept. 24. *Courtesy of Ellis Middle School*

Elgin Area School District U-46 is hosting a building tour and an open house this month as part of its Unite U-46 community engagement initiative, giving members of the public a chance to get an inside look at seven school buildings and provide feedback on three different plans to move U-46 schools forward.

Unite U-46, which got underway last spring with a series of public meetings, is an effort to gather feedback on how to implement the Board of Education's vision to provide equitable access to 21st century learning environments that support academic success for all.

The next step in the initiative is to offer members of the public a chance to get inside U-46 facilities to see firsthand the varied learning conditions at some of the schools, which range from buildings constructed in the 1800s to the early-2000s.

The building tour is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 24, from 9 a.m. to noon. Participants will travel on school buses from the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 E. Chicago St. in Elgin, to three sites: Garfield Elementary School, Hilltop Elementary School, and Ellis Middle School.

Space is limited for this option, and reservations are required via the online form at www.u-46.org/Page/19307.

The open house is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 29, from 5 to 8 p.m. Participants can stop by any or all of the following buildings for a self-guided tour: Eastview Middle School in Bartlett, Glenbrook Elementary School in Streamwood, Horizon Elementary School in Hanover Park, and Willard Elementary School in South Elgin.

Attendees can also learn more about Unite U-46, talk with principals and school district leaders, and provide feedback about plans for the future of our schools.

"I encourage all those who live within the U-46 community to participate in Unite U-46 however best works for their life and schedule - attending our meetings in-person or virtually, watching presentations later by video, or attending the building tour or open house," said Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders. "Whether you have a child in U-46 or not, this is an important process that will dramatically impact the future of our schools and the greater community."

Unite U-46 grew out of the district's work to develop a long-range plan that assessed U-46's infrastructure, classrooms, and overall facility use, efficiency, and readiness in order to meet the district's vision of:

- Shifting its middle school model to include grades sixth to eighth, rather than just seventh and eighth grades, as they are currently structured;
- Expanding the preschool program across the district;

- Retiring, rebuilding, repurposing, or remodeling some of the district's oldest school buildings to provide equitable access to learning environments that support academic success for all.

More information about **Unite U-46**, including the building tour, open house, and videos from past community presentations, can be found at UniteU46.org.

---Chicago Tribune--

Sep. 22, 2022

Local scores for Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County

By: Staff Reports

FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOLS

WEEK 5

FRIDAY'S GAMES

UPSTATE EIGHT

East Aurora at South Elgin, 7 p.m.

Elgin at West Chicago, 7 p.m.

Fenton at Larkin, 7 p.m.

Glenbard South at **Bartlett**, 7:30 p.m.

Streamwood at Glenbard East, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS SOCCER

Benet 4, Marian Catholic 1

Benet (7-3, 3-0 ESCC): Matthew Benka, Sam Trunell, Nick Roe, Peter Hepburn goals.

Carmel 2, St. Viator 1

Earlville 7, Indian Creek 0

Elgin 3, Bartlett 0

Glenbard East 4, East Aurora 1

East Aurora (8-3-2, 1-2 Upstate Eight): Martin Gaytan goal.

Grayslake North 7, Antioch 0

Grayslake North: Chris Fabela 3 goals, 2 assists. Sam Soriano 3 goals.

Kaneland 3, Plano 1

Larkin 4, South Elgin 2

Larkin (9-6, 1-2 Upstate Eight): Joel Gutierrez 2 goals. Adria Diaz goal, assist.

Somonauk 6, Hinckley-Big Rock 2

Streamwood 4, Glenbard South 0

Sycamore 12, Sandwich 0

West Aurora 2, Yorkville 0

West Aurora (9-2-4, 2-0-3 Southwest Prairie West): Jose Acevedo 2 goals.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Batavia d. Glenbard North 25-9, 25-15

Batavia (10-8, 2-1 DuKane): Amanda Otten 9 kills, 9 assists. Teagon Rokos 8 digs.

Benet d. St. Viator 25-14, 25-13

Harvest Christian d. South Beloit 25-13, 25-15

Hinckley-Big Rock d. Westminster Christian 25-14, 25-7

Indian Creek d. Earlville 25-19, 25-21

Indian Creek (10-6-3, 3-1 Little Ten): Audrey Witte 8 kills. Geena Sanford 11 assists, 4 digs. Audriana DeClue 11 digs.

Jacobs d. Dundee-Crown 25-23, 25-18

Jacobs (6-7, 4-4 Fox Valley): Bella Van de Burgt 5 kills, 12 digs, 4 blocks. Abby Deacon 15 assists, 10 digs. Kate Wilson 22 digs.

Kaneland d. Morris 25-23, 23-25, 25-20

Lake Forest d. Grayslake Central 22-25, 25-21, 25-21

Naperville North d. Neuqua Valley 23-25, 26-24, 29-27

Newark d. Serena 25-27, 25-15, 25-14

Newark (16-4, 5-1 Little Ten): Lauren Ulrich 12 kills, 13 assists, 10 digs. Kiara Wesseh 11 kills, 10 digs.

Oswego East d. Yorkville 21-25, 25-19, 25-16

Plano d. Sandwich 18-25, 32-30, 25-22

Sandwich (8-12): Claire Allen 14 kills, 7 digs. Alana Stahl 8 kills. Alexis Sexton 26 assists, 5 digs. Breanna Sexton 13 digs.

Somonauk d. Leland 25-18, 25-15

Somonauk (4-7, 2-3 Little Ten): Baylee Ohlson 4 kills. Haley McCoy 3 kills, 6 digs, 6 aces. Riley Snider 5 assists. Amelia Grace 10 digs. Whitney Andrews 5 aces.

South Elgin d. Larkin 25-9, 25-14

South Elgin: Jazmine Binion 7 kills. Jada Hunter 5 kills. Nina Kulak 11 assists.

Timothy Christian d. Aurora Central Catholic 25-17, 25-23

Vernon Hills d. Deerfield 25-22, 25-22

Vernon Hills (13-2, 3-0 Central Suburban North): Sonia Bondar 7 kills. Alexa Cieslinski 5 kills. Maya Raval 16 assists, 6 digs. Elli Amjadi 18 digs, 4 aces.

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

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Sep. 21, 2022

St. Edward picks up 1st win; Geneva eyes big game

By: Mike Miazga



Geneva quarterback Nate Stempowski keeps the ball for a touchdown during the Vikings' 35-11 win at Wheaton Warrenville South last week. *Sandy Bressner*/sbressner@shawmedia.com

St. Edward broke into the win column in a big way in Week 4 with its 37-0 win over future conference compadre Chicago Christ the King.

Defensively, the Green Wave limited Christ the King to 4 plays on its first 4 possessions. For the game, Christ the King completed only 2 passes in 17 attempts and ran for 60 yards.

St. Edward scored 30 of its 37 points before halftime, 22 coming in the second quarter.

Luciano Rolando's 46-yard touchdown pass to Manny Esquibias opened the scoring gates and St. Edward never looked back. Rolando later hit Carson Busto with a 50-yard scoring strike in the second quarter.

"We were 0-3, but we really wanted this game," St. Edward coach Mike Rolando told Green Wave supporter Mark Harrington for an article Harrington wrote on the game. "We really wanted this game. It proved we can play. We are fighters. It's extremely important (to get a win), because it's hard to be confident when you are losing, and they need to be confident to win. I think our team is better than our record showed."

In terms of the next five weeks, St. Edward sits at 1-3 and would need to win out to secure a guaranteed playoff spot or go 4-1 to become playoff eligible.

Geneva update:

Geneva and St. Charles North both enter this week's contest both 2-0 in the DuKane Conference.

Something is going to give, but senior safety/running back Jackson Reyes and the Vikings are keeping focused.

"There are a lot of emotions for this week's game, especially because of homecoming," Reyes said. "As a team, we are all focused and feeling sharp. We know this is a big game for the program and we are ready to get the job done."

South Elgin update:

Storm coach Dragan Teonic had high praise for Jabari Pruitt, Isaiah Alejandre and Danny Viscuso in the team's win over **Larkin**, a game that saw **South Elgin** post more than 40 points for a third time already this season.

"Jabari played well, giving us great special teams reps and minutes on offense," he said.

"Isaiah and Danny played really well at defensive end for us, each recovering a fumble and forcing quick throws."

And a quick toxic ratio update where **South Elgin** now stands at plus-88 for 2022.

"This means we have created more explosive plays and given up fewer turnovers than our opponent 88 times."

Streamwood update:

Kicker Tovi Parayno continues to make headlines.

"We have recovered 8 of 16 onside kicks from Tovi," **Streamwood** coach Keith McMaster said.

"Eight of 16 onside kicks is fantastic. We've had at least one every game. Hopefully, the offense continues to roll and we can start putting up those stats as well."

Also registering in the not too shabby department is two-way lineman James Rivera.

"James plays offensive line and defensive line and stats just don't show up too often for those guys," McMaster pointed out. "He's in the trenches on both sides of the ball most of the game, has a great work ethic and gets the job done for us."

Elgin update:

Wide receiver TJ Singson is an example of why a player's importance goes beyond the stat sheet, **Maroons** coach Anthony Mason noted.

"TJ is not getting many stats and targets, but he is doing everything we ask of him without any hesitation."

Defensive back Josh Ninan also has been a difference-maker. "Josh has had some good plays filling in and doing what we ask of him on the island," Mason said.

Julio Soto had 86 yards receiving last week and hauled in 2 passes, both of which went for touchdowns.

Aurora Christian update:

Coach David Beebe continues to sing the praises of the Aurora Christian offensive line.

"Our unsung heroes are the members of the offensive line," he said. "They have been very consistent each game, paving the way for our running game, which is led by Drew Kegebein."

West Aurora update:

The Blackhawks have also been one of the area teams benefiting from superb special teams play, such as that from Casey Roney.

"Casey has been great on kickoffs and keeps making field goals and PATs," West Aurora coach Nate Eimer said.

Larkin update:

One key bright spot for the Royals has come with distribution of passing and rushing attempts.

"Offensively, we are balanced in our run and pass yards through four games," Larkin coach Grant Dietz said. "It may not seem like it when you watch us."

After starting 1-1, Larkin lost to Glenbard South and South Elgin on the road.

"Defensively, we gave up more than 100 points in two games (the last two weeks)," Dietz noted. "Our defense is working hard to get back to the basics. We are looking forward to the matchup this week (against Fenton at home) and in the weeks to come."

Larkin is in the same boat as other 1-3 teams, needing to win out to guarantee a playoff spot or go 4-1 to achieve playoff eligibility. The Royals' first four opponents are 12-4 combined, while

their final five opponents are a combined 7-13 so far with only Bartlett heading into Week 5 with a winning record out of the remaining Larkin Upstate Eight Conference foes.

Cary-Grove update:

Since 2009, Prairie Ridge and Cary-Grove have played for a combined nine state championships, all but one of those was in Class 6A.

The rivalry of Class 6A powerhouses resumes at 7 p.m. Friday when C-G visits Prairie Ridge. Prairie Ridge won Class 6A state titles in 2011, 2016 and 2017. C-G won in 2009, 2018 and 2021.

"We just have two quality high schools in Prairie Ridge and Cary-Grove, two programs who historically have had success, especially lately," C-G coach Brad Seaburg said after the Trojans' 18-0 victory over McHenry on Saturday. "I know our kids look forward to it, and our fans do. We want to get back to work on Monday and get ready to play them."

St. Charles North update:

The first month of Ethan Plumb's sophomore varsity season has been a whirlwind.

Plumb entered the season with the starting quarterback job for St. Charles North.

Plumb was then replaced by senior Will Vaske during Week 2. Eight quarters of play later, Plumb finds himself back in the starting spot after an unfortunate shoulder injury to Vaske two plays into the North Stars' eventual wild comeback win over Wheaton North last week.

The roller coaster, so-to-speak, allowed a bit of reflection for Plumb, who started all nine games as a freshman.

"I took it as it was," Plumb said. "I reflected what I could get better at. I knew I still had to be there for my teammates. I still have a big presence and leader on the team and I wanted to

continue to be that. I wanted to make sure I didn't deviate from that and for what I could do leadership-wise.

"That second week of practice, I kind of just said [to myself: 'You know what? I'm going to be the best scout team quarterback I can be' ... hopefully, with enough hard work, hopefully, I can get another chance sometime soon," Plumb continued. "I kept working and preparing whenever they needed to call me up and if I'd have my shot, I'd be ready for it."

Vaske's throwing shoulder was seen in a sling on the sidelines last Friday. As of Monday, Plumb is the likely starter for this week's game against undefeated Geneva.

"I think with Will being out and he's got his injury now, I think they're going to go with me as the starter this week," Plumb said.

"It's not fun for anyone to get hurt. No matter what happens, you never want to wish that on anybody. So, for that to happen to Will, it's tough. It's the game of football. You just have to be prepared for when that kind of stuff happens and be able to bounce back from it. As a team, be able to keep going no matter what happens. Find a way to win no matter what."

Find a way to win no matter what, indeed. The North Stars led 6-0 at halftime and later trailed 21-6 late in the second half against Wheaton North. Drew Surges scored a touchdown with 49 seconds left and later flipped the two-point conversion to tight end Jake Furtney to put the finishing touches on the comeback.

"I always say: 'The game is not over until it's over' You never know what can happen in the game of football or any game for that matter," Plumb continued. " ... I just tried my best to go up to every single one of my teammates and go, 'guys, this game isn't over. It's only a two score game [at this point]' and having that faith and belief we can still do what we wanted to do at the beginning of this game and what we talked about all week."

Batavia update:

Ben Fiegel feels the momentum of Batavia's 42-0 win over Lake Park should carry over for the next couple weeks.

"Actually, I know it's going to carry over these next couple weeks because that's how we're going to play every week from now on," the junior linebacker said.

Fiegel had 10 tackles in the blowout win.

"I feel like we have a culture here where those last [two losses] didn't sit right with us and we really focused and put in the work the week before Lake Park, even though it was homecoming and had a lot of distractions," Fiegel said. "I feel like the team as a whole really came together. It was a big week for us because we had something to prove."