

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

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"IF I WERE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A NEWSPAPER OR A NEWSPAPER WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT, I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO CHOOSE THE LATTER." THOMAS JEFFERSON

50 cents
March 18, 2020

Sanders certified as
U-46 superintendent
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Sabres girls hoops
gain UEC honors
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District U-46 assumes coronavirus precautions

By Seth Hancock

Classes in School District U-46 are cancelled until at least Tuesday, March 31 when they are currently set to resume as fear continues to be perpetuated over COVID-19, the foreign-born new strain of the coronavirus which originated in Wuhan, China.

On Friday, March 13, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker took the first of several authoritarian steps in response to the virus by ordering all schools in the state, public and private, to cancel classes through at least March 30.

U-46 Superintendent Tony Sanders sent a message to parents, posted online on Friday, and stated the closure "means all school-related activities are cancelled" and "our decision means all schools will be closed next week, followed by our spring break recess."

Sanders, on Sunday, March 15, clarified in a message that he made the decision to close school writing: "I chose to close schools before Gov. Pritzker's address to the state."

The decision to close schools came a day after Sanders stated U-46 "will remain open" on Thursday, March 12 "after reviewing the directions from the Governor and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)."

Sanders has also stated: "There are no

known cases of the COVID-19 virus in School District U-46."

The district is planning to provide taxpayer funded meals to students throughout the closure while providing certain limited access for parents to pick up any medications for their children left at schools prior to the closure. Online, or distance, learning is also being setup.

A statement from Sanders on Monday, March 16, stated: "While schools are closed, School District U-46 will be providing FREE MEALS TO ALL CHILDREN 18 AND UNDER packaged to take home. A breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack will be ready to take and go. No paperwork is required for meals-just visit the pick-up location most convenient for your family."

That same day, the district allowed parents to go to schools to pickup things left behind by students such as Chromebooks and technology as well as medications, but all medications not picked up have since been transported to the central offices in the Education Services Center.

Sanders also stated on Monday that the district is still "finalizing" the distance learning plans.

"Until the past few days, when U.S. carriers have offered access to free

hotspots for 60 days or more, we have not been confident that all students will have access to the same educational opportunities because of that access to internet service," Sanders wrote. "Even now, it's not guaranteed. We take equity very seriously and always want to ensure that all students have equal access to educational opportunities. This is a new and evolving situation but we are working to start sharing some Distance Learning opportunities beginning later this week. We have asked our teachers, students and families to please stay tuned."

Other changes have occurred including at the Board of Education level. A March 16 board meeting was held electronically with six of seven board members calling in, Donna Smith was absent.

Only Sanders and Miguel Rodriguez, chief legal officer, were physically in

attendance. Rodriguez read Pritzker's most recent edict, which came earlier that day, which suspended part of the Open Meetings Act to allow the electronic meeting. The public was allowed to attend the meeting, but a message from Sanders that day stated the district would not have allowed more than 10 people in the room.

Sanders said at the meeting "the best thing is to keep tuned to our website" for ongoing information, including distance learning.

Board member Melissa Owens asked about the ramifications of closures on planned work, such as parking lot paving or facility work, to take place at schools.

"Right now, everything that we do is kind of subject to potential changes as we move along in this current emer-

See Coronavirus, pg. 3

Turf field for Elgin among U-46 approved expenses

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved four expenditure proposals totaling \$5.5 million at its meeting on Monday, March 9.

Included is a renovation project of Elgin High School's Memorial Field stadium which will include adding artificial turf among other improvements.

The total cost of the project is \$4.6 million, from the operations and maintenance fund, with F.H. Paschen, S.N. Nielsen and Associates, LLC.

"The press box, bleachers, track and fencing are in poor condition and require repairs that extend beyond the capabilities of our internal staff," the proposal states. "Thus, a full removal and replacement of those components of the stadium is recommended. In addition, there are multiple cracks within the concrete beneath the home bleachers, which causes leaks in the locker rooms beneath them. A full grinding of the cracks and sealing is required to seal that concrete and mitigate future water infiltrations."

The proposal adds: "The natural turf also presents some challenges. Thus, we are recommending the replacement of the grass field with artificial turf, which will allow the district to go from game-only use of the field to full access for P.E. classes, practices, band, etc."

The stadium was built in 1961 according to the proposal and has not had any major renovations other than the addition of a track in the 1990s.

Another company did come in with a lower bid, \$4.2 million, but the proposal stated "there were errors present within their calculations" and the company has "not been in business for a minimum of five years as specified in the Request for Proposal."

Work is scheduled to start on April 7 with substantial completion on Aug. 3 and closeout on Oct. 3.

Sue Kerr, the board's president, asked if the work will affect spring sports teams at Elgin. Sheila Downs, director of plant operations, said: "We've been working very closely

with the athletic director. He said after the 31st of March, we are free to begin."

The district will spend \$548,743 (operations and maintenance fund) with A Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. for parking lot resurfacing projects at Bartlett High School and Carol Stream's Spring Trail Elementary School.

"The surface layer of asphalt in the drives at Bartlett High School and in the lot, bus lane, and playground at Spring Trail are severely deteriorated," the proposal states. "The current condition poses a safety hazard and is beyond the repair capabilities of the district. A milling of the surface layer and applying a new surface layer of asphalt to these areas is recommended."

Board member John Devereux asked why the two projects were bundled into one bid and Downs said the district's consultant "recommended bundling these two together to make them more attractive and potentially get better pricing, and I believe we accomplished that."

The board approved a \$250,448 expenditure, education funds, with Comcast to replace wireless access points. The district plans to use e-rate funding which means the nation's taxpayers would pay for 80 percent of the project through a federal reimbursement.

"The district's deployment of a Cisco Meraki wireless system has been successful at all grade levels. The number of devices has increased as well as the need for reliable online testing. Part of our existing infrastructure is aging and replacements are needed to properly enable connectivity," the proposal states. It adds: "The new WiFi6 equipment will be better suited to fulfill the technology needs of our high client density environments such as the typical modern classroom."

Also approved was a \$48,110 expense, education fund, with Workforce Software for the annual license renewal of the district's payroll software. The cost is 3.7 percent higher than last year.



Special introduction

Officer Ed Polaski introduced McGruff the Crime Dog to first-graders at Hilltop Elementary School during a special assembly event. For story and more photos see page 4. (Examiner photo by Juli Schatz)



Police Reports

STREAMWOOD Thursday, March 5

★ At 4:55 p.m. police responded to Target, 1001 S. Sutton Road, for a report of theft. Ma De LosAngeles, 47, of Moseley Street, Elgin, was arrested for retail theft/merchadise <\$300. Ma De LosAngeles was issued a local ordinance citation, was released on an I-bond and issued a court date of March 25.

Saturday, March 7
★ At 9:47 p.m. in the vicinity of Lake Street and Monarch Drive, Francisco Regaldo Campos, 54, of Lynch Street, Elgin, was arrested for aggravated DUI/no driver’s license, DUI/BAC .08, DUI/alcohol, no driver’s license/permit, operating an uninsured motor vehicle, illegal possession/transportation of liquor/driver and improper traffic lane usage. Regaldo Campus’ vehicle was towed and he was transported to the police department where he was held pending bond call.

BARTLETT Sunday, March 8

★ At 4:39 a.m., in the vicinity of Red Oak and Lake, Laderrick G. Williams, 20, of the 500 block of East 10th, Chicago, was arrested for aggravated speeding. Williams was processed according to department protocols and released on an I-bond. Johnny L. Woods, 21, of the 1000 block of West 54th, Merrillville, was found to have an outstanding warrant and arrested. He was transported to Cook County Jail.
★ At 4:39 a.m., in the vicinity of Illinois Route 59 and Lake, a 17-year old male was arrested for aggravated speeding and no valid driver’s license. He was processed according to department protocols and released on an I-bond. He was also issued a local adjudication citation for possession of tobacco by a minor.
★ At 5:02 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Lake for a civil dispute.

Monday, March 9

★ At 2:41 a.m., police responded to the 1300 block of Summersweet for a report of a domestic in progress. The officer separated the parties involved and was able to restore peace.
★ At 12:06 p.m., police responded to the 1300 block of Deerfield for a keep the peace request.
★ At 3:39 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of Joseph for a report of a suspicious incident. Complainant advised her window screen was bowed out and felt someone may have been trying to break in. The officer found no signs of forced entry.
★ At 7:21 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of Bartlett Plaza for a report of a suspicious incident. Complainant advised a subject has been purchasing large quantities of an aerosol product and complainant was concerned that they were being used for recreational purposes.
Tuesday, March 10
★ At 8:57 a.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Sandpiper for a miscellaneous investigation. Complainant advised he felt his girlfriend’s vehicle was illegally moved by his association.
★ At 9:22 a.m., police responded to the 100 block of Tatge for a report of possible fraud.
★ At 9:57 a.m., in the 700 block of Schick, a 16-year old male was issued a local adjudication citation for possession of tobacco.
★ At 10:50 a.m., police responded to the 200 block of Wayne for a well-being check. The subject was found to be okay.
★ At 11:51 a.m., police responded to the 100 block of Clover for a residential fire. Fire department personnel extinguished the blaze.
★ At 2:07 p.m., in the 100 block of Primrose, a 76-year old male subject was issued a local adjudication citation for allowing his dog to run loose.
★ At 8:37 p.m., police responded to the 1900 block of Fountain Grass for a well-being check. The subject was found to be okay.
Wednesday, March 11

★ At 12:12 a.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Sandpiper for a report of a domestic in progress. The dispute had been resolved by the time the officer arrived.
★ At 9:44 a.m., in the vicinity of Stearns and Powis, John C. Franco, 25, of the 800 block of South Liberty, Elgin, was arrested for speeding and nvl.

Franco was processed according to department protocols and released on an I-bond.
★ At 11:03 a.m., police responded to the 600 block of Biltmore for a fraud complaint. Complainant advised unknown offender(s) had made multiple fraudulent charges using his checking account information.

Sanders certified to be superintendent at U-46

By Seth Hancock
School District U-46 has recently announced some administrative changes including the hiring of a new administrator while CEO Tony Sanders is now superintendent. Late last month, Sanders announced via social media that he had obtained the superintendent requirements through Illinois Licensure Testing System. “The results are in... I am now the Superintendent of School District U-46,” Sanders wrote. Sue Kerr, the board’s president, also announced the news at the March 2 Board of Education meeting saying “we’re excited” who noted “we had to have a special state law passed” to allow Sanders to be the CEO since 2014 when former Superintendent Jose Torres left the district. Sanders did not hold the necessary certification to be superintendent which led to taxpayers paying for a part-time interim superintendent, Ken Arndt, to sign documents needing a superintendent’s certification until June 1, 2017 when a new state law took effect allowing Sanders to sign those documents. The board and Sanders lobbied the state for that law that solely benefitted Sanders. To sign documents, taxpayers paid Arndt \$65,000 a year for no more than 100 days of work a year to start and even received a raise during his time at U-46 to \$70,000 which was on top of a six-figure pension from the state, according to bettergov.org, since 2011 when he retired as superintendent from neighboring Community Unit School District 300. Sanders is currently under a contract through June 30, 2024 which started with a base salary of \$241,679 when it

was approved in March 2019. That contract required Sanders to earn the superintendent certification by 2020, and it reimburses him for the required coursework. The new administrator announced is Teresa Lance who will be the assistant superintendent for equity and innovation, a part of the superintendent’s cabinet, starting in July according to a district press release. The press release states that Lance’s work will be to lead U-46’s “equity work” and overseeing “innovative strategies and programs.” Lance holds bachelor of science (physical education) and masters of science (health education) degrees from State University of New York at Cortland, a doctoral degree (educational leadership) from University of Phoenix and a graduate certificate (school administration and supervision) from Johns Hopkins University. Prior to coming to U-46, Lance was the superintendent at Thornton Fractional High School District 215 since July 2018. She started her career as a teacher, assistant principal and principal in Maryland’s Baltimore City Public Schools between 19915 and 2008, she was a consultant and educational specialist between 2011 and 2013 at two institutions in Texas and she was a school leadership officer at a Colorado school district from 2013 until coming to Thornton. “We look forward to welcoming Dr. Lance and are excited to tap her experience and expertise,” Sanders said for the press release. “We have set a foundation for our equity and innovation work but Dr. Lance will help us move this important work forward so that we better meet the needs of each and every student.”

Sabres baseball to stress hard work and teamwork

By Seth Hancock
The Streamwood baseball team looks to be competitive in 2020 under new coach Dan Jennings. Last year, the Sabres finished 19-15, 16-11 in the Upstate Eight Conference. They advanced to the program’s first regional title game since 2011. For Jennings, he said he wants his players to “get 1 percent better every day” and he has season goals as well as long term goals for the program. “We want to compete for a conference championship, compete for a regional championship and take it one game at a time after the regional,” Jennings said. Long term, Jennings said he wants to see numbers improve. “We want to get kids out to play baseball and keep them on the entire year,” Jennings said. “Try and get as many players on to the next level if they desire and give our players a pro-like, great experience that they will remember long after graduation.”

The Sabres return a lot of talent including all-conference recipient Tyler Jones (infielder / pitcher) who hit .356 last year and went 3-1 on the mound. Other key returning seniors are Max Alanis (pitcher / infielder), Dylan Caruso (infielder), Tyler Garza (pitcher / outfielder), Justin Gonzalez (pitcher / infielder), Jeremy Lunz (pitcher / infielder) and Vinny Robles (pitcher / outfielder). To be successful, Jennings said it’ll come down to hard work and teamwork. “We need to work really hard during practice and compete every day with a consistently focused effort on development and execution,” Jennings said. “They need to be a great teammate. The we should be always over the me. Be great students and people. The better we are off of the field the better our play on the field will be.” The Sabres were scheduled to open the season on Friday, March 20. Due to school closings start of the spring sports season has been suspended.

Letters to the Editor

Deadline for letters is noon on Monday. Please include a phone number for verification, and submit letters electronically.
All letters are printed as received. Grammatical and spelling errors are the responsibility of the author.

How to stay sane during a pandemic
Dear Editor,
Here we are in the midst of a pandemic. The coronavirus appears to be spreading like wildfire... Grocery stores are becoming bare, schools are closing, and even bosses are telling us to stay home. With a pandemic comes panic.
It’s very natural to feel fear and anxiety during these times. Small amounts of anxiety can help us prepare for the coming days, but panic can be debilitating. How do we channel that panic into something useful? Make lemonade...yes, look for the silver lining. After you have stockpiled your most basic necessities, taking safety precautions and social distancing, then what? Well, you can decide to panic or you can decide to sublimate that anxiety into something productive.
Every problem, as difficult and anxiety provoking as it may seem, holds an opportunity. Here are some of the opportunities that can arise out of this pandemic:
1. More quality time with your family members or close friends. Our overscheduled lives often leave very little time for basic human connection. If you’re stuck at home, make the most of your time together. Play games, work on home projects, talk to each other.
2. If you think more screen time will help get us through, think again. Screen time, which includes smart phones, computers, video games, tablets, pretty much everything but television, can actually increase levels of depression. If we’re all on our

screens, we are essentially isolating ourselves from others. If we isolate, we are more likely to fall into depression. Most often, screen time reduces face-to-face human connection, makes us less likely to complete chores or other projects around the house, and leaves us with less time to attend to our non-screen related hobbies. You may find yourself feeling unproductive and unaccomplished after hours of screen time. If you don’t believe me, check your daily screen time usage...you may be surprised.
3. Connect with nature. So you can’t go to a concert or a ball game, but who says you can’t go for a walk on a trail? In fact, connecting with nature has proven to reduce anxiety and panic attacks.
4. Engage in your hobbies or explore a new one. Pick up that guitar that’s been sitting next to your couch, go back to drawing, or learn a new language. Do the things you always put off, this is your chance.
5. Exercise. The endorphins produced during exercise can help combat some of that anxiety. Rather than sitting around worrying, channel that energy into something productive. Online exercise videos are an easily accessible method for exercising at home. From yoga to Bollywood dance, it’s all there with a click of your remote.
6. Stay positive. Your thoughts impact your emotions. If yourself talk is negative, you will find yourself feeling anxious and depressed. You have control over your thoughts. Decide to think positive, and you will feel better.

Asma Halim

Hilltop students introduced to D.A.R.E.



Children lined up to meet with McGruff the Crime Dog.

More than 100 students at Hilltop Elementary School completed their four-week D.A.R.E. First Grade Program on Thursday, March 12. The curriculum helps first-graders develop basic, core skills needed for safe and responsible choices. It's a pre-cursor to the full D.A.R.E. program where fifth-grade students will participate.



First-grade teachers Sarah Bird, left, and Leticia Carillo handed out police badge stickers.



D.A.R.E. Officer Ed Polaski ('Officer Ed' to his students) used signs to remind children what they learned.



Boys and girls listened as 'Officer Ed' quizzed them on the lessons they learned during the four-week program.

(Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)



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Pet of the Week



High energy Luna is available

Luna, also fondly known as Looney, is a young, 7-month-old, high-energy girl always looking for the next adventure! She thinks dogs are pretty cool and may do fine with cats if they can forgive her enthusiasm. New people take her just a fraction of a second to warm up to, but then she is all about full throttle kisses and lap time. Luna has been passed around in her young life and she could really use a family that will stick by her. Adopt her and you're guaranteed a loyal pal for life! For more information call 630-407-2800 or email animalservices@dupageco.org.

(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)



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Bartlett has three named to all-UEC team

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett girls basketball team made it a threepeat in the Upstate Eight Conference with a 17-1 mark for the crown, and the Hawks were 24-9 overall.

Leading the way were a pair of record setters, sophomore Mackenzie Hare and junior Lexie Sinclair, as well as a defensive standout, junior Danielle Hedeon, who all earned all-conference honors in the UEC. Sinclair reached the 1,000 career point club in early December, and a month later Hare joined her.

Hare finished with 725 points (22 per game) this season in 33 games with 119 three-pointers, 240 rebounds, 11 assists and 50 steals. She shot 51 percent from the field, 48 percent from behind the arc and 78 percent from the free-throw line.

In the Hawks season opener, Hare set the Hawks single-game record in scoring with 43 points, and she twice tied her older sister Kayla's single-game record for treys with eight. For the second time, Hare set the single-season record for threes and she passed her sister for the career record.

"The first word that comes to mind when thinking about Kenzie Hare is 'playmaker,'" said Bartlett inter-



Mackenzie Hare on a scoring journey via an under-handed layup for the Hawks in front of Larkin's Diana Acosta during a 32-point first half performance against the Royals this season.



Glenbard South's Rocky LaPonte, left, was under defensive pressure from Bartlett's Danielle Hedeon during a game against the Raiders in January this past season. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

im coach Kristi Ragan. "She loves the game of basketball and continually looks to develop each aspect of her game. She's without a doubt one of the best three-point shooters in the state, but her ability to get to the rim, create shots for her teammates, and utilize her length on defense, along with her basketball IQ makes her an incredible player... and she's only a sophomore. Her kindness off the court turns to a tenacious and unstoppable force on the court."

Sinclair, who played 29 games missing a handful of games due to a concussion, finished with 547 points (19 per game) along with 208 assists, 145 rebounds and 50 steals. She shot 47 percent from the field, 27.5 percent from three-point range and 65 percent from the charity stripe.

In January, Sinclair set a program record for assists in a game with 13 against West Chicago.

"Lexie's ability to score and finish through contact in the paint, spot up and knock down a three-pointer, as well as break any sort of pressure a team throws at our offense, unquestionably makes her a player that

other teams hate to play against," Ragan said. "She brings a quickness, physicality and fierceness to each and every game."

Ragan added: "Lexie picked up right where she left off last season, dishing off assists and scoring, but battling a few nagging injuries in the first part of our season. She came back to the court ready to battle and accumulated 20 double-doubles over the course of our schedule."

Hedeon was regularly chosen to guard the top player from the opposing team while finishing with a team-high 75 steals in 33 games. She scored 224 points, grabbed 208 rebounds, shot 70 percent from the line, 47 percent from behind the arc and 40 percent from the field.

"Dani is the player that every coach, fan and teammate loves to have on their team," Ragan said. "She is also the type of player that other teams can't overlook. Sure, she can knock down shots and score when she needs to, as well as handle the ball in pressure and create shots for her teammates. However, she undeniably causes absolute chaos on the defensive end of the court. She doesn't stop and she sets an example for her teammates. She outworks every opponent we play."

Bartlett loses just one senior this year, Marina Vasquez.



Alexis Sinclair with an open look and launching a jump shot in a late November 2019 game.

South Elgin has two named all-conference

By Seth Hancock

For the second straight season, the South Elgin girls basketball team posted a 20-plus win season going 22-10 overall, and it finished 14-4 in the Upstate Eight Conference.

Leading the way for the Storm were senior Megan McClure and sophomore Ella Winterhalder who both earned all-conference honors in the UEC. Both averaged 14 points per game to lead the team.

For McClure, she was a sharpshooter from behind the arc for her four-year varsity career which included 72 three-pointers this season at 45 percent from long range. She led the team with an average nine re-

bounds per game while also leading in blocks and free-throw shooting.

"She's a great shooter and made it downstate again, winning the semifinals at the Huntley Sectional, in the three-point contest," said South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack. "She did it all for four years. She leaves the school second all-time in scoring with 1,356 points."

McClure, who will play at North Central College next year, made it to the state three-point contest for the second straight year. She hit seven threes on Thursday, March 5 at Illinois State University's Red Bird Arena, three shy of advancing from the state preliminaries.

Winterhalder nearly tripled her scoring total from her freshman year when she averaged five points per game. She led the Storm in three-pointers this season with 80, a new single-season program record.

"She had a breakthrough season," Mandernack said. "She took a major step forward from freshman to sophomore, and we're looking for the big step to her junior year as she is working hard on all parts of her game. She started right after the season with training and AAU ball."

Along with McClure, the Storm will lose seniors Aryanna Williams, Madison Waichunas, Haley Molitor, Danielle Kucharski and Jennifer Trejo.



While driving into the lane, Ella Winterhalder drew a crowd including the Royals' Baylei Johnson whose contact drew a foul call in a game at Larkin this past January.



Megan McClure finishing off a drive to score off the glass during a game against Glenbard East in February. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Mien caps off career with fourth all-UEC nod

By Seth Hancock

Streamwood senior Mandy Mien capped her varsity girls basketball career with a fourth straight recognition on the all-conference team in the Upstate Eight Conference.

From the first day with the program, Sabres coach George Rosner knew he had a special point guard in Mien and she proved it on the court finishing her career leading the program in two categories and being top 10 in four overall.

Mien's 542 career assists and 386 career steals makes her the Sabres leader in both categories. She

averaged 14.6 points per game this season and finished with 1,368 in her career to sit at fourth all-time in Streamwood history, and at only 5-foot-4 she grabbed 496 career rebounds to finish 10th in program history.

"She is a 'one of a kind' point guard, the best pure point guard I have had in my 39 years as a varsity coach," Rosner said. "She comes to play and to win every game. She has led this team as point guard for all the four years she has been here."

Rosner added: "She can never be replaced. It will be very different when we are pressed as we are very

used to saying 'just get it to Mandy and get out of her way.'"

Streamwood, which finished 12-17 overall and 9-9 in the UEC, also had a pair of UEC all-conference honorable mentions in fellow seniors Peyton Hedger (8.2 points per game, 44 three-pointers) and Kaylee Angle (7 points per game, 39 three-pointers).

The Sabres will lose five total seniors including Vicki Kopko and Idalyd Ocampo.

"These five seniors were incredible," Rosner said. "It's one of the best groups of seniors I've had. It's a tough loss to lose them."



While crashing to the floor, Streamwood's Mandy Mien, left, battled with the Maroons' Margie Troyke for a basketball that eventually rolled out of bounds during a December 2019 game this past season against Elgin.



Kaylee Angle releasing an open shot for the Sabres while trailed by the Tomcats' Tatiana Ocasio during a January contest this past season against East Aurora.



Following a rebound, the Sabres' Peyton Hedger securing a rebound between South Elgin's Madison Waichunas, left, and Raina Yang as the two teams battled in a December 2019 contest.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Sabres soccer working hard to prepare for new season

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood soccer team will be young this season but is working hard to prepare for the 2020 campaign.

Last year, the Sabres went 5-15-1 overall and 1-7-1 in the Upstate Eight Conference.

This year, Streamwood has a split team between upperclassmen and underclassmen with four seniors, four juniors and eight underclassmen. The goal is to create team cohesion.

"The goal is building the team as a unit since a lot of the girls have not played with each other," said Streamwood coach Kristin Duffy.

Duffy added: "To accomplish these goals we need to work together both at soccer practice as well as outside of

practice."

Some of the key returners for the Sabres include senior Lesley Jimenez (defender), junior Candy Nava (goalkeeper) and sophomores Esther Cardenas (defender) and Diana Herrera (midfielder).

Duffy said the team is working hard as it prepares for the start of the season. The Sabres were to open at home with a nonconference contest on Tuesday, March 17. Due to school closings start of the spring sports season has been suspended.

"Our biggest strength for this season is the work ethic of our team," Duffy said. "Every player is coming ready for practice and working hard to get ready for the season."

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