

Press Clippings 2/9/2018

---Courier News--- 2/8/18

Elgin area prepares for big snowstorm

School District U-46 cancels schools. Have a Hear Community Dinner postponed

BY MIKE DANAHEY

As the Elgin area readied for the area's biggest snowstorm so far this year, city officials reminded people late Thursday of precautions they should take.

Elgin-area U46 canceled school Friday in anticipation of the storm that has some predicting more than a foot of snow by Friday night and more to come over the weekend.

"Snowstorms always bring commuting challenges. Not everyone can stay home, but if you can that's optimal," Elgin Police Public Information Office Kristie Hilton said. "If you can't, drivers should allow extra time, drive slow, undistracted, and leave adequate stopping distance between vehicles. And snowplows need to be given room to operate safely."

Hilton also reminded people to make sure their vehicles have plenty of gas in case there is in an unplanned situation where vehicles are running for extended periods of time.

"Please remain mindful of posted snow routes and make alternate plans for parking over the next few days. Those who do not live on a snow route can assist in the cleanup effort by doing the same," Hilton said.

Hilton also reminds people to check on elderly or at-risk neighbors, especially those who live alone.

"Bring pets inside and when the shoveling begins, dress appropriately and do not overexert," Hilton said.

If an emergency occurs or someone needs special assistance, Hilton reminded residents to call 911 or 847-289-2700.

Elgin Fire Chief Dave Schmidt reminded people to keep the area around fire hydrants cleared to help firefighters find them in an emergency.

Schmidt also said residents of homes with high-efficiency furnaces should make sure snowdrifts aren't blocking flues on the sides of the houses.

Space heaters should be kept at least three feet from items that might be flammable and people should avoid using such devices with extension cords, Schmidt said.

Elgin Communications Specialist Molly Center recommends residents download the Elgin 311 mobile app and check the City of Elgin Facebook Page or Twitter account. Residents can always call 311 or 847-931-6001 Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. if they cannot access those other options.

Given the impact of the coming storm, Center said Elgin will have information posted on the city's website homepage too.

"General concerns or requests can be emailed to elgin311@cityofelgin.org, but the call center will not be open outside of regular business hours. Any emergency situation should be reported by calling 911," Center said.

Like every snow event, Elgin plow drivers will be cutting the centers of streets throughout all routes while the storm is in progress to ensure streets are passable. Pushback does not occur until the snow stops, Center said.

School District U46 canceled classes for Friday. At 4 p.m. Thursday, CEO Tony Sanders made the announcement via social media, prompting relief from students and others who commented shortly after the announcement.

"Phone call on its way. I canceled school for tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 9," Sanders wrote.

Other Elgin schools that had canceled classes for Friday ahead of the storm included Elgin Academy, Harvest Christian Academy, and St. Mary School.

By noon Thursday, Community Unit School District 300 had canceled all after-school activities that were to take place after 5 p.m. with buildings closed for the evening, except for those with after-school care programs.

According to the D300 Facebook page, the early closing would allow crews to pretreat school parking lots, sidewalks, and entrances and, with the flu going around, give time to continue sanitizing.

District spokesman Anthony McGinn said parents and students should expect an announcement late Thursday evening on whether classes would be canceled Friday.

At St. Charles School District 303, a decision on whether school would close will be made Friday morning and families will be notified about 5:30 a.m., said spokeswoman Carol Smith.

Elgin Community College was to close at 5 p.m. Thursday, and also announced it would shut down Friday.

East Dundee officials announced Wednesday afternoon that Village Hall and Police Front Office would be closed on Friday.

A total of five to six inches of snow was expected overnight, with another five to six falling throughout the day Friday and into Friday evening.

For anyone traveling who has to travel by car out of the area, statewide road conditions can be found online www.gettingaroundillinois.com and on the Illinois Department of Transportation Facebook page and Twitter feed.

---Daily Herald--- 2/9/18

Snow casues canceled flights, various closings

BY CHACOUR KOOP

A winter storm is predicted to dump up to a foot of snow on the suburbs through noon today.

National Weather Service meteorologists first [issued a winter storm warning](#) from Thursday night through 9 p.m. Friday, with heavy snow making travel "very difficult to impossible." Late Thursday night the warning was shortened so that it now lasts only until noon.

More than 200 flights were canceled "proactively" at O'Hare International Airport, the Chicago Department of Aviation [reported](#), and more than 70 at [Midway](#).

Metra's BNSF Line will run 84 instead of 94 trains Friday in an effort to reduce switching operations. Heavy ice and snow can cause switching problems and subsequent delays. To learn more, go to metrarail.com.

Pace bus service is warning riders to take transit only for essential trips from Thursday night through Sunday and postpone nonessential travel. "Significant delays due to heavy snow and hazardous driving conditions," are expected, officials said.

Suburban school districts began announcing closings for Friday, including all schools in **Elgin Area School District U-46**, Hawthorn District 73, Wheaton Warrenville Unit District 200, Naperville Unit District 203, Palatine-Schaumburg High School District 211, Northwest Suburban High School District 214, Barrington Area Unit District 220 and Community Unit District 300. Plus day care centers, senior centers and other businesses are not opening Friday morning, [the Emergency Closing Center is reporting](#).

Go to emergencyclosingcenter.com for a complete roundup of closings.

Various suburbs are reminding residents that cars should not be parked on streets so snow plows can sweep through. Many suburban governments have announced village or city halls will not be open on Friday.

The Circuit Court of Cook County also said it will close Friday. "There will be no court in session in any Cook County courthouse and that the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court will be closed," except for Central Bond Court at the Leighton Criminal Court Building in Chicago, Chief Judge Timothy Evans said in a statement. All cases set for Friday will be rescheduled.

The storm warning includes all of northern Illinois and northwest Indiana. Six to 12 inches of accumulation is possible. The weather service is warning of significant reductions in visibility at times.

"If you must travel, keep an extra flashlight, food and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency," the weather service said in a statement.

The snow will add on to the three inches that have fallen over the past three days.

The Illinois Tollway announced it is deploying its fleet of nearly 200 snowplows to combat the expected snowfall, and the Illinois Department of Transportation warned travelers to avoid driving through Friday night. Officials said snowy and icy roads are expected to cause low visibility and significant delay.

For those who have no choice but to brave the snow, officials recommended driving with extreme caution and preparing for the worst by keeping a full tank of gas and cold weather essentials such as blankets, food and water and an ice scraper in the car.

---Daily Herald--- 2/9/18

Schools, businesses announce closings for Friday

DAILY HERALD REPORT

A number of suburban schools, day care centers, senior centers and other businesses are not opening Friday morning, [the Emergency Closing Center is reporting](#).

For example, all schools in Elgin Area School District U-46, Wheaton Warrenville Unit District 200, Naperville Unit District 203, Palatine-Schaumburg High School District 211, Northwest Suburban High School District 214, Barrington Area Unit District 220 and Community Unit District 300 will be closed Friday. District 211 said via tweet that after-school activities will be evaluated throughout the day and new information about them posted in the afternoon.

Various suburbs are reminding residents that cars should not be parked on streets so snow plows can sweep through.

Go to emergencyclosingcenter.com for a complete roundup of closings.

SPORTS SECTION

---Daily Herald--- 2/9/18

Bartlett rolls over West Chicago on Senior Night

BY SCOTT MILLER

The Bartlett boys basketball team celebrated Senior Night in a big way on Thursday with an 84-42 rout of visiting West Chicago in Upstate Eight Valley Division action.

Ben Fisher led a parade of 9 seniors who all scored in the game with a team-high 13 points and 8 rebounds.

"Senior night can be crazy," Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith said. "You never know what to expect because you are going with a lot of different lineups to get everybody some playing time. But holy smokes, I've got to say all the seniors played phenomenal. That's what you want to see is everyone getting in and contributing and they all did."

The Hawks (13-10, 6-3) hit a season-high 14 3-pointers and during one long stretch in the second and third quarters made 18 of 22 shots from the field.

Bartlett led 19-15 after one quarter and then exploded in the second quarter, outscoring the Wildcats 22-7 to pull away to a 41-22 halftime lead.

Fisher had 8 points to lead the second quarter surge while seniors Ben Tompson (11 points) and Harsh Mangrola (6 points), and junior Austin Gates each had 3-pointers during the run.

"We really shot the lights out," Wolfsmith said. "Maybe constantly having fresh legs on the floor helped. We were moving the ball real well and getting good shots. Plus on defense we were able to get some take-aways and good defense is always going to lead to offense."

The Hawks continued to pull away in the third quarter with 28 more points to stretch the lead to 69-32. Seniors Kyle Martin (9 points) and Jake Coffinbarger (6 points) each had a pair of 3-pointers. Senior Byron Price (6 points) also had a couple 3-pointers in the second half.

Other seniors to score for the Hawks were Tomas Vikonis with 8 points, Johnny Angel with 7 points, and Garrett Jurina with 4 points,

Jordan Wilkins had 14 points to lead West Chicago in scoring.

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Larkin clinches outright River title

BY JERRY FITZPATRICK

Larkin coach Deryn Carter pointed to maturity as a primary reason his team overtook St. Charles East in the final two minutes and clinched the Upstate Eight River title outright with a 60-56 road win.

Larkin (18-6, 10-0) trailed by 3 with exactly two minutes to play after Nate Ortiz converted on the fast-break assist from Justin Hardy, capping an 8-0 run by St. Charles East (14-8, 5-5).

The Royals climbed within a point on senior guard Anthony Lynch's drive 20 seconds later, and they got the ball back when Lynch blocked a shot at the other end with 1:13 left.

Lynch then found Kindrel "Nomo" Morris open on the wing. The 5-foot-8 senior point guard splashed the go-ahead 3-pointer with 48 seconds left, and the Royals sank 5 of 8 free throws in the final minute to remain unblemished in the UEC River with home games remaining against St. Charles North and Batavia.

"I'm just happy with the way we closed it out," Carter said. "We got down 3 and we didn't go for a hero 3-pointer. We chipped away, got a 2-point bucket, got a stop and then took the lead. We showed some maturity in the win for sure."

Carter was pleased to see Morris take and make another big shot late in a game. Morris hit the game-winning shot last Saturday at Batavia with seconds left.

"Nomo is so unselfish that at times his unselfishness hurts us," his coach said. "We're like, 'Hey, you've got to shoot that jump shot.' Then he goes 3 for 4 (from 3-point range) today. He shoots like that. In practice he carries teams. So, I think he's going to understand that that was big tonight and that was big at Batavia."

The Saints shot 23 of 50 from the field and limited their turnovers to 11, but the offense wasn't crisp. Coach Patrick Woods pointed to a lack of ball movement. He said his statisticians counted 190 passes between Saints, their lowest total in a loss this season.

"Overall, we did not move the ball," said Woods, whose team had won four straight. "I don't know if it's Larkin's defense or our bad offense, but we didn't do what we normally do. Hence, we only scored 56 points. You don't win a lot of games scoring 56 points."

Saints star Justin Hardy was limited to 15 points, partly by the effort of Larkin reserve forward Max Wiskirchen. The senior entered the game with 3:44 left in the first quarter when 6-10 senior Jalen Shaw was taken out for the rest of the half due to foul trouble. Wiskirchen and the Royals held Hardy to a lone second-quarter field goal.

"I was just trying to stay in front of him and contest his shot," Wiskirchen said. "I guarded him last year and kind of did the same thing. I wanted to follow up and let coach know if he needed me to do something I can do it."

Senior Zach Robinson led the Saints with 18 points, including four 3-pointers in 6 attempts.

Lynch finished with a game-high 23 points to go with 5 assists, 5 rebounds, 2 steals and a block. Shaw scored 9 of his 11 points and grabbed all 6 of his rebounds in the second half for Larkin.

---Daily Herald--- 2/9/18

Career night for Toolsie

BY ALLEN OSHINSKI

At least one person was feeling hot Thursday night.

With Snowmageddon 2018 arriving outside Streamwood High School, Elgin's Dan Toolsie was heating things up inside. Toolsie poured in a career-high 34 points to lead the Maroons past the Sabres, 58-49, in the Upstate Eight River.

Elgin (9-15, 2-9) used runs of 13-2 and 10-2 in the second half to take control after trailing at halftime. It was the Maroons' second straight come-from-behind win and fourth in a row overall.

Toolsie made six 3-pointers and had two dunks, and went 6-for-6 from the foul line in the fourth quarter as the Maroons held off a Sabres' rally. He also grabbed 7 rebounds.

Keenon Cole posted 17 points and 9 rebounds for the Sabres, who saw their Senior Night spoiled by the visitors from Elgin. Lamont Cole added 11 points, Nikola Sinik 10 and Zack Marquez 9 for Streamwood (11-17, 0-11).

Toolsie realized he was in for a big night "in the first quarter, when my first two 3s went in," he said. He previously had a pair of 33-point games.

It wasn't always pretty for the Maroons, who had 22 turnovers. They trailed 26-24 after an up-and-down first half.

"I really didn't say much at halftime," said Elgin coach Mike Sitter. "The assistant coaches talked but I didn't say anything, because they knew what they did wrong. What are you going to say? They knew the effort wasn't there. You can't coach that. I can coach Xs and Os, I can put in different players and substitutions, but I can't coach effort. That's on them."

With Elgin trailing 30-26 early in the second half, a Trey Yarber 3-pointer ignited the Maroons' first big run. Toolsie's 3-pointer capped the spurt and put the Maroons in front 39-32. The second run stretched the advantage to 51-38 with 4 minutes left and Elgin salted the game away at the free-throw line.

Roy Panthier added 6 points and John Fortmann and Yarber had 5 apiece for the Maroons.