

## Press Clippings 2/13/2018

**NOTE:** There were no U46-related news stories in February 13, 2018 newspapers.

### SPORTS SECTION

---Daily Herald--- 2/13/18

#### **Larkin erases late deficit, ousts Jacobs**

BY JOHN LEMON

With 21 points in the first 22 minutes of the Class 4A South Elgin regional opener Monday night, nothing was coming easy for the Larkin girls basketball team.

Haley Bohne didn't get discouraged, and the Royals' senior leader made two heads-up, hustle plays that sparked a 5-point possession that started a comeback from 9 points down for a 44-39 win over Jacobs.

Trailing 29-21, Bohne inbounded the ball under her own basket. When Jacobs turned its back, Bohne threw a pass off the back of the defender, picked up the ball and scored while getting fouled.

Bohne missed the free throw, and on a long rebound, she chased down the carom just before it went out of bounds and dove for it, throwing the ball off a Jacobs player to keep possession. Amber Allen buried a 3-pointer immediately after, suddenly bringing the Royals within 29-26.

"My dad (Eric) and I used to talk about it when I was little. It works sometimes," Bohne said of the inbounds play.

"Coach (Steve Knapp) talks about hustling after the ball and that's how we win games sometimes by hustling, diving after every ball. I've always liked doing that."

That sequence gave No. 10 seed Larkin (5-22) a lift, yet the Royals still trailed 35-30 with 3:38 remaining after Kyra Cabusao drove for a basket.

Bohne again stepped up, knocking down an 18-foot corner jumper. Aaliyah Dixon tied the game at 35 with a 3-pointer, and Bohne followed with a 3 of her own for a 38-35 lead with 1:48 left -- Larkin's first since 4-2.

"(Assistant) Coach (Kristie) Alexander kept telling me shoot the ball, shoot the ball, don't worry about the last one, and that's what I did," Bohne said.

Seventh-seed Jacobs (9-18) misfired on its next two possessions, and Brianna Young and Allen swished 4 straight free throws to push the margin to 42-35 at :36.9.

Dixon led Larkin in scoring with 15 points, Young scored 14 and Allen 7 while Bohne battled for 11 rebounds to go with her 8 points.

"I told everyone on the bench that's how we need to play every single play," Knapp said of Bohne's hustle play. "I think the momentum changed right from there. Haley has been the leader all year. I'm so happy for her that she made that happen."

Playing without starting guard Liz Schwartz who tore her ACL a week ago against Prairie Ridge, Jacobs built an 8-4 lead after one quarter and 22-17 at halftime by holding Larkin to 5-of-21 shooting in the first half.

Kerri Healy, Jacobs' only senior, scored 12 of her 14 points in the first half including a pair of nifty finishes in traffic when she spun the ball off the backboard and in.

But without Schwartz, and with Cabusao playing for the first time since injuring her ankle in the same game against Prairie Ridge, the Golden Eagles shot just 25 percent (7 for 28) in the second half.

"The kids all year long have responded to challenges and I think tonight we just ran out of gas," Jacobs coach Joe Benoit said. "This time in February anything can happen and you obviously saw it tonight."

Healy also grabbed 9 rebounds, and Aleicia Valldejuli, in what Benoit called "her best game of the year," finished with 9 points and 9 rebounds.

"A lot of growing pains this year but the future is tremendously bright for this group," Benoit said.

Larkin advances to the semifinals Tuesday night against No. 2 seed Dundee-Crown (17-8).

"They have always been a good program," Bohne said. "We play them in the summer. Hopefully we can come out with another win."

"This win means a lot to us to continue the season for the seniors and I. Having a comeback like that means everything for us."

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## **Big run sends South Elgin past Elgin**

BY ALLEN OSHINSKI

When Elgin challenged South Elgin, the Storm responded.

South Elgin quickly scored the final 6 points of the first half, then outscored the Maroons 16-4 in the third quarter to break open a close game and win in the opening round of its own Class 4A regional, 58-27.

The Storm (13-13), faces Cary-Grove Tuesday night in one semifinal.

"We went back to our press a little bit more," said South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack. "We were running our 2-1-2 press and we got some turnovers out of it. They broke it a couple of times, too, and that's what hurt us. We just started trapping a little bit more, getting a little bit more aggressive on defense. Then, at the end of the day, they're sitting in a zone, shots have got to fall. Megan (McClure) made a couple of huge shots to give us some breathing room."

"I told them Elgin's not going 5 or 6 miles just to check out our gym."

Monday night, McClure did it all, finishing with 19 points and 10 rebounds.

She scored 4 points just before halftime, got a rebound that led to a bucket by Casey Brennan, then scored the first basket of the second half as the Storm stretched a 23-15 lead to 31-15.

That run "was key because we were able to gain some momentum, gain some confidence, and start to play up more," said McClure.

South Elgin, with no starter taller than 5-foot-9, had a 44-25 rebounding advantage. Point guard Brennan had 7 offensive rebounds among her 10 boards.

"We have to crash the boards every single time because we're not a big team and that's our way to get up," said Catora Brown, who finished with 10 points for the Storm.

Dajha Cooper had 11 points and 10 rebounds for Elgin (4-24). Makenna Downing added 8 points.

"We got a little soft toward the end of the (second) quarter and they hit a couple of 3s to knock it back to 12 or 14," said Elgin coach Dr. Nick Bumbales. "They did a good job. They shot the ball real well. That's the best we've seen them shoot all year."

Lexi Roberts had 15 points and 4 assists, while Brennan finished with 6 points for South Elgin.

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## **Streamwood shoots past Gators**

BY DAVE HESS

Streamwood's philosophy seemed simple.

Why shoot a 2-pointer when the 3 is a viable option?

Collecting 8 treys including 7 in the first half, No. 9 seed Streamwood shot its way past No. 8 Crystal Lake South 40-21 in first round action of the Class 4A Prairie Ridge regional Monday night in Crystal Lake.

South defeated Streamwood 48-40 in the first game of the season at the Dundee-Crown Thanksgiving Tournament on Nov. 15.

Streamwood (8-19) advances to the semifinals to play top-seeded McHenry Tuesday at 6 p.m. while South ends the season at 7-21.

"We won because of defense," said Streamwood coach George Rosner. "We played very well at the defensive end and contested every pass and every shot. We played a much better game this time around against South. We had the right people shooting the 3s early and I have an open policy for kids to shoot the 3. I will let them know if they are bad shots. We know McHenry will be tough but we will be ready to play. We will have to play better."

The Sabres' first 4 baskets of the game came on 3s. Maddi Exline and Andrea Bracy each buried a pair of shots from beyond the arc as Streamwood stormed to a 12-4 lead with 1:28 left in the first quarter.

Streamwood, 7-of-14 from 3-point range in the first half, added 3 more treys in the second quarter. Exline, Bracy and Rebecca Roncone each added 3s in the second 8 minutes of play.

Streamwood, which held the Gators to 2 points in the second quarter, led 26-11 at halftime.

Bracy, with 12 rebounds, led the Sabres with 14 points including 3 treys.

"Myself and the whole team was nervous before the game," said Bracy. "I loosened up when I hit my first 3. Coach (Rosner) always gives us the green light to shoot the open 3. Coach preaches defense and we knew we had to play better defense this time around against South."

Exline, with 3 treys, scored 13 for the winners.

"South was giving us the 3 early in the game and once I hit the first one I felt confident," said Exline. "Our man to man defense was aggressive the whole game. We made sure South had to take tough shots."

Roncone, with 7 points, collected two 3s while Mandy Mien scored 6 points with 5 assists.

"We start 4 seniors who won regional a year ago," said Rosner. "These kids have been through the wars and played with a lot of confidence tonight."

The Sabres' biggest lead was 36-13 on a layup by Exline with 4:55 left in the game.

Lauren Schoen led the Gators with 8 including a pair of 3s.

"Our Achilles' heel all season has been scoring points," said Crystal Lake South coach Mark Mucha. "We were out of sync offensively. It was a frustrating night. Defensively, we got out too late on their 3-point shooters."