

Press Clippings 8/28/2018

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Suburban educators say vocational programs need community support

BY Madhu Krishnamurthy

Destigmatizing careers that don't require a college degree is key to bridging a growing nationwide skills gap, say some lawmakers, educators and business leaders.

"All work has dignity," U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi said Monday after visiting South Elgin High School's automotive, precision manufacturing and early childhood programs. "We cannot stigmatize any career ... any pathway into the middle class."

Krishnamoorthi, State Superintendent of Education Tony Smith and roughly 50 regional education and business leaders toured Elgin Area School District U-46's career and technical education programs at Elgin and South Elgin high schools.

With 40 students enrolled in South Elgin's precision manufacturing program, there is room for more students to join from throughout the district, instructor Russ Bartz said.

"We need more people to understand that it's a good career path and it's not a dirty job," he said, adding manufacturing jobs are more high-tech than most people realize.

Such programs at high schools and local community colleges could benefit from increased federal funding to expand and modernize career, technical and vocational education programs.

Krishnamoorthi and U.S. Rep. Glenn Thompson of Pennsylvania were the lead Democratic and Republican sponsors of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act. It authorizes roughly \$80 million more in yearly funding over six years supporting roughly 13 million students participating in career and technical education and vocational programs at community colleges, high schools and technical campuses nationwide.

Approximately 6.6 million jobs go unfilled because employers cannot find workers with the applicable skills, while only one-third of Americans have four-year college degrees, said Krishnamoorthi, of Schaumburg, who represents the 8th Congressional District including parts of Cook, DuPage and Kane counties.

"Employers, at some point if they can't locate the talent here, they are going to go elsewhere ... to other countries," Krishnamoorthi said. "It's up to us ... to make sure those jobs stay here. We have to come to grips with a basic fact ... a vast majority of Americans are not going to get a four-year college degree."

Funding to institutions is contingent upon educators working with local business and industry partners to design training programs for skills sought by employers. Providing high school and postsecondary students with on-the-job training in fields, such as cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing and health care also is emphasized.

"It's so critical that students experience the workplace," said Nancy Coleman, executive director for Alignment Collaborative for Education, which is working with U-46 on building those community partnerships. She said businesses increasingly want to

collaborate with schools because they see the value of investing in their future workforce.

"Right now we are focusing on manufacturing, health care, financial services and IT (information technology)," she said.

Getting parents to understand and value career and technical programs as valid alternatives to college degrees will require engagement with communities, said Smith after visiting Elgin High School's newly renovated \$1.7 million welding lab, culinary arts, automotive and health care services programs. "This is a deep investment in all kids having access," he said.

SPORTS SECTION

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Sabres fall to Glenbard S.

BY SCOTT MILLER

Taking advantage of a couple huge breaks Glenbard South made a big splash in its Upstate Eight Conference debut with a 23-10 win at Streamwood on Friday night.

The game was tied 10-10 with just over 2 minutes left to play when an unfortunate miscommunication from the Streamwood sideline on a punt attempt resulted in the Sabres taking a knee and giving the ball up at their 18-yard line.

On the very next play Antonio Carter scored on an 18-yard touchdown run to put Glenbard South ahead 16-10. The Raiders added a 20 yard interception return by Trevon Bryant to seal the deal.

"It was unfortunate what happened on the punt play," Glenbard South coach Ryan Crissey said. "I think everyone was a little shocked. But it's one of those things that happen. I just want to commend Streamwood on playing a great physical game. They are going to be a tough team. We really had to battle and persevere through some things to get this win."

Carter provided a big lift in the second half for the Raiders. After just 3 carries in the first half the senior tailback had 7 rushes for 57 yards in the second half.

"He is such a dynamic athlete," Crissey said. "We knew we had to find a way to get him more involved. He used his combination of explosiveness and patience to make some big runs.

Carter accounted for 35 yards on the Raiders' opening possession of the second half that resulted in a 27-yard field goal to put Glenbard South ahead 10-8.

"The coaches just believed in what I can do," Carter said. "And I just trusted my linemen. We are a small team compared to the rest of the teams in this conference so we are just going to have to play with a lot of heart like we did tonight."

After surrendering a 168 yards of offense to the Sabres in the first half the Glenbard South defense allowed just 68 yards in the second half with 50 of those coming on one play.

"We had to utilize a defense we wanted to save for later in the season," Crissey said. "But desperate times called for desperate measures. We just changed some of our stunting schemes at the line."

The Raiders' defense came up with a huge play in the closing minute of the first half when they forced a fumble at the 1-yard line after the Sabres had driven 65 yards and were looking to extend their 8-7 lead.

"That play really turned the momentum in our favor," Crissey said. "We were able to get multiple guys to the ball."

The Sabres struck first on a 30-yard touchdown run by Sirrion Dixon at the with 21 seconds left in the first half. Tremeyon Sanders added a 2-point conversion run. However, Glenbard South answered right back with an 87-yard kick return for a touchdown by John Klaric.

Sabres quarterback Omar Negron, playing in his first football game at any level, rushed for 157 yards on 24 carries.

"It's unfortunate what happened at the end of the game," Streamwood coach Dan Guindon said. "It was a miscommunication error that I take full responsibility for. I am just so proud of my kids. They have worked so hard and really played well tonight."

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Boys soccer: Hampshire doubles up Larkin

BY Daily Herald Reports

Hampshire improved to 3-0-1 with a 4-2 win over Larkin on Monday.

The Whip-Purs' goals came from Sawyer Shores, who also had 2 assists, Hugo Vel Sztukowski, Jesus Rivera and Jose Marquez.

Jack Fairwood and Kobe Frenette added assists while Ryan Heileman and Gerardo Marquez shined on defense. Andrew Krajecki made 11 saves.

Streamwood 5, Conant 0: Jesus Limon scored the first goal on an assist by Jorge Bracamontes for a 1-0 lead at halftime.

Limon scored two more goals in the second half and assisted on another. Edwin Peralta and Carlos Alcantar also had goals, and Alejandro Morales, Mike Rubio and Harvey Partida added assists.

Antonio Herrera made 3 saves in goal for the Sabres (2-1).

St. Charles East 4, Downers Grove North 1: The Saints improved to 1-1, building a 3-0 halftime lead on a pair of goals by Truitt Battin and one from Sebastian Carranza. Battin scored his third goal in the second half.

Carranza and Ulises Cabellero had assists while goalkeeper Zachary Doerr made 1 save.