

Press Clippings 05/28/2019

---Daily Herald---05/26/2019

Images: Bartlett High School graduation

By: Rick West

Bartlett High School held its graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates. For pictures click [here](#).

Images: Elgin High School graduation

By: Rick West

Elgin High School held its graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates. For pictures click [here](#).

Images: Larkin High School graduation

By: Joe Lewnard

Larkin High School held its graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates. For pictures click [here](#).

Images: South Elgin High School graduation

By: Joe Lewnard

South Elgin High School held its graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates. For pictures click [here](#).

Images: Streamwood High School graduation

By: Joe Lewnard

Streamwood High School held its graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates. For pictures click [here](#).

---Daily Herald---05/25/2019

Streamwood girl surprised with new bike for Month of the Military Child

By: Daily Herald report

Zariah Farmby will celebrate summer vacation with a new bicycle, thanks to a surprise delivery by some Elgin High School student athletes.

The Elgin High soccer players presented the bicycle to Zariah, with her parents, Kiera and Edwin Farmby, and other family members in attendance at Friday's kindergarten graduation at Oakhill Elementary School in Streamwood.

Zariah, 6, of Streamwood, received her bicycle in honor of the Month of the Military Child, which recognizes the sacrifices a child makes in military families.

In all, 100 kindergarten through third-grade students at random elementary schools throughout the area are being surprised with new bikes.

Edwin Farmby has been in the Navy for nine years, with stops in Japan and San Diego. He is now assigned to Naval Station Great Lakes.

In April, nearly 3,000 student athletes from the city and suburbs donated \$1 apiece to buy 100 children's bikes and build them to surprise military children.



Elgin High School soccer players talk with Zariah Farmby, a kindergartner at Oakhill Elementary School in Streamwood, after making her a new bike and presenting it Friday. Her father, Edwin Farmby, right, is currently assigned to Naval Station Great Lakes.



Zariah Farmby gives her dad, Edwin, a hug after she was surprised with a new bike Friday.

---The Courier-News---05/26/2019

Teen who lost both parents graduates

After almost dropping out, Carmona went to U46 DREAM Academy

By: Rafael Guerrero



Ivan Carmona is congratulated during his Friday graduation from School District U46's DREAM Academy. He received his diploma Saturday from Elgin High School.

Ivan Carmona almost dropped out of high school this year.

His father, his only parent in the 10 years since he lost his mother, died of cancer in August.

The toll it took on Carmona overwhelmed him. Negative thoughts crept into his mind, he said, and school was no longer a priority.

But he knew dropping out of high school was not what his parents would have wanted. And he achieved his goal, graduating Friday from School District U46's DREAM Academy alternative school program and Saturday from Elgin High School.

"I did everything I could to survive," Carmona, 17, said. "I was telling myself I had overcome a lot of pain. Dropping out of school made no sense."

He's proud of his accomplishment, he said. School District U46 educators and Kane County officials say Carmona's story of overcoming adversity to achieve a goal is one that should serve as inspiration to others.

Carmona was just 8 when his mother was shot and killed during a family trip to the Michoacan state in Mexico. The accidental death made Carmona grow up quickly, he said. He learned how to do errands, cook and take care of himself, he said.

Carmona stayed in Mexico, going to school and finding work to help as his family struggled financially, he said.

When he was 13, Carmona noticed his father was acting differently. He didn't look well, his daily activities and demeanor were "suspicious," he said.

Doctors diagnosed Carmona's father with cancer. The medical bills forced Carmona to return to the United States, where he stayed with relatives in Elgin and worked nearly full time at a local grocery store in order to send money to his family in Mexico.

In August, his father passed away.

"I wasn't doing so well. I was ready to drop out," he said. "I wasn't feeling good anymore."

His Elgin High School counselor recommended he transfer to the DREAM Academy for the last half of the school year. The DREAM Academy's smaller class sizes, one-on-one instruction and flexible class schedules could benefit Carmona as he dealt with the changes in his life, the counselor told him.

Karen Tobin, a teacher at the DREAM Academy, met Carmona in January. He slowly shared his personal story with her and the effects it had had on him.

He did not want an easy way out, Tobin said. He wanted to graduate from high school on time.

"He was bound and determined to get his diploma," Tobin said. "He wanted to be in school so, so bad."

She described Carmona as an "amazing young man" with an admirable work ethic. Educators at Elgin High followed his progress, Tobin said, and she shared Carmona's story with the Kane County Juvenile Justice Council, a group of county, schools and juvenile organization officials who collaborate to find ways to reduce juvenile delinquency and help at-risk students.

One of the council's efforts in the last few years has been to recognize Kane County students who overcome adversity to better themselves and their futures. The selected Carmona as the recipient of their 2019 Outstanding Student Award.

"It was very inspirational for me" to be recognized, Carmona said.

As the Outstanding Student Award winner, Carmona was given a \$1,000 scholarship to pursue a post-secondary education.

"At the end of the day, the purpose of our award was to show that despite these things and adversities that were negative, (teenagers) can still be successful and find ways to show their resiliency," said Julia Schick, coordinator of the Juvenile Justice Council.

"Ivan has been an exceptional student," DREAM Academy Principal Krystal Bush said. "We were honored to have him here and help him in this transition."

Carmona wants to become an auto mechanic, and said he hopes to enroll at Elgin Community College's automotive program this coming school year or the year after. His ultimate goal is to open his own auto body shop, he said.

"All those people who saw me struggling (over the years) could see me doing better" if he accomplishes his professional goals, he said.

At a ceremony Friday, Carmona was one of about 60 DREAM Academy students recognized for graduating this weekend at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates. He gave

the group's graduation speech, reminding everyone how hard many of them had worked to get to this point. He called a high school diploma "a tool" that would help them in their futures.

Carmona was proud to graduate because it proved he could overcome anything life threw at him, he said.

"I know that my mom and dad are looking down on me today and are proud of me," Carmona said. "Even though they cannot be with me today, they are still in my heart."

SPORTS

---Daily Herald---05/26/2019

Softball: Fremd rolls past South Elgin in regional final

By: Bill Esbrook

Fremd softball coach Josh Teschner says that his squad "tends to put a lot of pressure on teams."

That was never more evident than Saturday at the Vikings' Class 4A regional championship game on their home field in Palatine.

Playing an opportunistic style at every turn, the Vikings turned 2 hits in the first two innings into 5 runs against South Elgin.

Fremd added on from there in posting a 9-1 regional title win, as sophomore Grace Hiller threw a complete game to improve to 10-2 on the season.

"She's had a great year," said Teschner of Hiller. "Grace is just a dynamic kid."

The Vikings (21-8) will take on St. Charles East on Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Glenbard West sectional semifinals.

Kalyn McCarthy was on base four times for the Vikings (2 hits and 2 walks) and scored 4 runs, while Cara Cruthers doubled for South Elgin, 1 of only 3 hits by the Storm (26-7).

McKenna Eicholz and Samantha Jimenez had the other base knocks for South Elgin.

"We didn't adjust very well today," said South Elgin coach Brad Reynard, "but kudos to Fremd. They made us pay every time (we made a mistake). It just wasn't our day."

Fremd parlayed 2 walks and a hit batsman into 3 first-inning runs on RBI from Reagan Goluch (2-run single) and McKenna Schneider.

Two more runs followed for the Vikings in the second, then Fremd made it 6-0 in the fourth on a sacrifice fly from Kelsey Brauer.

South Elgin's best chance came in the bottom of the fourth. The Storm scored a run (RBI single by Jimenez) and had the bases loaded with no one out.

But Hiller then slammed the door on the Storm with a strikeout and a 1-2-3 double play.

"At that point I wanted to get the outs because we had the lead," said Hiller. "If I just hit my spots and let my team play defense, I knew we were going to do it."

"We had an opportunity," said Reynard, "but hats off to their pitcher. She kept us off balance and got the big strikeout when she needed to."

Fremd tacked on 3 more runs in the fifth as McCarthy, Brauer, and Calista DiVito all knocked in runs.

Brauer had 3 hits for the Vikings, 2 singles and a double, while Goluch was on base three times for the Vikes.

"We knew at the beginning of the year," said Teschner, "being a young team, that it would take boundless effort (to be successful) and the girls responded, every single one of them. They've played at a very high level all season long."

---Daily Herald---05/25/2019

Boys lacrosse: Neuqua Valley handles South Elgin for sectional crown

By Jared Birchfield

Neuqua Valley faced a big challenge Friday in the Geneva sectional title game -- how to stop high-scoring South Elgin.

Going into the contest, the Storm averaged 16 goals per game. They had been held to single digits only once, in their only regular season loss.

Aggressive play from the opening faceoff and effective ball control by Neuqua Valley stifled South Elgin's offense and earned the Wildcats a 14-3 win and the sectional crown.

Neuqua Valley (16-3) advances to Tuesday's Hoffman Estates Supersectional where it will battle Barrington for a state berth.

"South Elgin is a great offensive team. They have a lot of high powered guys and they excel in transition, so the game plan was to shut down their transition," said Neuqua Valley coach Josh Maluta. "It started with our faceoffs. Eddied McDonald won almost all of the possessions for us which was crucial and then we used the strategy of getting longer possessions to wear out their defenders."

"Honestly it's breath taking. A crushing defeat like this one after the season we had and the games that we played and the type of scores that we have seen, it's just something we are not use to," South Elgin assistant coach Austin King said.

The Wildcats jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the first quarter.

"They are not like any team we have seen before. They came out very aggressive -- something we aren't use to," said South Elgin's Pat Noworol. "They are a good team, hands down. We just couldn't do anything to stop them."

South Elgin, a co-op team with players from South Elgin, Elgin and Larkin, finally got on the board in the second period on goals by Lucas Baer and Jack Baer.

Neuqua Valley held an 8-2 advantage at halftime.

"We were a little lackadaisical on defense at the start -- not watching where we are supposed to be watching and just got caught," King said. "A slow start and they just kept rolling with it."

Play in the third quarter typified Neuqua Valley's strategy. The Wildcats controlled the game for the first seven and a half minutes of the period. Neuqua Valley won the opening faceoff and went up 9-2 at the 10:46 mark of the period on Caiden Perry's fourth goal of the game.

The Wildcats retained control of the ball after the score and extended its lead halfway through the period on a goal by Dan Curtis, his fourth of evening. Neuqua Valley won the ensuing faceoff and after working another three minutes off the clock, stuck again on a shot by Matt Quinn.

South Elgin (18-2) finally got control of the ball but could not convert. Two shots on goal were stopped and a third one went wide left. With 1:30 left in the quarter, Curtis tallied his fifth goal putting Neuqua Valley up 12-2 to start the fourth quarter.

"We really kept the ball out their hands which is their strength and that really helped us excel and put more goals in the net," Maluta said. "We also have a deeper bench than them and I think it showed with the humidity out here. We were able to keep guys fresher and they got tired as the game went on."

"This entire week we have been game planning, looking at their strengths and how we could exploit them," said Curtis. "We got out early and stayed hot."

Neuqua Valley added two more goals in the fourth quarter on strikes by Ben Foy and Quinn. Cade Newton scored for South Elgin.