

Press Clippings 08/31/19 to 09/03/19

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There are no U-46 related news stories.

---Daily Herald---09/02/2019

Suburban school administrators bracing for legal marijuana's impacts

By: Marie Wilson



Elgin Unit District U-46 CEO Tony Sanders says school districts need to be prepared for the ways legal marijuana use by adults could affect employment policies, impairment testing and federal funding, among other issues.



Elgin Unit District U-46 and other suburban school district administrators are grappling with the complications of recreational marijuana use becoming legal Jan. 1.

Students won't be allowed to use marijuana when adult recreational use begins Jan. 1, but school leaders anticipate legalization bringing a cascade of effects in the educational realm.

The need for prevention education will increase. The difficulty of determining intoxication among students and staff members will rise. The use restrictions imposed on employees will need clarification. And the regulations that come with federal funding could create conflicts.

These are the chief concerns raised by educational leaders across the suburbs as they start a school year during which recreational marijuana use by adults 21 and older is set to begin under the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act.

Elgin Unit District U-46 CEO Tony Sanders raised many of these points in a paper he wrote for a doctoral degree he is pursuing from Aurora University. He advises vigilance to prevent increased marijuana prevalence.

"Students already have access, somehow, to illegal marijuana," Sanders said. "I think this (law) makes it more open for students to gain access to marijuana, and I do worry about that."

Vigilance against marijuana in schools could mean posting signs to remind the public of smoke-free and drug-free regulations, which U-46 plans to do, Sanders said. Or it could mean using health class lessons to emphasize the negative implications of marijuana use by teens, which is in the plans for Glenbard High School District 87, among others.

Whatever districts do to prepare for adult marijuana use, they should work to create a "culture of nonuse" among students, said Cristina Cortesi, substance abuse prevention coordinator at Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire.

"Unfortunately, when a substance is legalized, it creates greater accessibility and it creates greater norms of use," Cortesi said. "When policy is not in our favor in terms of preventing substance abuse, it's just a harder road ahead."

Teaching prevention

With health classes focused on positive lifestyle choices at Glenbard North, East, South and West high schools, District 87 will use these lessons to educate 8,100 students on the potential consequences of marijuana use, which Superintendent David Larson said will not change when the drug becomes legal for adults.

"We will continue to present data and review the negative side effects, the negative implications of marijuana addiction -- memory loss, social anxiety disorders, heart and lung damage," Larson said. "We're not going to be bashful."

The district also plans to use its Glenbard Parent Series to build "awareness and caution" of the various ways marijuana can be consumed, including through the use of increasingly popular e-cigarettes or "vaping" devices.

"We work really hard with parents being the first line of prevention intervention," Larson said.

Impairment checks

Legalization creates at least three hurdles with determining whether a student or staff member is under the influence of marijuana while at school, officials say.

There's the fact there is no equivalent of the alcohol-impairment testing ability of the Breathalyzer for marijuana.

There's the fact school employees, other than bus drivers, must be proven to be intoxicated in order for discipline or termination to be possible, U-46's Sanders said.

"How do you take action against somebody," he said, " ... if you have no way of proving that they are actually, currently, under the influence of cannabis?"

And then there's the issue of smell.

Whether a student smells like cannabis is one factor Stevenson deans and nurses use when investigating suspected cases of intoxication. Officials also check blood pressure and speech and look for sweating, tremors, dilation or constriction of pupils, stumbling or decreased ability to walk.

But once the drug is legal to be used by adults -- including parents -- in their private homes, the smell test won't be as reliable, Cortesi said.

She gave the example of laundry. Say a parent legally uses cannabis near a student's clean clothes. The student wears those clothes to school and smells like the drug.

"I think it will be more difficult to determine if a student is under the influence," she said.

Employment rules

Federal transportation code prohibits school bus drivers from using cannabis.

"As such, a positive drug test for an employee who drives a school bus would be grounds for action," Sanders wrote in his paper.

But for other employees, drug testing is more complicated, since a positive result for marijuana could indicate use that took place legally.

"The ability to take action against an employee would require a better system of testing to determine if an individual had utilized cannabis within the past 24 hours," Sanders wrote.

Whether districts continue or discontinue marijuana testing, Sanders said, he advises leaders to consult with their attorneys and update their employee handbooks so everything is clear.

Federal funding

The average school district receives roughly 10% of its annual budget from federal funds, Sanders said. Securing those funds requires following federal law, including the U.S. Drug Free Schools and Communities Act.

It requires policies to "clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities."

That's generally not a problem, but the legality of adult cannabis use in Illinois contradicts the drug's illegal status as a Schedule 1 narcotic at the nationwide level.

One way school districts could run afoul of the federal prohibition relates not so much to K-12 education but to community colleges.

Up to eight community colleges in the state can receive licenses to participate in a Cannabis Vocational Training Pilot Program created under the new law. Oakton Community College in Des Plaines, for one, said it plans to participate by offering a cannabis dispensary and patient care specialist certificate.

Some districts allow students to pursue dual credits from community colleges while still in high school. So if a high school were to allow its students to take courses toward a cannabis certificate, Sanders said, it could risk compliance with federal law.

"Absolutely there is a risk of losing federal funding," he said. "I don't believe the (President Donald) Trump administration has withheld funding from any school district for not providing a safe and drug-free work environment, but they certainly have the authority to do so."

Letting students pursue dual credit in a cannabis program, therefore, is not worth it, he said. "I would never put our district funds at risk by providing that opportunity."

---The Courier-News---09/01/2019

Teachers from Spain help in bilingual classes

Partnership helps U46, D300 and other districts fill educator vacancies

By: Rafael Guerrero



School District 300 is among several districts in Illinois that have hired bilingual teachers from Spain over the past two decades as part of a cultural exchange program between the state and the European country.

More than 130 new teachers from Spain will work in bilingual classrooms throughout the state this school year as part of a longstanding cultural exchange program with the Illinois State Board of Education.

The partnership is one School District U46, D300, East Aurora, and other school districts have benefited from over the years, helping fill bilingual educator vacancies while also introducing Spanish culture into their classrooms and schools. Elgin-area U46 welcomed eight teachers from Spain this school year, up from four last year. The district has participated in the cultural exchange program since it was first created in

1997. The program is administered by the Illinois State Board of Education and is a partnership with the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain.

“Bilingual educators play a critical role in preparing our increasingly diverse and multilingual students to thrive in college and career,” state Superintendent Carmen Ayala said in a statement.

The teachers come to U46 on three-year work visas with an option to renew the visas for another two years, said Ann Chan, U46’s human resources assistant superintendent. The teachers can be found at both the elementary and secondary grade levels.

“Our students benefit from it; our teachers benefit from it, too,” she said. “Anytime we have a chance to introduce the next level of a language or cultural immersion, it’s beneficial to everyone.”

School District 300 also received eight new teachers from Spain this school year, bumping up the district’s teachers from Spain to 21, said Superintendent Fred Heid. Most of the teachers are in their elementary schools, he said.

Heid credits human resources director Eberto Mora with making their transition to the district and American culture simpler. Mora will meet them at the airport, coordinate meetings with realtors and auto dealers to figure out necessities, Heid said. For some of these teachers, it may be their first time living or experiencing the American suburbs, looking for apartments or cars, or depending on their English skills.

“They do become part of our school cultures, but it takes some work,” Heid said.

East Aurora did not hire teachers from Spain for this school year, but they have a dozen teachers employed in their schools that were hired in previous years. Assistant superintendent of operations Steve Megazzini said the teachers underwent the same new teacher orientations and workshops other hires went through.

Like other districts, the program assists East Aurora in filling vacancies in bilingual classrooms, said Megazzini. According to ISBE, unfilled bilingual educator positions make up approximately 12% of the teacher job vacancies in the state.

Megazzini said local recruiting and recruiting in states with large Spanish-speaking populations does not generate enough candidates to satisfy their needs.

“Anytime we can hire someone to a teacher position, it addresses the teacher shortage,” added Chan.

ISBE vets the prospective teachers months before school districts interview them in Spain or via video conference. Spokesman Max Weiss said the Ministry of Education in Madrid first selects candidates who meet the requirements to participate in the program, such as having at least two years of teaching experience. ISBE representatives assess the candidates’ English proficiency, as well as technology skills, classroom management potential, cross-cultural skills, and more.

Because the program is described as a cultural exchange, the teachers must also incorporate Spanish culture into their respective schools. At U46, some of these educators have introduced flamenco dance clubs, shared recipes from back home, started book clubs, and purchased tourism books for the children, said Annette Acevedo, the district's English language learners program director.

The teachers from Spain will meet up with each other to hang out or travel or simply work together, she said.

"They often form a close bond with each other, too," Acevedo said.

---Daily Herald---09/01/2019

How LGBTQ history will be taught in public schools

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy



History teacher Leslie Schock teaches a lesson in her Advanced Placement history class at Palatine High School Friday. Schock has been teaching LGBTQ history as part of the AP curriculum for several years ahead of a new state law mandating it for all Illinois public schools.



"The kids don't really question why it's important to them," Palatine High School AP history teacher Leslie Schock says about LGBTQ issues. "For the most part, throughout their entire childhood, gay marriage has been legalized."



Palatine High School AP history teacher Leslie Schock has included LGBTQ issues as part of her curriculum for several years. A new state law mandating teaching LGBTQ history in public schools goes into effect next July 1.



History teacher Leslie Schock leads students in her Advanced Placement class at Palatine High School. Schock has been teaching LGBTQ history as part of the AP curriculum for several years now ahead of new state law mandating it for all Illinois public schools.



A new Illinois law requiring schools to highlight the contributions of LGBTQ people to American history and culture is going to change the way history is taught in schools.

What do Walt Whitman, Jane Addams, Harvey Milk, Sally Ride and Rock Hudson have in common? They were trailblazers and pioneers in their respective fields. They also were gay.

The latter distinction often warrants little if no mention in school history books.

That's about to change across Illinois classrooms as educators begin to implement a new [law](#) requiring public schools to highlight the roles and contributions of lesbian, gay,

bisexual, transgender and queer people in American history and culture. The law goes into effect next July 1.

The law does not establish a specific curriculum for acknowledging LGBTQ issues. Aside from acknowledging that certain historical figures were gay, teachers likely will begin weaving stories of LGBTQ personalities and events highlighting the community's civil rights struggles into lesson plans, advocates say.

Leslie Schock, who teaches Advanced Placement U.S. and world history at Palatine High School, is ahead of the curve in incorporating LGBTQ history in her classroom. She said the College Board revised its AP history curriculum, which students take during sophomore and junior year, with such material several years ago.

Schock teaches about the 1969 Stonewall riots for LGBTQ rights in New York City, feminism, and Latino and American Indian rights movements as part of the description of social movements of the 1960s and 1970s. She spends a class period on each topic.

She also talks about Harvey Milk, the first openly gay elected official in California's history. Milk was assassinated in 1978 and his killer's "infamous Twinkie defense" -- whereby the defense argued that Milk's killer's consumption of Twinkies reflected the depth of a depression that was behind his actions -- catches students' attention, she said.

Schock said she has never gotten pushback from the school's administration, parents or students about the curriculum.

"We have an incredibly diverse student body, which leads to more inclusiveness and tolerance," she said. "The kids don't really question why it's important to them. For the most part, throughout their entire childhood, gay marriage has been legalized."

The new law requires textbooks purchased through the state's textbook block grant program to be nondiscriminatory and include "the roles and contributions of all people protected under the Illinois Human Rights Act," which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation and other factors.

Beyond that, implementation of the law is left up to school districts.

Equality Illinois, the Legacy Project and the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance, which collectively advocated for LGBTQ history inclusion in school curricula, are working with the Illinois State Board of Education on curricular resources for teachers available through the [Legacy Project](#).

"We don't have to create content," said Michael Ziri, Equality Illinois director of public policy. "The Legacy Project Education Initiative already has lesson plans and high-quality content that can be used to share these stories about personalities and events."

State Rep. Anna Moeller, an Elgin Democrat, was the legislation's lead House sponsor. The goal, she said, is to be more comprehensive and not teach only "one certain majority perspective that is always presented."

Advocates of the law say it's time the LGBTQ community was recognized as being a valued part of the American mosaic and included in history lessons just as other marginalized groups -- blacks, women, Latinos, Asian-Americans and people with disabilities -- have been over time.

State Rep. Sam Yingling, a gay Round Lake Beach Democrat, praises the law for the latitude it provides educators to determine what to teach.

"Until recent history, the LGBTQ community was heavily discriminated against and viewed as being societal outliers," Yingling said. "It's important that today's youth recognize that LGBTQ individuals have contributed an enormous amount to our society and history as a whole."

Illinois joins California, Colorado, Maryland, New Jersey and Oregon in adopting the teaching of LGBTQ history in schools.

---Daily Herald---08/31/2019

Memorial services set for U-46 administrator

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy



Ron Raglin

Memorial services for Elgin Area School District U-46 administrator Ronald Raglin, who died Monday, Aug. 26, have been set.

Raglin, 58, died of a heart attack from complications after surgery on Aug. 23 at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

Visitation will be from 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday in the chapel at Willow Creek Community Church, 67 Algonquin Road, South Barrington.

A funeral service will start at 10 a.m. Monday at the Elgin High School Chesbrough Field House, 1200 Maroon Drive.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the U-46 Educational Foundation, 355 E. Chicago St. Elgin, IL 60120.

Raglin grew up on Chicago's South Side and graduated in 1979 from Martin Luther King Jr. High School, where he played basketball. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1984 from Sterling College in Kansas, where he met his wife, Tena.

Raglin spent 35 years in public education: teaching and coaching in California, working 10 years as an administrator for Chicago Public Schools, and serving seven years as U-46's assistant superintendent of educational support programs and alignment and AVID program director.

He received the city of Elgin's 2019 Dr. King Humanitarian Award.

Raglin was a passionate advocate for justice and equity for students. He was a lay pastor and member of Willow Creek Community Church, where previously he served as a church deacon and elder, and was active in many community organizations.

He was preceded in death by parents, Jeanette Raglin and Clarence Williams. Raglin is survived by his wife, Tena, two children, Matthew and Marissa, three grandchildren, two sisters, Jennifer Sturden and Yvonne Saks, and a brother, Alvin Raglin.

SPORTS

---Daily Herald---09/01/2019

Girls volleyball: Bartlett sweeps its way to U-46 title

By: Jared Birchfield

While Bartlett swept its way to the championship of Saturday's U-46 Volleyball tournament, Streamwood had to hold off a feisty Elgin Academy squad in its last game to take second place.

The Hawks won all four of their games in the round-robin tournament in two sets.

Bartlett coach Robert Schwantz was impressed with the play of newcomer Bria Lomax and the return of Dakota Johnson. The senior is back after ACL surgery.

"Lomax, our middle, was amazing," Schwantz said. "And Dakota Johnson looked really good."

Lomax liked her team's chemistry.

"We played really well, I was proud of us," said the freshman. "As a team, we just jelled really well together."

Dominating the tournament allowed Schwantz to give all his players court time.

"Winning it all was number one but I also wanted to get everybody in. I wanted to see everybody as much as I could," said Schwantz. "Some of the matches started to get a little close so I couldn't get people in as much, but we do have a pretty solid group of backups."

Bartlett raised its overall record to 5-0.

Elgin Academy, fresh off its first tournament win -- a three-set victory over Elgin -- won the opener against the host Sabres. Streamwood then rallied to take the next two sets to win the game and secure second place.

"We looked a little tired. We came out strong against Larkin after our lunch break. They had a lot of spunk and energy. We wavered just a little bit in our first game against Elgin Academy," Streamwood coach Shelly Mueller said. "Then they turned it around. (After the first set) we talked about their energy and consistency and they came out strong in the second two."

The Sabres went 3-1 in the tournament to raise their overall record to 3-4.

The tournament was the first time the Hilltoppers (1-3) played this season.

"Our goal was to come out here and be respectable and I was really proud of the girls because they were in every single match," said Elgin Academy assistant coach Deborah Maursich. "They gave a battle and there weren't any big sweeps."

Larkin, which scored the most points (19) on Bartlett, finished third. The Royals (2-4) won their first two matches, already surpassing the total number of victories for the last two years, and dropped the last two.

"The two matches that they won is more than they won in the last two years so I'm happy with today, 100 percent," first-year coach Mattie Boyd said. "In the first two matches I was pleased with how they played together as a team and had a ton of energy. That's what I am looking for."

Although Elgin (0-5) was winless in the tournament, coach Amy Zapata liked what she saw on the court. The Maroons graduated all of last year's starting lineup.

"This is a brand new team to varsity. This tournament was all about them learning the pace and the flow of the game," Zapata said. "Kimberly Aguirre, our setter, did a good job of getting the balls mixed up in different places. Deiria Myles stepped into a couple different spots trying different things. She was middle, she went outside. She's really becoming a versatile player."

---Daily Herald---08/31/2019

Bartlett handles East Aurora

By: Jared Birchfield

Bartlett dominated on both sides of the ball in its 43-8 season home opener against East Aurora Friday night.

The Hawks rolled up a total of 417 yards on offense while limiting the Tomcats to 161 in the Upstate Eight Conference game.

Led by Tyler Rivelli's 161 yards on eight carries, Bartlett gained 295 yards on the ground. Junior quarterback Michael Priami completed 12 of 17 passes for 122 yards.

"We were pretty on point in all phases of the game. Every (goal) that we stressed tonight, we achieved," said Bartlett coach Matt Erlenbaugh. "Offensively we were moving the football; we were able to control the tempo of the game. Defensively we were making big plays, big tackles. We were hitting hard tonight, that's for sure."

Bartlett opened its scoring with 8:12 left in the first quarter when Priami swept two yards to the left for a touchdown.

Rivelli made it 14-0 Hawks at the 10:07 mark of the second quarter after scampering 40 yards down the right sideline to cross the goal line.

A 2-yard pass from Priami to Hayden Angell in the right corner of the end zone with three minutes left in the half put the Hawks up 22-0 at the intermission.

The Hawks had several scoring opportunities in the first 16 minutes stymied by penalties.

"We had some guys playing a varsity football game for the first time so they got a little antsy," Erlenbaugh said. "But we were able to keep under control."

Bartlett broke the game open in the third quarter.

On the first play from scrimmage in the second half, the Hawks widened their lead to 29-0 when Rivelli ran for 70 yards for a TD.

Jordan Snyder (51 yards on seven carries) scored on the Hawks' next possession on a 13-yard run. The senior scored again on Bartlett's third series in the half, scoring on a 1-yard run to put the Hawks up 43-0 at the end of the period.

Snyder also prevented a Tomcat score in the second quarter. Sebastian Renteria broke loose for a 47-yard run before being brought down by Snyder's ankle tackle at the Hawks' 21-yard line.

East Aurora got on the board in the fourth quarter on a 1-yard plunge by Sebastian Garcia.

"They are a very good program from the coaching staff down to their young men. They executed very well tonight," East Aurora coach Nick Kukuc said. "They did their job more than we did ours."

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South Elgin shuts out West Chicago

By: Dave Oberhelman

South Elgin couldn't have asked for a better start to its 2019 football season.

Davion Cherwin's 37-yard touchdown run on the third play from scrimmage kick-started nine first-half Storm scores, leading to a running clock all of the second half.

In an Upstate Eight Conference opener at West Chicago, nine South Elgin players scored to beat the Wildcats 65-0. Andrew Bucaro added a field goal and Anthony Cirrincione recorded a safety making a tackle in the end zone.

"I'll be honest with you, I didn't see this coming. You can't really predict an outcome like this, no one saw this coming. I thought we were fast and physical," said Storm coach Dragan Teonic, able to unload his bench and give reps not only to starting quarterback Ben Karpowicz but also to Eron Mahmudi and Payton Dennis.

A sophomore in his first varsity start, Karpowicz used a 61-yard pass to Cristopher Mejia-Gomez to set up a 5-yard scoring strike to Calin Gurau. Karpowicz also ran for touchdowns of 9 and 26 yards.

"Obviously, we have like 10 returning starters from last year, so we really just fit in nicely," Karpowicz said. "Everyone knows their job, it all just clicks together. It's not really hard to fit in with them."

Protection and blocking by Calvin Harvey, Michael Roath, Sam Minnifield, Jacob Cooper and Vincent Tringali was strong.

"As a lineman corps we've really come together and we've really jelled, and we have that friendship. And that friendship has turned into the monstrosity that we have up front -- the front five and when we add our tight end, that front six," said senior Andy Koch, a tight end who also impacted on defense. "So us really working together, the way that we've jelled has showed onto the field, and obviously the scoreboard shows."

Mahmudi hit Mejia-Gomez for a 29-yard touchdown pass that with Bucaro's kick made the score 46-0 with 7:55 left in the second quarter. Corve King's second touchdown run and Bucaro's 21-yard field goal brought the halftime score to 56-0.

Alex Noworol scored on an early 16-yard run and Christian Mastropieri concluded the scoring on a 13-yard touchdown run. Cherwin and Marquis Gillespie each intercepted passes, and the Storm allowed West Chicago minus-10 yards rushing and 4 first downs.

West Chicago senior quarterback Luke Krogh completed passes to five receivers for 89 yards.

"Our quarterback, Luke Krogh, made a lot of good decisions and actually threw quite a few good balls. But we've got to execute better from everybody else," said Wildcats coach Tyler Belding.

"We have good players on our line, and next week they're going to play a lot better," he said. "So I'm kind of just excited to move forward, because it's just one game. They can score 100 points, it's still just one game."

Glenbard South makes stop against Streamwood

By: Orrin Schwarz

You'd be hard-pressed to find anybody at Glenbard South on Friday night that had seen anyone do what Streamwood did.

The Sabres took the opening kickoff and held the ball for the first 14 minutes, going 85 yards on 23 plays -- all on the ground, a drive that ended with a Sirrion Dixon touchdown run.

"It was something I've never experienced," Raiders coach Ryan Crissey said. "They scored with what, 9:50 (left in) the second quarter? ... We knew exactly what they were going to do, they just won the line of scrimmage for a majority of the game."

It wasn't long enough.

Glenbard South bounced back for a 13-6 Upstate Eight Conference victory in Glen Ellyn on the strength of two Cade Hardtke touchdown catches from quarterback Nick Plaso, the first just one second before halftime.

"That was huge," said Raiders junior linebacker Jeremy Gelino of the late second-quarter TD. "That just helped our defense so much and helped the whole team. The defense couldn't have done any of that the rest of the game had the offense not do that. We were so thankful for that."

The Raiders' second touchdown proved to be the game-winner, a 46-yard pass down the right sideline that Hardtke caught even as it somehow eluded a Sabres defender running right in front of him.

"Cade was begging for that play for a quarter and a half," Crissey said. "And we were just waiting. We were just waiting to see the corners keep coming up, keep coming up. And once Nick started rolling out we knew it was there. It was beautiful."

Streamwood (0-1, 0-1) ended the game with a 22-play drive -- again all running plays -- that took the Sabres from their own 15-yard line to Glenbard South's 13, with quarterback Andrew Phan converting a fourth-and-7 along the way. But on fourth-and-5 at the 13 Gelino tackled Phan to end the drive and allow the Raiders to run out the clock.

"Me and my teammates decided we saw him pull the play before," Gelino said. "They called a timeout. We knew he was pulling again because that's all he did the whole game and we read it perfectly. All of us got there, and I was just the lucky man to get (the tackle)."

"We were pretty confident we were going to be able to do that again," Streamwood coach Don Guindon said. "We were probably going to go for 2 to try to win the game there in the last 30 seconds. The kids, they battled. We got the one fourth down, we didn't get the second one, and sometimes when you're playing good teams, and they're a playoff team from a year ago, when you're playing good teams, sometimes it comes down to that. I'm so proud of our kids."

Glenbard East survives scare from Elgin

By: Allen Oshinski

Glenbard East isn't ready to give up its Upstate Eight title just yet.

The Rams have a lot of new faces, having graduated a lot of starters from the team that went a perfect 9-0 in the regular season last year. But the Rams were able to make plays when they had to and held off Elgin, 27-24, in the season opener at Memorial Field.

Christopher Whitehead scored twice for Glenbard East and O.J. Miles scored the clincher after Elgin got within 2 in the fourth quarter.

Xavier Bonds accounted for 166 yards from scrimmage and scored 4 touchdowns for the Maroons.

Down just 2, the Maroons drove to the Rams' 27-yard line with a chance to take the lead. But a botched shotgun snap put Elgin in fourth and long and Jeffery Lomax's pass on fourth down fell incomplete.

On the next play, Miles broke loose for 55 yards to the Elgin 14. Three plays later, he plowed over from the 1. The extra point made it 27-18.

The Maroons still weren't through, as Giovoni Griffin hit Bonds on a 40-yarder on fourth-and-10 to make it 27-24 with 3 minutes left.

But Elgin never got the ball back as the Rams were able to run out the clock.

"It's the first game of the year with a lot of guys who quite honestly don't have a ton of varsity experience," said Glenbard East coach John Walters. "And we got our feet wet tonight. Elgin was awesome. I thought they played a great game, they've got some athletes."

Miles finished with 114 yards rushing and Whitehead added 92. Connor Cerkas completed 9 of 13 for 142 yards, with 6 of the completions going to Deon Cook.

The teams were flagged for a combined 190 penalty yards.

Elgin, which had a couple of dropped passes and botched snaps, lamented the missed opportunities.

"We wanted to win," said Maroons coach Anthony Mason. "We thought we could have won. We just had some mistakes, some missed execution things. We dropped some passes here and there, and it just can't happen like that."

Still, it was a great night for Bonds, who hauled in a 67-yard scoring pass from Lomax on the Maroons' third play from scrimmage. He scooped up a fumbled kickoff return and raced in for a score just before halftime, and also scored on a 4-yard run.

"It was great, but it would have felt better if we'd have gotten the victory," said Bonds. "It was really, mainly our linemen. They stepped up tonight."

Bonds finished with 162 receiving yards on 7 catches.

Fenton opens play in new conference with shutout of Larkin

By: Gregg Voss If you're joining a new conference, why not make a statement?

That was Fenton's goal Friday in its first Upstate Eight matchup, against visiting Larkin.

Consider that objective achieved.

The Bison were uber-balanced on offense, rushing for 209 yards and passing for another 206, en route to a 33-0 win.

"A lot of people don't know our school," said senior receiver Ethan Queyquep, who caught 8 passes for 115 yards and a touchdown, along with a 2-point conversion catch. "We're trying to get our name out and show that we're contenders for conference."

It's true Queyquep had a solid night, but even more damaging was senior running back Andre Bess, who rushed for 130 yards on 23 carries and 4 touchdowns. He also had an interception on defense.

"I was just following the coaches' game plan, that's all I was doing," Bess said. "It was just putting what we were doing on the practice field into the game. It all came together."

And how. Fenton won the coin toss to start the game and deferred. Good decision on the part of coach Matthew Lynch, as Larkin only got as far as its own 38 in its initial drive. When the Bison got the ball back, it took only a shade over two minutes to score.

Bess finished off that 8-play drive that ate up 2:13 with an 11-yard touchdown run, and though the 2-point conversion failed, the Bison had already made a statement.

The next time Fenton touched the ball, it pulled together a 14-play, 80-yard drive that culminated in a 3-yard Bess scoring run. He added a 1-yard run with 29.1 seconds left in the half.

But Bess wasn't done. He intercepted a pass from Larkin sophomore quarterback Dontrell Maxie deep within Royals territory with 14 seconds left. Three plays later, Fenton junior quarterback Nickolas Benn rolled right and hit Queyquep for an 18-yard scoring pass that made the halftime score 26-0.

Benn went 18-for-21 passing for 206 yards and 1 touchdown.

"No matter what, every Friday night you have to line up and play football," Lynch said. "It's varsity football. There are no easy games anywhere, there are no easy teams. It's not about just conference, we have to be prepared to play no matter who we play, or where we play."

As for Larkin, it was a tough start to its 2019 campaign. The Royals were only able to muster 98 total yards, and were led in rushing by junior Kaydin Clark's 41 yards on 10 attempts. Senior receiver Kione Williams-Sowers added 29 yards on 4 catches.

But the closest Larkin got to scoring was a 31-yard field goal attempt early in the second quarter that flew under the crossbar.

"We've got a lot of guys who are improving, so we are going to keep concentrating on that," coach Matt Gehrig said. "Fenton has improved a great deal over the past couple of years and did a good job playing as a team tonight."