

Press Clippings 11/21/19

---Daily Herald---11/21/2019

Elgin Golden K Kiwanis gives donation to start 'Coat Closet' at local school

Submitted by: Elgin Golden K Kiwanis Club



Captain Xavier Montenegro, left, of the Elgin Salvation Army office, accepts a \$500 contribution from Kiwanian Tom Petersen at a recent meeting of the Elgin Golden K Kiwanis Club.

The Elgin Golden K Kiwanis Club welcomed Captain Xavier Montenegro of the Salvation Army Elgin Corps to a recent meeting. The club gave a \$500 contribution to establish a "Coat Closet" in an Elgin Area School District U-46 school in the name of the local Golden K Club.

The closets will provide winter coats to needy students and will be administered by the Salvation Army with recommendations from U-46 administrators.

The Salvation Army is looking for additional contributions from civic organizations in the area. Contact the Elgin Salvation Army at (847) 741-2304 for more information.

The Elgin Golden K Kiwanis Club meets every Wednesday morning in the lower level of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 357 Division St. in Elgin. The meetings begin at 9 a.m. and feature a special guest speaker each week. They always welcome new members who want to be involved in service to the Elgin community.

The Elgin Golden K Kiwanis club is a part of the International Kiwanis Club dedicated to "serving the children of the world."

Join them for a cup of coffee and a "half a doughnut" to begin your day.

For information on the club, visit www.elgingoldenk.org.

SPORTS

---Daily Herald---11/21/2019

Bartlett honors its beloved coach

By: Craig Brueske



Former Bartlett girls basketball head coach Brad Hunt was remembered with a brief memorial ceremony before a game against Fenton Wednesday. Hunt's children Madison and Brady were involved in pregame lineup announcements as well as a ceremonial tipoff in memory of their dad, who died suddenly in June. Here, varsity player Lexie Sinclair shares a moment with the kids.



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Sophomore guard Mackenzie Hare poured in a school-record 43 points to help lead Bartlett's girls basketball team to an 85-35 Upstate Eight Conference victory over Fenton Wednesday night in Bartlett.

However, that achievement was secondary to what the night meant for the Hawks (1-0), who were playing their first game since the sudden death of head coach Brad Hunt this past June.

"This was definitely for Coach Hunt and rest of the community," said Hare, who scored 31 of her points in the first half as the Hawks scorched the net for 60 points. "My teammates really helped me a lot on this one."

Teammates like junior guard Lexie Sinclair, who bobbed and weaved her way around Fenton's full-court pressure throughout, nearly recording a quadruple-double with 19 points, 9 assists, 8 rebounds and 7 steals in less than 3 quarters of playing time.

"She was right there and she will be," said Hawks coach Joe Eirich. "I looked up there (at the scoreboard) and saw she had 19 points for the game but she easily could have had 12-13 assists with some of the bunnies we missed.

"We rely so heavily on her -- she's got such a ridiculous basketball IQ."

Hare, who added 9 rebounds, 4 assists and 3 steals, scored 10 third-quarter points and returned briefly at the outset of the fourth quarter to knock down a pair of free throws and rewrite the school record books.

"Mackenzie had an incredible night," said Fenton coach Dave Mello.

Nikolina Maric led the Bison (1-1) with 8 points.

"They're a phenomenal team," Mello said of the Hawks. "For us to play against a team of their caliber, it's what we needed at this time. I have nine freshmen and sophomores and that's their first time playing against two Division I-caliber players with Lexie (Sinclair) and Mackenzie (Hare)."

Mello, who served two seasons as Bartlett's girls basketball head coach (2017-2019) with Hunt as his assistant, put the game in perspective.

"To us, the basketball was by far secondary to the whole evening," said Mello. "To see this outpouring of support for Brad is incredible. With us being in the conference, I'm happy that we were able to move it to today (from Jan. 20). We were more than happy to come here."

Bartlett led 29-8 after one quarter, with Hare and Sinclair combining for 27 points.

"We run this pace in practice every single day," said Eirich. "We don't necessarily run that style of offense but we run, run, run."

"We played 14 girls tonight. We got everybody in. Who can say that in their first game of the season?"

It was far from the usual season opener but a heartfelt one for both teams.

"Terrible circumstances," said Eirich, who served as an assistant coach to Hunt. "It's the worst way to be in the position I'm in. I worked with Brad for seven years. I loved him and I love his family. This was a great celebration for a great friend of mine."

"Tonight is about Brad," said Bartlett athletic director Jeff Bral. "It's about his family -- to let them know that this community loved him."

South Elgin shoots past Jacobs in opener

By: Dave Hess

Memo to South Elgin High opponents in 2019-2020. Defend the 3-point arc aggressively.

The Storm buried nine shots from 3-point range -- seven in the first half -- and opened the campaign with a 51-34 victory over Jacobs in first round action of the Dundee-Crown Thanksgiving tournament in Carpentersville Wednesday night.

"We are the smallest team in Class 4A so we are playing a lot of five-guard sets," said South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack. "The kids are really embracing the 3-point shot this season. We came out with a sense of urgency. I like our effort for a first game. You learn a lot from a first game. You take the good with the bad."

The Storm (1-0), 9-of-15 from 3-point land for 60 percent, were led by 4-year starter Megan McClure who connected on 4-of-5 from 3-point range in scoring 15 points. McClure scored the Storm's first 9 points as South Elgin jumped out to a 9-2 lead. The Storm never trailed in the game.

"Jacobs' defense sagged a little so I was able to get some open looks," said McClure. "My teammates did a great job of getting me the ball and I got a little lucky and made a few. It was good way to start the season. We work well together and help each other."

Mandernack appreciates McClure's veteran leadership.

"She is close to 1,000 points and she really kick-started us tonight with the 3s," said the South Elgin coach. "Megan gives us great leadership."

Aryanna Williams contributed 14 points and 4 assists for the winners. Caroline Croft collected two 3-pointers for 6 points and Haley Molidor and Ella Winterhalder also knocked down a trey for the Storm.

South Elgin, which led 31-19 at halftime, ensured there wouldn't be a comeback scoring the first 6 points of the second half to take a 37-19 advantage.

Jacobs (0-1), 2-of-4 from 3-point range for 50 percent, were led by sophomore MacKenzie Leahy with 13 points while Melissa Fessler chipped in with 9 points.

"I was really pleased that we came out with a great mindset and our girls gave a great effort," said Jacobs second-year coach Jon Reibel, "We played a much better first game of the season this year compared to last year. South Elgin is a very good team and is a tough team to open the season with. They really push the ball and shoot the 3 very well. I thought we did a better job in the second half defending the 3-pointer. We did a good job of running them off the line in the second half."