

Press Clippings 10/19/2021

---Daily Herald---10/19/2021

Symposium on poverty's effects on women and children

Tuesday

Daily Herald report

Local leaders and experts will be discussing the effects of poverty on women and its impact on the community, especially children, Tuesday in Elgin.

"Children in Poverty: Awareness and Advocacy" will be held at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 19 in the Meadows Community Rooms at Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N. Grove Ave.

Those who wish to attend can register at attend.gailborden.info/event/5571747.

Guest speakers include: Elgin Mayor David Kaptain, Pat Chamberlain, Steve Moon of the Grand Victoria Foundation, and Mitch Lifson and Tasha Green Cruzat of Children's Advocates For Change.

Panelists include: Nancy Coleman, Alignment Collaborative for Education; Lea Conrad, Gretchen S. Vapnar Community Crisis Center; Kristi Dahlquist, One Hope United; Deb Dempsey, Kane County Regional Office of Education; Corey Dixon, Elgin City Council; **Pilar Garcia, More at 4; Karla Jimenez, Elgin Area School District U-46**; Amber Peters, Elgin Partnership for Early Learning; India Smith, YWCA; Madeleine Villalobos, Digital Equity Coordinator, Gail Borden Public Library District; and Kris Young, YWCA.

Additional sponsors include the local branches of the American Association of University Women and League of Women Voters.

---Elgin Courier-News---10/19/2021

Worden up! Alyssa Worden gets crowd going with 10 kills as South Elgin holds off Burlington Central. 'It's just extremely exciting.'

By Paul Johnson for Aurora Beacon-News



South Elgin's Alyssa Worden passes the ball against Burlington Central during a match in South Elgin on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021. (Jon Langham / The Beacon-News)

Bringing energy just comes naturally for **South Elgin's Alyssa Worden**.

All eyes already are on the junior outside hitter thanks to her thunderous kills. When she puts one down, it gets her entire team and even the crowd going.

That was on full display Monday night during a 25-19, 26-24 nonconference win over Burlington Central. Worden led the way with 10 kills, getting the place fired up with each and every one of them.



South Elgin's Alyssa Worden delivers a kill against Burlington Central during a match in South Elgin on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021. (Jon Langham / The Beacon-News)

“Everyone gets so happy after a big point,” Worden said. ‘It’s just extremely exciting. It was our senior night so we kind of announced to the school, ‘Hey, come support us.’

“It’s super exciting and honestly it gets me hyped. It gets the whole team hyped. It creates momentum. (The crowd) was a big part of why we won.”

The Storm (29-4) led 12-10 when Worden put down a kill and implored the crowd to get up. That started a 7-2 spurt to seal the Game 1 win, with Worden putting away the final two kills.

“We knew we had to shut her down,” Burlington Central coach Samantha Mainzer said of Worden. “Unfortunately, our blocking, our timing, was off. We couldn’t figure her out. We knew she would be a key player in their success.”

South Elgin roared to an 8-0 lead in Game 2. The lead swelled to 18-11, but Burlington Central (19-11) came back from the brink.

Addison Nava had three of her team-high 12 kills as the Rockets fought all the way back to force a 24-24 tie. Worden’s kill and Loreal Wilson’s block finally ended it for South Elgin.



Burlington Central's Addison Nava (10) attacks the ball against South Elgin during a match in South Elgin on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021. (Jon Langham / The Beacon-News)

“We are a team that always battles,” Mainzer said. “We knew this was going to be a tough one. We saw them at a tournament and previously beat them.

“Not only with their senior night, but they were out for revenge. For us to be able to come back from that lead, I expect nothing less from my group of girls. We fight back regardless.”

Worden said she felt good about the way things were going despite the comeback effort by Burlington Central.

“Honestly, in my head I was like, ‘We’re going to win this game no matter what,’” Worden said. “It was a little concerning, but I was pretty confident we were going to win just by the energy we were providing. It’s definitely something we need to work on before regionals and sectionals.”

South Elgin coach Joni Plach was concerned about allowing the Rockets to rally with the postseason starting next week.



South Elgin's Maggie Shaner (12) reaches high to save a point against Burlington Central during a match in South Elgin on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021. (Jon Langham / The Beacon-News)

“We kind of let down a little bit,” Plach said. “Win or lose, we still have practice the next day. Next week, that’s not the case. We have to mentally prepare for some big matches. I knew, last week, here we go. The next two weeks it’s real volleyball.”

Maddy Shaner chipped in with six kills and two aces for South Elgin. Emma Hunter added 16 assists and 14 digs.

South Elgin’s 29th victory set a new program record for single-season wins. The Storm broke the previous record with 28 wins in 2019.

“We were really hyped about this game because they beat us the last time we played them,” Worden said. “It was a really great win for us.”