

Press Clippings for 9/02/2022

---The Courier News---

Sep. 02, 2022

U-46 to hold fairs to hire paraeducators, other positions

By: Mike Danahey

School District U-46 is holding job fairs to fill paraeducator positions from 2 to 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9, and for all job openings from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 10, at the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 E. Chicago St., Elgin.

Onsite interviews will be conducted. Applicants should bring their resumes and any relevant certifications. Fully licensed applicants may be offered jobs on the spot.

Paradeducator jobs start at \$16 per hour and include benefits. The district is also seeking qualified teachers, social workers, paraprofessionals, food service technicians, bus drivers and other employees.

For more information, email humanresources@u-46.org.

---abc 7---

Sep. 02, 2022

COVID-19 pandemic blamed for major drop in math, reading scores among 9-year-olds

By: John Garcia

ELGIN, Ill. (WLS) -- Experts are blaming the pandemic for a major drop in math and reading scores for 9-year-old students.

Results from what is known as the "Nation's Report Card" show the largest decline in reading since 1990, and the first-ever decline in math.

"We are seeing the impact of the pandemic and the impact of students being in isolation and experiencing collective trauma," said Dr. Carolyn Theard-Griggs, National Louis University.

According to a study by the National Center for Education Statistics released Thursday, test scores around the country during the pandemic dropped for the first time in at least three decades.

"This is a generational impact for this entire population of students," District U-46 Supt. Tony Sanders said.

The study found math scores dropped by an average of 7 points among 9-year-olds. In reading, they dropped by 5 points. Educators say those gaps are similar for students at all grade levels.

"I'm very concerned about these scores and I know we have the resources now and we need to maintain the same level of urgency we had two years ago to get our students back in, to making sure our students get support," U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona said.

Researchers found the drop in test scores even more dramatic among low-income and minority populations.

"We have amazing teachers that are doing amazing work to catch them up, but it's not gonna be made up in one or two years," Sanders said. "This is gonna take years to overcome the learning loss over the last couple years."

In District U-46, they say the pandemic not only put students behind academically, but socially as well. To address that, they've hired additional social workers and counselors in schools.

---The Daily Herald---

Sep. 02, 2022

Appeals court throws out 'legally inconsistent' verdicts in ex-teacher's case

By: Charles Keeshan and Susan Sarkauskas

A DuPage County jury last year convicted former Bartlett High School chemistry teacher Garry Brodersen of endangering the life or health of a child, deciding he knew harm was possible when he poured liquid nitrogen on a student's chest during a classroom demonstration.

The same jury at the same time also convicted Brodersen of reckless conduct, finding that while he may not have meant to put the student in danger, he ignored the risks of his experiment.

If those verdicts seem contradictory to you, you're not alone. A state appeals court reached the same conclusion last week, unanimously reversed Brodersen's convictions and sent his case back to DuPage County court for further proceedings.

The case stems from a science demonstration gone wrong in Brodersen's classroom on May 15, 2018.

According to trial testimony and cellphone video captured by students, Brodersen poured liquid nitrogen on the chest and groin area of a student who had volunteered to take part in the demonstration. The super-cold substance caused chemical burns to the teen's groin and a finger, requiring treatment at a hospital, authorities said.

Brodersen, of Carpentersville, resigned from his post and surrendered his teaching license in the wake of the incident, according to [Elgin Area School District U-46](#).

After a two-day trial and four hours of deliberations in March 2021, jurors found Brodersen guilty of the two misdemeanor charges. He later was sentenced to a year of court supervision and 20 hours community service.

That verdict, however, was a legal impossibility, the [Second District Appellate Court of Illinois](#) has ruled.

"When the jury returns multiple guilty verdicts on knowing and reckless offenses for the same conduct, the verdicts are legally inconsistent, and the defendant is entitled to a new trial," Justice Mary S. Schostok wrote. "Here, the defendant committed one act of pouring liquid nitrogen on (the student's) body. Based on this one act, the jury found the defendant guilty of both endangering the health of a child, which requires a knowing mental state, and reckless conduct, which requires that the actions be done with a reckless state of mind. As the

defendant's commission of the same act could not be both knowing and reckless, the jury's verdicts were legally inconsistent."

Messages seeking comment left at listed phone numbers for Brodersen were not returned.

The DuPage County State's Attorney's Office declined to comment on the ruling, but said it intends to retry the case.

Whatever happened to ...

[Elsewhere on dailyherald.com](#), you'll see an article Susan wrote about a worker at a Naperville child-care business charged with misdemeanor battery and endangering the health or life of a child, over allegations she mistreated three children.

Which got Susan thinking: What happened to the cases of three workers at a Downers Grove child-care facility who were charged with battery and child endangerment in 2019? Mariah Flemister, Maura Healy and Stephanie Radke were accused of force-feeding solid food to two infants (one only 7 months old) by holding their mouths closed and tilting their heads back as they cried. One was also charged with hitting a child in the face with a plastic plate.

On Aug. 19, Flemister pleaded guilty to endangering the health or life of a child. She was sentenced to 18 months of court supervision. DuPage County Judge Monique O'Toole denied prosecutors' request that she be barred from working in child care.

Healy was convicted of battery in November 2019, but found not guilty of child endangerment. She was sentenced to three months of court supervision by Judge Robert Miller.

And Stephanie Radke pleaded guilty to child endangerment in September 2021. She was given 18 months of court supervision, and Judge Paul Marchese barred her from child-care work.

Mosser joins firearms panel

Kane County State's Attorney Jamie Mosser has been appointed to a state commission that will come up with strategies to implement the Firearms Restraining Order Act.

The 2019 law allows relatives and police officers to request an emergency order to restrict a person's access to guns, if they believe that person poses a danger to themselves or others. A judge can grant a temporary restraining order lasting up to 14 days.

Mosser is one of five state's attorneys on the panel, which also includes police chiefs, sheriffs and public health officials.

"If we can implement a process to safely and fairly remove guns from people who pose a danger to themselves or to others, we create a safer community," Mosser said in an announcement of her appointment.

---The Daily Herald---

Sep. 02, 2022

Scouting Week 2 Fox area football games

By: Mike Miazga



Batavia's Ryan Whitwell carries the ball during the Bulldogs' win over Phillips at Gately Stadium in Chicago last Saturday. *Sandy Bressner/sbressner@shawmedia.com*

Glenbard East (1-0, 1-0) at **South Elgin** (1-0, 1-0)

When: Friday, 7 p.m.

Previous meeting: South Elgin 41, Glenbard East 7 (2021 at Glenbard East)

About the Rams: No time being wasted here with two of the top teams in the Upstate Eight battling it out. "This is always a big game for both teams," Rams coach John Walters said. "They have won the conference the last three years, including sharing with us in 2019. We have won it twice, including the share. It's a big heavyweight matchup for Week 2. For us, we get back-to-back playoff teams to start the season. This will be a real good test for us. To be successful we have to execute on both sides and be efficient. The game will come down to a battle in the trenches on both sides." Walters cited strong Week 1 play from Troy Cooper, Delmario Taylor and Dimitri Hritz.

About the Storm: "Glenbard East is big and strong at almost every position," **South Elgin** coach Dragan Teonic said. "They return a lot of experienced players and are coming off a big win." Teonic noted the Rams ran for 255 yards against **Larkin** and had 11 explosive plays. "Limiting that would go a long way toward being successful on Friday," he said. "As always, their defense is solid and disciplined. They pursue and hit well. We have to win the line of scrimmage and secure the football to play well." Teonic gave high marks to the play of senior linebacker Michael Tringali, junior quarterback Jake Sullivan, senior athlete Mason Montgomery and senior athlete Kyle Steinhofer in the Week 1 win against West Chicago.

West Chicago (0-1, 0-1) at **Bartlett** (1-0, 1-0)

When: Friday, 7 p.m.

Previous meeting: Bartlett 33, West Chicago 6 (2021 at West Chicago)

About the Wildcats: Wildcats coach Adam Chavez said several adjustments must be made coming out of Week 1 against **South Elgin** (51-0 loss). "We have to cut down on penalties and

protect the ball in order to have a chance to put us in a position to win," he said. Individually, Chavez liked how Ean Arizmendi played on the line. "Ean showed some flashes on the line for being a freshman in his first varsity action," he said.

About the Hawks: **Bartlett** was a close 14-10 winner over rival **Streamwood** in its season-opener. "Week 2 against Bartlett will be a physical contest," Chavez said. "They are a very physical team on both sides of the ball." **Bartlett** coach Milan Vuckovich said film from West Chicago's Week 1 game against **South Elgin** opened some eyes. "West Chicago showed some good things on film," he said. "They have good size up front and some dudes who can really run. Their kickoff return really stood out and showed how fast and athletic their team is. They have some very good skill position kids who can come downhill and make plays. We need to once again match their toughness up front with both our offensive and defensive lines and then do a good job containing their speed on defense." Vuckovich was impressed with **Bartlett's** defensive effort in Week 1 against **Streamwood**. "The stat that doesn't show up on the stat sheet is the lack of missed tackles," he said. "Our defense did a really good job corralling their running backs and slowing down the fast, tough and physical approach to their offense. Also, our quarterback (Matthew Teruel) and offensive line seemed to be on the same page this past week and that showed in Matthew's stat line, as well as our trio of running backs." Senior linebacker Juan Villa didn't start the game, but played nearly every snap on defense for the Hawks, "and proved he's going to be a big-time player for us this season," Vuckovich said. Senior running back/linebacker Malcolm Babers also stood out. "This young man is playing on both sides of the ball and playing extremely effectively," Vuckovich said. "He was one of our leaders on the inside of the defense, and when he got the opportunity to touch the ball, he ran hard and with purpose." Sophomore two-way lineman Sam Mancilla and junior tight end-defensive end Justin Ibegbulem also had good 2022 debuts. "What can I say about Sam?" Vuckovich asked. "Although he doesn't even have his driver's permit yet, he's been a man on the field and another one of our 'iron-man' type players, playing significant time on both the offensive and defensive lines. Justin is in only his second year of organized football. This kid continues to get better each day, as if that football light bulb has just gone off."

St. Edward (0-1) at Taylorville (0-1)

When: Saturday, 1 p.m.

Previous meeting: Taylorville 26, St. Edward 14 (2021 at St. Edward)

About the Green Wave: The Green Wave look to get back on track after a 49-14 loss to Platteville (Wisconsin), a team that was playing its second game of the season already. St. Edward coach Mike Rolando liked the way linebacker Chris Andrews played. He made 10 tackles in Week 1. "That was his first game starting at outside linebacker," Rolando pointed out. Junior Nolan Pomeroy received high marks for his play on both sides of the ball. "Nolan blocking on the line and playing middle linebacker, he played well on both sides," Rolando said. Senior Jason Garcia also had a strong game at defensive tackle and offensive tackle. "Jason played very well on both sides of the ball," Rolando added.

About the Tornados: "Taylorville beat us last year, but it was a pretty even game," Rolando said. "We are hoping we can establish a run game to set up our pass game." Taylorville, out of the Apollo Conference and with an enrollment more than double St. Edward, lost to Mt. Vernon 40-0 in Week 1.

Streamwood (0-1, 0-1) at **Larkin** (0-1, 0-1)

When: Friday, 7 p.m., Memorial Field, Elgin

Previous meeting: **Streamwood** 30, **Larkin** 19 (2021 at **Streamwood**)

About the **Sabres**: In addition to Jaiden Thomas running the ball 16 times for 116 yards against **Bartlett**, the **Sabres** received strong play from Christian Clark, Chris Marquez, Jaiden Rumble and Kyle Thompson. Clark had 3 solo tackles, 1 assist, 3 tackles for loss and sack and a safety. Marquez had 2 solos, 8 assisted tackles and 1 tackle for loss, while Rumble had 3 solos, 7 assists and 1 tackle for loss. Thompson finished with 4 solos and 6 assists.

About the **Royals**: The **Royals** opened the 2022 season with a 28-0 loss to Glenbard East. "Week 2 we play another opponent that was a playoff contender last season," **Streamwood**

coach Keith McMaster said. "They are talented and have skill all over the field. We'll need to pursue the ball defensively and clean some things up on offense."

To read the full article, [click here](#).