

## Press Clippings for 12/8/2022

### – Daily Herald –

#### Despite record, Bartlett's showing improvement

Dec. 7, 2022

By Craig Brueske

Improvement cannot simply be judged by wins and losses.

Despite its 0-7 record, **Bartlett's girls basketball team** showed marked signs of improvement during last week's Upstate Eight Conference action.

After dropping a 45-41 decision to Glenbard East (3-3, 2-0) on Nov. 29, the **Hawks** (0-2 in UEC play) suffered a 42-41 loss to West Chicago last Friday.

Junior Amadea Montijo paced the **Hawks** with a game-high 24 points, while seniors Johnyea Wyatt and Sam Blanchard added 6 points apiece.

Defensively, sophomore guard Ceci Desarden was credited with taking a pair of charges.

"We have been getting better every day," said **Bartlett coach Tanner Gardon**. "We now have had two close games with chances to win at the end.

"Those games didn't turn out the way we wanted but we are doing some really good things and the girls are stepping up."

Considering the **Hawks** went 0-5 and suffered double-digit defeats in every game at the season-opening Schaumburg Thanksgiving Classic, the narrow conference losses are something to build upon.

"It's all about whether this group can come together and fully trust each other," said Gardon, whose team begins a 4 games in 6 days stretch Thursday against East Aurora. "If we do that,

these close games will start ending with Ws."

Defending Upstate Eight Conference champion **South Elgin** began its title defense with a 73-45 victory over Elgin on Nov. 29.

However, **South Elgin's** 20-game conference winning streak -- dating back 2 years -- came to an end following last Friday's 53-45 loss to Glenbard South (6-0, 2-0) in Glen Ellyn.

Senior point guard Raina Yang scored a team-high 18 points against the Raiders.

Yang, a 4-year starter, is the captain and "quarterback" of the team, according to **Storm** head coach Dan Mandernack.

"Raina has kept us afloat," said Mandernack. "She is so skilled and smart on the floor and her effort to begin the season has been unbelievable."

Playing without injured senior forward Zoie Lewis (expected back in January) and sophomore Lexi Lopez, **South Elgin** has struggled at times against taller competition.

"We are getting beat on the offensive glass a ton and giving up many second-chance points," said Mandernack. "Glenbard South outrebounded us on the offensive end, 28-4."

**South Elgin** takes to the road for back-to-back games against Glenbard East and Schaumburg Friday and Saturday.

"The kids' heart and hustle is amazing, and I'm very proud of the effort and desire," said the coach. "Better days will come. Our schedule has been extremely tough which will help us in the long run."

Geneva earned a split last weekend, defeating Glenbard North 55-28 in its DuKane Conference opener last Friday before suffering a 61-57 loss to Barrington in Saturday's Chicagoland Classic at Fremd.

Lauren Slagle led the Vikings with 12 points against Glenbard North, while Cassidy Arni and Leah Palmer chipped in with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Against Barrington, the Vikings (5-2, 1-0) received an 18-point performance from Palmer but it wasn't enough to offset the Fillies' sizzling 18-for-20 free-throw shooting. Arni added 11 points for Geneva.

"We had two good looks that just didn't go down," said Geneva coach Sarah Meadows.

"Barrington shot a lot of foul shots in the second half (12 of 13). We must be better from the line (7 of 15).

"These games are helping us so much. They're exactly the type of games we want to be a part of."

In other Chicagoland Classic action, Batavia (4-1) beat Marian Catholic 36-20 behind 14 points from Brooke Carlson. Addie Prewitt and Kylee Gehrt added 7 and 6 points, respectively, while St. Charles North (6-1) suffered its first loss, an 80-54 decision to Bolingbrook. Reagan Sipla paced the North Stars with 20 points.

St. Charles East handed Waubonsie Valley its first loss of the season, 55-54, on Nov. 29.

"Emma (Yakey) made a good pass and Lexi (DiOrio) made a big shot to win it for us," said Saints coach Josh Foster.

"We also got some great minutes and solid production on the glass from Marissa Kalamaris. She had 9 points and 9 rebounds and was a big part of our success."

## – Daily Herald –

### Trigueros doing it all for surging West Chicago

Dec. 7, 2022

By Bobby Narang

West Chicago girls basketball coach Mark Fitzgerald had to do some extra research into the program's history early this season.

Fitzgerald didn't mind the additional work, though.

The Wildcats (8-1) are one of the early season surprise storylines in DuPage County. The Wildcats, according to Fitzgerald, are off to one of the best starts in program history. A year ago, the Wildcats won just eight games, but they matched that total in a thrilling 42-41 win at **Bartlett** on Friday night.

"The eight wins is the most number of season wins since the 2011-12 team," Fitzgerald said. "I also went back to see if we have ever won our first eight games of the year, but I couldn't find a season to top it. I went back to 2006-07 which is the first season of game by game results I could find."

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

## – Daily Herald –

### Girls gymnastics: Scouting Fox and DuPage County

Dec. 7, 2022

By Chris Walker

Here's a look at what to expect for DuPage and Fox girls gymnastics teams this winter.

Top returning teams: Downers Grove co-op, Geneva, Glenbard West, Naperville North, Prairie Ridge co-op

Top returning athletes: Addison Trail -- (Maddie Muccianti, Sr., all-around); Downers Grove co-op -- (Kate Snouffer, Sr. all-around), (Emily Smetana, Sr., all-around); Geneva -- (Brooke Lussnig, Jr., all-around), (Graci Weems, Jr., all-around); Glenbard North -- (Brooklyn McQuillan, Sr., all-around); Glenbard South (Brooke Poltrock, Sr., all-around); Glenbard West -- (Samantha Hopper, Sr., all-around), (Skylar Oh, Sr., all-around); Naperville North -- (Abby Aldrich, Sr., all-around); Prairie Ridge co-op -- (Gabriella Riley, Sr., all-around); St. Charles co-op -- (Rachel Nicastro, So., all-around); Wheaton co-op -- (Haylie Hinkley, Jr., all-around); Willowbrook -- (Sarah Ball, Sr., all-around)

Season outlook: Addison Trail welcomes back senior Maddie Muccianti, juniors Nicolette Franczak and Brooke Greaves and sophomore Olivia DeBeau to a team that ended with a 124.9 at the Lake Park regional last year. Freshmen Michelena Fricano and Gabby Trejo join the squad and will look to help the team move up in the West Suburban Gold.

Batavia has a lot of experience and talent returning along with 10 freshmen among a dozen newcomers, including all-arounders such as freshman Wynne Tien, junior Delia Fulton and senior Talia Gallas. They'll mix in spots with returning seniors Kathleen Flaherty and Grace Cooper and junior Marisa Sepico who is battling back from tearing her ACL on Senior Night last year.

Downers Grove co-op has a lot of experienced talent along with some exciting new athletes in the gym, including sophomore Genevieve Herion and freshmen Kaeyln Landry, Emilie Kuchta, Lauren Deacy and Natalie Martin. They'll look to make the final season for seniors Natalie Simpson, Emily Smetana and Kate Snouffer a special one. Smetana and Snouffer were individual state qualifiers last year that also helped the team take 8th in the state.

Fenton has eliminated its girls gymnastics team as well as its boys team for the spring.

Geneva hit 140 last year and with junior all-arounders Graci Weems and Brooke Lussnig

returning, the Vikings have the talent to be one of the better teams in the state. Sophomore Emma Wiedenhoeft made an impact in her debut and will look to continue to do while freshmen Annie Fellingner and Reese Lucky will look for strong debuts. Junior Maeve Devlin and seniors Maura Anderson and Sadie Karlson also will contribute scores for a Vikings program that last qualified for state in 2015 when they took second overall.

Glenbard East has a small team this year so coach Jessica Bugajsky said "our goal is to do our best and work on putting in new skills into our routines and fine tuning what we have to improve as the season goes on." Juniors Oliva Broyles and Emma Iwaniszyn and senior Ella Kud return to lead the Rams while sophomore Dalia Daoud and junior Ashley Macias join the squad.

Glenbard North has one of the top all-arounders in the state in Brooklyn McQuillan, a veteran, upbeat leader in fourth-year gymnast Valeria Herrera, a former club kid in senior Carly Bachara who ideally will have a great experience with high school gymnastics and a mix of others, including Vassilisa Andreeva returning for what should be an exciting season. "We may be able to sneak into a sectional this year," Panthers coach Dennis Wellman said.

Glenbard South's gymnasts boast a skill set that Coach Lee Wood hasn't seen at the Glen Ellyn school so the Raiders are thrilled heading into the new campaign. Senior Brooke Poltrock is back along with junior all-arounders Skylar Fischer and Bella Krabec. The Raiders added five athletes, including freshman Ava Blalock and junior Abby DePorter, both all-arounders.

Glenbard West is celebrating its 50th year of gymnastics and will look to continue its tradition of excellence with two state titles in the past five years and a fourth-place finish last February. Seniors Brooklyn Ford, Samantha Hopper, Skylar Oh and Autumn White are back to lead the way along with sophomores Grace Flint and Leah Chapski while a few newcomers, including freshman Mackenzie Mason, sophomore Talia Haq and junior Annika Bhagwakar, will certainly vie to add to the team's score.

Kaneland senior Olivia Kerrins helped start the program for the Knights and despite an assortment of injuries, she's fought her way back to lead the team this winter. The Knights

added sophomore Kennedy Reed and junior Caylee Rehkopf while juniors Alina Dabek and Kaci Randall and senior Hailey Leonard return for a close-knit team. The Knights will aim to spread positivity through the sport to keep new programs like its own running.

Lake Park will be young with only one senior and 17 freshmen added to the program. Juniors Julia Bartnik, Cali Keefe and Alisia Gnutek step into leadership roles for a team that has won the DuKane Conference three straight years. Sophomore Maddie Springer and freshmen Ava Bullington, Cristina Benza and Olivia Dziuba are among the talented newcomers who will look to sustain the Lancers success this winter.

Naperville Central added 11 gymnasts this season, including freshman all-arounders Avani Prasad and Harley Sambrooks. Those two and others will look to contribute immediately along with junior Gaby Tapia and sophomore Alana Williams who return to lead a young Redhawks squad.

Naperville North will be an interesting team to watch come together. Senior Abby Aldrich will lead the way, sophomores Samarra Connolly and Erin Arnold are looking to step up after working hard in the off-season, while freshmen Kate Ahlfeld and Kelly Melnikoff will bring a new look and contribute scores as talented new all-arounders.

Prairie Ridge co-op is not only looking to defend its state title but the program is pursuing its sixth state title since 2015. Gracie Willis may have graduated, but the program continues to find tremendous athletes to replace seemingly irreplaceable gymnasts. They'll have to do that again. Senior Gabriella Riley returns to lead a squad that has to replace the scores of Willis, who graduated, along with state qualifiers, Thea Scheuer, Audrey Burke and Paige Magel, who didn't return. Freshmen Montserrat Garcia, Michelle Miniewicz and Addison Nabielec, sophomores Maria Kakis, Zoe Kennedy, Lily Letak and Alexis Valley, juniors Anna D'Antonio and Sophia Mercieri and seniors Delaney Wells and Eva Yentsch are among 11 other gymnasts that will have a chance to contribute to the team's continued success.

St. Charles co-op may be young, but the team is talented and certainly improved from where it left off. All-arounders Rachel Nicastro and Emily Johnson are just sophomores but made a big

impact a season ago. Sophomore specialist Izzi Othon returns in two events while freshmen Arianna Halick and Brooke Benton and senior Lucy Brutlag join the squad and new head coach Tom Wirth, who has served as an assistant the past 13 years.

The U-46 co-op has junior Brynn Kerber and senior Mia Lis back as all-around anchors. "We are looking forward to hopefully making it back to sectionals this year," Coach Melissa Baylian said. "Brynn and Mia have a great chance of making it again, and hope to qualify for state!" Sophomore Avery Hunt, juniors Julia Prorok, Maya Nail and Ashley Simko and senior Illiana Prado will contribute as specialists while sophomore all-rounder Elissa Callender-Springer is a welcome newcomer.

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

## **– Elgin Courier-News – Local scores for Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County**

**Dec. 8, 2022**

**By From Staff Reports - Aurora Beacon-News**

**WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS**

**HIGH SCHOOLS**

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

**TUESDAY'S RESULTS**

**HIGH SCHOOLS**

**BOYS BASKETBALL**



Aurora Christian 59, Aurora Central Catholic 32

Deerfield 57, Grayslake North 37

Fenwick 62, Marmion 56

Marmion (4-3, 0-2 CCL White): Jabe Haith 21 points, 8 rebounds. Trevon Roots 20 points, 5 rebounds, 3 blocks. Collin Wainscott 15 points, 6 rebounds.

Hinckley-Big Rock 62, DePue 34

Hinckley-Big Rock (6-2, 2-0 Little Ten): Ben Hintzsche 18 points.

Kaneland 82, Ottawa 61

Kaneland (6-1, 2-0 Interstate Eight): Troyer Carlson 36 points. Gevon Grant 25 points.

Lake Forest 53, Waukegan 46 (2 OT)

Lake Forest (3-2, 1-0 North Suburban): Tommie Aberle 28 points, 8 rebounds.

Waukegan (3-4, 0-1): Devin Malone 19 points.

Libertyville 61, Warren 45

Libertyville (4-3, 1-0 North Suburban): Jack Huber 13 points. Aidyn Boone 12 points. Kai Sorenson, Blaise Lavista 11 points. Cole Bonder 10 points.

Warren (5-2, 0-1): Jack Wolf 13 points.

Mundelein 70, Zion-Benton 51

Mundelein (3-4, 1-0 North Suburban): Emmanuel Willoughby 27 points.

Neuqua Valley 60, Lincoln-Way Central 47

Newark 75, Lamoille-Ohio 34

Newark (6-1, 2-0 Little Ten): Jake Kruser 19 points, 4 rebounds. Lance Pasakarnis, Joe Martin 11 points.

Oswego East 56, Yorkville 52

Oswego East (7-1, 3-0 Southwest Prairie West): Mekhi Lowery 20 points. Jehvion Starwood 17 points. Bryce Shoto 10 points.

Yorkville (6-1, 2-1): Jory Boley 18 points. Bryce Salek 13 points. LeBaron Lee 10 points.

Parker 72, Elgin Academy 33

Plano 58, Rochelle 40

Plano (2-5, 1-1 Interstate Eight): A.J. Johnson 20 points. Davione Stamps 14 points.

St. Francis 51, St. Edward 40

Sandwich 49, Morris 33

Serena 77, Indian Creek 56

Indian Creek (2-6, 0-1 Little Ten): Jeff Probst 20 points.

South Elgin 58, Larkin 41

Stevenson 68, Lake Zurich 57

Stevenson (5-1, 1-0 North Suburban): Brandon Sorokin 19 points. Aidan Bardic 16 points, 6 assists. Christian Uremovich 13 points, 9 rebounds. Jack Dabbs 10 points, 9 rebounds.

Lake Zurich (4-2, 0-1): Brendan Powers 15 points. Nick Popovic 13 points

West Aurora 68, Oswego 62

Woodstock 61, Genoa-Kingston 36

Genoa-Kingston (4-3): Josh Bunting 11 points.

## **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Aurora Central Catholic 45, Rosary 30

Batavia 62, Lake Park 46

Batavia (5-1, 1-0 DuKane): Brooke Carlson 26 points. Kylee Gehrt 15 points. Addie Prewitt 10 points.

**Bartlett** 50, Fenton 43

Burlington Central 46, Crystal Lake Central 16

Burlington Central (5-2, 3-1 Fox Valley): Page Erickson 17 points, 4 steals.

Deerfield 74, Maine East 18

East Aurora 60, **Elgin** 25

Grayslake Central 60, Grant 27

Grayslake North 61, Wauconda 56

Grayslake North (5-4, 1-1 Northern Lake County): Peyton Gerdes 35 points; became school's all-time leading scorer.

Wauconda (5-2, 1-1): Grace Parker 24 points. Kayla McCarthy 11 points. Emma Wisniewski 10 points.

Hampshire 48, Dundee-Crown 25

Hampshire (4-3, 3-0 Fox Valley): Bridget Haefling 15 points.

Lake Forest 57, Waukegan 38

Lake Forest (9-1, 4-0 North Suburban): Rachel Kaus 22 points.

Lake Zurich 37, Stevenson 34

**Larkin** 66, **South Elgin** 54

**Larkin** (2-5, 1-2 Upstate Eight): Baylei Johnson 28 points.

Libertyville 59, Warren 33

Libertyville (7-2, 3-0 North Suburban): Emily Fisher 23 points.

Rockford Lutheran 40, Genoa-Kingston 33

Genoa-Kingston (4-5, 0-2 Big Northern): Bryce Boylen 10 points.

Round Lake 45, Lakes 44

Round Lake (5-3, 1-1 Northern Lake County): Aniyah Moody 18 points. Lilli Burton 12 points. Lissette Herrera 10 points.

Lakes (4-4, 1-1): Jana Pullen, Jess Oman 11 points.

St. Charles East 59, Glenbard North 39

St. Charles East (4-3, 1-1 DuKane): Emma Yakey 12 points. Marissa Kala 10 points, 8 rebounds.

St. Charles North 60, Wheaton North 25

St. Charles North (7-1, 2-0 DuKane): Reagan Sipla 31 points.

Vernon Hills 48, Maine West 30

Vernon Hills (6-3, 2-1 Central Suburban North): Ava Barszcz 15 points.

Yorkville 63, Oswego East 43

Yorkville (3-4, 1-2 Southwest Prairie West): Alex Stewart 22 points.

Oswego East: Cami Phillips 13 points.

***Compiled by Josh Krockey.***

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