

Press Clippings for 12/9/2022

– Daily Herald –

Gamma Xi Chapter Foundation grants available for eligible high school senior women

Dec. 8, 2022

By Kim Gavigan

The Gamma Xi Chapter Foundation for Educational Pursuits announces recruitment grant monies available to high school senior women, who intend to prepare for a career in the field of education. A minimum grant of \$750 exists for selected students with an additional \$4,000 dollars of further monetary support throughout their sophomore, junior, and senior years as long as they remain in education.

Any interested senior female graduate of the class of 2023, who is attending an accredited public or private high school and resides in **School District U-46** or District 300 attendance areas, is eligible for these grant monies.

The Gamma Xi Chapter Foundation for Educational Pursuits is a 501(c) (3) charity formed by the Gamma Xi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, which is an honorary educational society for women educators.

Karen Phillips, chairwoman of the board of directors of the foundation states, "We encourage young women to pursue an educational career. One means of encouragement is the yearly offering of monetary grants to women in the current graduation class who intend to pursue a course of study in the field of education."

All applications and supporting materials have been sent to local high school counseling centers in **District U-46** and District 300, as well as, in the private high schools of these attendance areas.

Applications and supporting materials must be received at the designated address by Feb. 17, 2023.

For further information, eligible candidates can call Kimberly Gavigan at (312) 969-9165 or email kimgavs03@gmail.com.

– Daily Herald –

Father and son want to open indoor skate park in Elgin

Dec. 8, 2022

By James Fuller

A father and son with personal ties to Elgin are looking to fulfill what they see as an underserved recreational demand by bringing an indoor skate park to the city.

Ian Nathan Sr. and his son, also named Ian, brought a plan for the skate park to the city's planning and zoning commission this week. It would transform 13,500 square feet of vacant space at the McLean Plaza Shopping Center, 820 S. McLean Boulevard, into a facility with reconfigurable ramps, walls and fun boxes.

Nathan Jr., who attended **South Elgin High School**, told the commission he's skated off and on for much of his life. But the closest indoor skating facility to Elgin is more than an hour away, he said. That's too far, especially for younger skaters, to enjoy their favorite recreational activity during the colder months, he said.

Nathan Sr. said that unfilled need and Elgin's diverse profile fit well with the atmosphere they want to create at a new skate park.

"We know there is a huge demand," Nathan Sr. said. "We are here to request your permission to open up in your city and bring a lot of community, diversity and creativity to a city that already looks like it has a lot of it. We think we'd be a good fit here."

The commissioners agreed in passing along a favorable recommendation to the city council.

"I love it when they reuse these buildings that have been sitting empty for new and creative uses," said Commissioner Karin Jones.

The skate park would operate seven days a week. It would be open from 2 to 10 p.m. on weekdays and from noon to 10 p.m. on weekends. Weekends are expected to be the busiest times. There would be a \$10 daily entry fee, although the price could increase during special events, such as skate competitions.

The skate park would have a total occupancy of up to 249 people and five employees. That's beyond the 167 parking spaces the shopping center has now. But the city staff performed an observational study that showed, even at the busiest, with all the other businesses in the shopping center open, only 36 parking spaces are needed. Because of that, the city staff recommended moving the project forward without more parking.

If the skate park opens, Lepolion Henderson, Jr. said he plans to visit often. Henderson told the commission he sometimes skates down Chicago Avenue, but that can be perilous for even an experienced skater.

"I love skating," he said. "This would be amazing because I do have to travel far out in order to skate. Please, please, please. That's all I have to say."

– Elgin Courier-News –

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

Dec. 9, 2022

By From Staff Reports

Note: Schedules are subject to change because of weather and other factors.

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](#).

– Elgin Courier-News –

Girls gymnastics season preview

Dec. 9, 2022

By Chris Walker - Daily Herald Correspondent

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 Mucciанти, 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 Hinckley, Jr., all-around); Willowbrook — (Sarah Ball, Sr., all-around) Season outlook: Addison Trail welcomes back senior Maddie Mucciанти, 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 Lacky 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 Kennedi 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-arounder Elissa Callender-Springer is a welcome newcomer.

Valley co-op is the combination of the former Neuqua Valley team with the Waubonsie Valley/Metea Valley co-op. Freshman Lucia Caruso's scores should make an impact along with returning juniors Hailey Mitchell and Xara Gin and seniors Lauren Cordero and Stephanie Svec. Coach Katie Novorolsky said the team has "a lot" of new kids.

Wheaton co-op will rely heavily on three-sport athlete Haylie Hinckley but will need to pick up some new scorers around her this winter.

“We are looking to fill some spots in our lineup but plan to stay competitive throughout the season,” Wheaton coach Maureen Kermend said.

Junior Jordan Wach returns in the all-around while freshman Abbey Kurinski is expected to contribute on beam and bars.

Willowbrook coach Andy Isaacson is in his 42nd year coaching and his enthusiasm hasn't waned. “The attitude of this team and especially the lower levels is amazing,” he said.

“This team will work to improve daily and give their best effort.” Junior Mia McBride, who is returning from an injury,” is back along with seniors Sarah Ball, Hanna Mitrick and Molly Morris while 7 newcomers are expected to contribute.

York welcomes back Ashley Samata as its new coach. Samata competed for the Dukes from 2004- 2005. She is hoping for a smooth transition with about a dozen new kids joining the program as well, including sophomore Elaine Blass and freshmen Nora Heflin, Josephine Fedorak and Zahra Master. Senior specialist Sharonne Chakravarti, junior Daniella Chavez and sophomores Hayley Schiltz and Mia Carone return.