

Press Clippings - 9/05/2023

- NBC 5 -

Officials reveal cause of crash that killed 2 South Elgin High School students

The crash between the 2002 Honda Civic and a Mack semi-tractor trailer happened around 7 a.m. Thursday at the intersection of IL Route 25 and Kenyon Road

By: NBC Chicago Staff

September 5, 2023



Dozens of bright balloons sailed into the sky outside South Elgin High School on Sunday in honor of two students who were killed in a crash earlier this week. NBC 5's Lexi Sutter reports.

To watch the full story [click here](#).

Officials say a preliminary investigation has determined the cause of a deadly crash that killed two **South Elgin high school** students, wounded two others and left a third person injured last week.

According to the Bartlett Police Department, authorities believe the driver of a Honda Civic carrying the four teen students "failed to yield turning left" at a green light.

The crash between the 2002 Honda Civic and a Mack semi-tractor trailer happened around 7 a.m. Thursday at the intersection of IL Route 25 and Kenyon Road.

Police said the Honda Civic was traveling northbound on IL Route 25 when it began to turn left onto Kenyon Drive and was struck by the semi, which was traveling southbound on IL Route 25.

The crash left one passenger in the Honda Civic dead at the scene. Another teen passenger was taken to an area hospital where she later died. They were

identified as 16-year-old Tahlulay Henry, of Elgin, and 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell, of Bartlett, according to the Kane County Coroner's office.

According to the coroner, the preliminary cause of death for both victims is listed as multiple injuries due to motor vehicle collision.

A third passenger with life-threatening injuries was transported to an area hospital and later airlifted to another facility. School District U-46 said in a statement Friday that Elizabeth Esparza was hospitalized in stable condition.

The drivers of both vehicles suffered non-life threatening injuries and were taken to area hospitals, authorities said.

"It is with heavy hearts that the entire Bartlett community mourns with the family and friends of the South Elgin High School students involved in Thursday's tragic car crash," Village of Bartlett President Kevin Wallace said in a statement issued Friday. "Words cannot capture the pain of losing two young women far too soon. Though their lives were short, there is no doubt that they brought love and joy to those they touched, teachers, classmates, friends, and family, and that they will be forever remembered. We also extend our support to the two young women and the truck driver who experienced the trauma of this accident. We wish them comfort and healing during this sad time. On behalf of the village and the trustees, I send our heartfelt thoughts and our deepest condolences."

The district said crisis teams remained activated, explaining that grief and loss social workers and counselors will be at the school to help students and staff for as long as needed.

"We're just trying to get through the moment right now, and we'll try to get through the day, and then we'll try to get through tomorrow. And we'll just take it one day at a time," South Elgin Principal Kurt Johansen said Thursday.

A press release from the South Elgin & Countryside Fire Department stated that crews needed to removed the roof to the Honda Civic in order to gain access to the car's four occupants, all of whom were South Elgin High School students.

Photos and video from the scene showed a heavy police and emergency presence from Elgin, Fox River, Geneva, Carol Stream, St. Charles and more, along with roads closed and traffic backed up as officials worked to investigate.

"Every accident is hard to deal with and especially ones such as this," said William Luchsinger, fire chief for South Elgin and Countryside.

- NBC 5 -

‘Unspeakable tragedy’: Family of Elgin student killed in crash raises money for funeral

Tahlulay Henry, 16, was killed in a collision with a dump truck on the way to school

By: Lexi Sutter and Matt Stefanski

September 4, 2023



Dozens of bright balloons sailed into the sky outside South Elgin High School on Sunday in honor of two students who were killed in a crash earlier this week. NBC 5's Lexi Sutter reports.

To watch the full story click [here](#).

The family of a **South Elgin High School** student killed in a crash last week has created a fundraising campaign to raise money for the teenager's funeral, as well as "medical expenses and to help support her family in this dark hour."

Tahlulay Henry, 16, was one of two students killed when the car they were riding in collided Thursday morning with a dump truck in Bartlett on their way to school, authorities said.

"Our family has suffered an unspeakable tragedy," the campaign, which raised more than \$10,500 as of Monday morning, reads.

"She leaves us behind the memory of a beautiful soul, wonderful daughter and granddaughter, loving sister, caring aunt, and a selfless friend," Henry's family wrote.

According to officials, Henry was in a 2002 Honda Civic with three other students when the crash occurred at about 7 a.m. Thursday at the intersection of Route 25 and Kenyon Road.

Henry, of Elgin, was pronounced dead at the scene. Kamorra Campbell, 17, of Bartlett passed away from her injuries at a nearby hospital. A third student was

hospitalized in stable condition, officials said, and a fourth student suffered non-life threatening injuries in the collision.

School District U-46 released a statement on Friday, in which district officials confirmed the passing of Campbell and Henry and provided an update on the other students who were injured.

"Our hearts go out to their families and loved ones during this incredibly difficult time," the statement continued, in part. "We are here to provide support and assistance to the affected families in any way we can."

On Sunday, dozens of bright balloons sailed into the sky outside South Elgin High School on in honor of the students.

Henry, affectionately known as "Yuyu," was described by friends as energetic and uplifting.

"My birthday was on Tuesday, Aug. 29, and I ran into her in the bathroom, and she was like, 'Oh isn't it your birthday today?' I was like, 'yeah,' then she gave me a hug and said I looked so pretty, I hope you enjoy your day. ... And that was the last time I saw her," classmate Ayana Talet recalled.

A standout basketball player, Campbell was remembered by friends and classmates for her passion and personality.

"Every time she got the ball, she would just shoot it, didn't matter," said classmate Anevay Hernandez.

In the days since the deadly crash, South Elgin High School has provided students with resources, including the support of grief counselors, to navigate through this difficult time.

"I feel like it can just be taken in an instant ... and now we have to take advantage of what we have while we have it before it's gone," Hernandez said.

- CBS 2 -

Best friend remembers South Elgin teen who died in car crash

By: Sabrina Franza

September 4, 2023



To watch the full story click [here](#).

CHICAGO (CBS) -- We're learning more tonight about two teenage girls who were students at **South Elgin High School.**

They tragically died in a crash on their way to school.

For the first time, we're hearing from a friend of one of the girls. She spoke to CBS 2's Sabrina Franza.

"She was the kind of girl that anybody to talk to. Like, if you didn't know her, you can go up to her and say, 'Hey I'm having a bad day. Can I just talk to you for a second?'"

Danielle Nelson lost one of her closest friends: 16-year-old Talulay Henry.

Henry went by the nickname Yuyu. The two met at South Elgin High School.

"I was walking, and I didn't really have any friends at the time. So I was just walking into the bathroom and just sitting in front of the mirror," Nelson said. "She just looked at me and said, 'Your eyes are gorgeous. What's your name? Who are you.'"

She said it was an instantaneous type of friendship.

"She was my new best friend," Nelson said.

On Thursday morning, Henry was in the car on her way to school with three other girls. The driver of that car failed to yield while making a left turn, police said, when it collided with a semi-truck.

Henry died, as did another student in the car, 17-year-old Kammora Campbell.

The other two students, including the driver, survived, as did the truck driver.

It was in the third period when Nelson found out.

"I called Yuyu first because I thought it was a joke. And I was just like, why aren't you answering?"

One of Yuyu's sisters confirmed the unimaginable. Nelson ran to the dean's office.

"It was like ten counselors with 30 people just sobbing in one room."

She's still waiting for news of her friend's funeral arrangements. Bartlett police had no further updates.

- Daily Herald -

'A beautiful person inside and out':

GoFundMe set up for South Elgin High

student killed in crash

By: Barbara Vitello

9/3/ 2023



Relatives of 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell, one of two South Elgin High School students killed in a crash Thursday, have set up a GoFundMe fundraiser to help pay for the student athlete's funeral expenses. (Courtesy of GoFundMe)

The sister of one of the **South Elgin High School** students killed Thursday when the Honda Civic they were riding in collided with a dump truck in Bartlett has established a GoFundMe fundraiser to help with funeral expenses.

Je'Kiah Sanders, sister of 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell, described her younger sibling as "a beautiful person inside and out and so very sweet." A student athlete, Campbell loved basketball and hoped to one day play for the University of Illinois, Sanders said.

"She was so competitive, but she was so soft-spoken," Sanders said. "Everyone has that one family member who's the spark of the whole family. That was her."

The Bartlett teen was killed along with 16-year-old Elgin resident Tahlulay Henry when authorities say the Honda Civic, traveling north on Route 25, failed to yield while turning left onto Kenyon Drive on a green light. The vehicle was struck by a 1997 Mack semitrailer traveling south on Route 25. The driver of the Honda Civic and another passenger were injured. The truck driver also was injured, according to authorities.

The crash occurred less than a mile from the high school, authorities said.

Campbell's funeral arrangements are pending, according to Sanders.

By Saturday afternoon roughly \$8,800 had been raised toward funeral expenses. To donate, visit gofundme.com/f/in-memory-of-kamorra-kmo-campbell.

- WBBM Newsradio -

South Elgin community raises thousands for family of student killed in crash

By: Carolina Garibay

September 3, 2023



Kamorra Campbell, 17, was one of two South Elgin High School students killed in a car crash on Thursday. Over 300 people have donated more than \$14,000 to help Campbell's family cover her funeral and burial expenses. Photo credit GoFundMe

WBBM NEWSRADIO) — Over \$14,000 has been raised to help family members cover funeral costs of one of the **South Elgin High School** students who died in a car crash on Thursday.



To listen to the radio article click [here](#).

Kamorra Campbell, 17, was killed after the Honda Civic in which she was riding crashed into a dump truck in Bartlett. It happened just around the corner from South Elgin High School.

Campbell was one of four students, all teenage girls, who were inside of the Honda when it crashed. One other girl was killed, while two were taken to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.



To listen to the radio article click [here](#).

School District U-46 administrators said a crisis team was sent to the high school following the crash.

“During these moments of sorrow, it’s important that we come together to support one another,” wrote U-46 Supt. Suzanne Johnson in a message to parents and staff.

Campbell’s sister, Je’Kiah Sanders, organized the GoFundMe on Friday to help the family pay for funeral services and burial.

- NBC 5 - Classmates remember South Elgin High School students killed in crash

Kimorra Campbell, 17, and Tahlulay Henry, 16, were killed in a collision with a dump truck on the way to school Thursday morning.

By: Lexi Sutter and Matt Stefanski

September 3, 2023



Dozens of bright balloons sailed into the sky outside South Elgin High School on Sunday in honor of two students who were killed in a crash earlier this week. NBC 5’s Lexi Sutter reports.

Dozens of bright balloons sailed into the sky outside **South Elgin High School** on Sunday in honor of two students who were killed in a crash earlier this week.

Kimorra Campbell, 17, and Tahlulay Henry, 16, were on the way to school Thursday morning when the car they were riding in collided with a dump truck in nearby Bartlett, authorities said.

A standout basketball player, Kamorra was remembered by friends and classmates for her passion and personality.

"Every time she got the ball, she would just shoot it, didn't matter," said classmate Anevay Hernandez.

Tahlulay, affectionately known as "Yuyu," was described by friends as energetic and uplifting.

"My birthday was on Tuesday, August 29th, and I ran into her in the bathroom, and she was like, 'Oh isn't it your birthday today?' I was like, 'yeah,' then she gave me a hug and said I looked so pretty, I hope you enjoy your day... and that was the last time I saw her," classmate Ayana Talet recalled.

In the days since the deadly crash, South Elgin High School has provided students with resources, including the support of grief counselors, to navigate through this difficult time.

"They're just trying to get through it, you know," classmate Eva Wasik said. "The school is coming together, there are therapy dogs and counseling and rooms we can go in to take a breather."

School District U-46, which includes the high school, said on Friday one of the students who was injured, Elizabeth Esparza, was hospitalized in stable condition. The district didn't identify a fourth student who suffered non-life threatening injuries in the collision.

"I feel like it can just be taken in an instant... and now we have to take advantage of what we have while we have it before it's gone," said classmate Anevay Hernandez.

- WGN 9 -

'I'm still trying to cope': Family member of South Elgin teen killed in crash speaks out

By: Bronagh Tumulty

Sep 3, 2023



To watch the full story click [here](#).

SOUTH ELGIN, Ill. — Balloons floated in the sky over **South Elgin High School** on Sunday as family and friends of 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell continued to cope with their grief.

“It’s devastating it’s very hard. It’s unexpected,” Campbell’s sister, Sierra Webster said. “I’m still trying to cope and, like really, it’s still unbelievable.”

During Sunday’s memorial, Sierra Webster spoke about her sister, the second sibling she has lost in a short period of time.

“I went from losing my oldest brother, my big brother, my only big brother, my oldest sibling. To losing my baby sister,” Webster said.

Loved ones say Campbell, who was an avid basketball player, had big dreams and teammates say she was the heart of the team. The shooting guard, who sported the number 4 on her jersey, hoped to make it big someday.

“She wanted to, you know, go to college and play basketball, hopefully, make it to the WNBA one day,” Webster said.

Campbell’s dreams were cut short last week when she was among four teens who were involved in an early-morning crash in Bartlett that claimed the lives of two South Elgin High School students. The other victim was identified by the Kane County Coroner’s Office as 16-year-old Tahlulay Henry from Elgin.

According to school officials, Elizabeth Esparza and one other unidentified student survived the crash.

The South Elgin High School basketball team says it has plans to retire the number 4 basketball Jersey in Kamorra’s honor.

- NBC 5 -

Community mourns South Elgin students

killed in crash on the way to school

The Bartlett Police Department on Friday released new information about what happened in the moments leading up into the crash.

By: Vi Nguyen and Matt Stefansk

September 1, 2023



Neighbors expressed condolences on Friday as police revealed new information about what led up to a deadly crash that killed two South Elgin High School students. NBC 5's Vi Nguyen reports.

To watch the full story click [here](#).

A memorial complete with flowers and stuffed animals continued to grow outside of **South Elgin High School** on Friday evening, one day after two students were killed in a collision with a dump truck while heading to school.

Five people were riding in a Honda Civic early Thursday when the vehicle collided with a Mack semi-tractor trailer at the intersection of Illinois Route 25 and Kenyon Road. Kamorra Campbell, 17, of Bartlett, a passenger in the car, was rushed to the hospital and later pronounced dead from her injuries, authorities said.

Another passenger, Tahlulay Henry, 16, of Elgin, died at the scene, according to the Kane County Coroner's Office.

George Bozilovic, who lives nearby, told NBC Chicago his daughter knew one of the teenagers who lost her life.

"It's just scary, you know," he said. "When your kids start driving, you worry about them every time they turn the key and leave...whether they're driving or somebody else is driving."

Bozilovic put up a cross at the crash site in memory of both teens.

"It doesn't take much to do a kind deed, so the world would be a better place if everybody did," he said.

The Bartlett Police Department on Friday released new information about what happened in the moments leading up into the crash. The Honda Civic was

heading northbound on Route 25 when it failed to yield and turned left onto Kenyon Road while at a green light, police said. A dump truck heading southbound on Route 25 then struck the car, police stated.

School District U-46, which includes South Elgin High School, said one of the students who was injured, Elizabeth Esparza, was hospitalized in stable condition, officials said. The district didn't identify a fourth student who suffered non-life threatening injuries in the collision.

Bozilovic, meanwhile, expressed his condolences and said his prayers were with the teens' families.

"Life is precious, and it can be gone in two seconds," he said. "You know, blink of an eye."

NBC Chicago talked to Kamorra Campbell's sister, who described the teenager as a sweet person who was both competitive and soft-spoken. She had just entered her senior year and wanted to attend the University of Illinois.

- Daily Herald - Authorities identify 2 South Elgin High students killed in crash

By: Susan Sarkauskas

9/ 1/2023



Flowers and candles rest near the site of a Thursday crash that killed two South Elgin High School students in Bartlett. (*Rick West | Staff Photographer*)

Authorities have identified the two South Elgin High School students killed Thursday in a Bartlett crash and have shared their findings on the circumstances of the collision.

Kamorra Campbell, 17, of Bartlett and Tahlulay Henry, 16, of Elgin, died, according to the Kane County coroner's office.

The two were passengers in a car that collided with a Mack semitrailer truck on Route 25 at Kenyon Road.

The male driver of the truck and the female driver of the 2002 Honda Civic suffered nonlife-threatening injuries and were taken to hospitals.

While Tahlulay died at the scene, Kamorra died at Sherman Hospital in Elgin.

A passenger who suffered life-threatening injuries first was taken to area hospital, then airlifted to a different hospital. She was listed in stable condition on Friday, according to Elgin Area School District U-46 officials.

In an email to parents, U-46 Superintendent Suzanne Johnson identified that passenger as student Elizabet Esparza, who she said was in stable condition at the hospital. In the same email to parents, Johnson said the district was not releasing the name of a fourth student in the Civic who suffered nonlife-threatening injuries.

"Our hearts go out to their families and loved ones during this incredibly difficult time," Johnson wrote. "We are here to provide support and assistance to the affected families in any way we can."

A moment of silence for the victims was observed Friday night before the South Elgin-Glenbard East varsity football game in Lombard.

Following a preliminary investigation, Bartlett police determined the Honda Civic in which the girls were passengers was traveling northbound on Route 25 when it failed to yield while turning left onto Kenyon Drive on a green light. The Civic was struck by the 1997 Mack semitrailer traveling south on Route 25.

The truck struck the passenger side of the car, police said.

The high school is under a mile west of the intersection.

"It is with heavy hearts that the entire Bartlett community mourns with the family and friends of the South Elgin High School students involved in Thursday's tragic car crash," Bartlett Village President Kevin Wallace said in a statement. "Words cannot capture the pain of losing two young women far too soon. Though their lives were short, there is no doubt that they brought love and joy to those they touched, teachers, classmates, friends, and family, and that they will be forever remembered."

The Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigative Team assisted Bartlett police with their investigation. Route 25 was closed between West Bartlett Road and Graham Road for about seven hours on Thursday.

The U-46 crisis team was activated at South Elgin High School, and grief and loss social workers and counselors will remain available to help students and staff for as long as needed, Johnson said.

- Daily Herald staff writers Eric Peterson and Alice Fabbre contributed to this report.

- WGN 9- 2 South Elgin High School students killed in crash identified

By: Judy Wang, Marisa Rodriguez, Christine Flores

Sep 1, 2023



To watch the full story click [here](#).

SOUTH ELGIN, Ill. — **South Elgin High School** students and staff are mourning the loss of two students killed in a car crash in Bartlett.

Police said the crash happened just after 7 a.m. Thursday near the intersection of Route 25 and Keynon Road. Four girls were on their way to school in a Honda Civic, when they collided with a semi-truck.

Fire crews removed the roof of the passenger car to gain access to the girls inside the Honda Civic.

On Friday the Kane County coroner released a statement identifying the victims as 16-year-old Tahlulay Henry and 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell.

The two other girls, along with the truck driver, were injured.

According to school officials, Elizabeth Esparza is currently hospitalized and is stable. The identity of the fourth person involved, the driver, hasn't been released.

According to police, the driver of the Honda Civic the students were in failed to yield while turning left onto Kenyon Drive on a green light.

They collided with a dump truck and both vehicles went into a nearby cornfield.

Two memorial sites have been created in honor of the two female victims; one at the scene of the crash and one at the high school.

South Elgin students began their day Friday with a vigil, with all the students huddled together to remember their two classmates.

The school district had social workers and counselors available for emotional support for students, staff and families.

- The Courier News - Names of two South Elgin High School students killed in crash released by coroner's office

**By:Gloria Casas
Sep 1, 2023**



A memorial for 16-year-old Tahlulay Henry, of Elgin, and 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell, of Bartlett, was created at South Elgin High School, which both girls attended, after they were killed Thursday in a car crash in Bartlett. (Gloria Casas/The Courier-News)

The two **South Elgin High School** students killed in a Thursday crash in Bartlett have been identified as 16-year-old Tahlulay Henry, of Elgin, and 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell, of Bartlett, the Kane County Coroner's Office said.

Both teens were passengers in a 2002 Honda Civic that collided with a dump truck about 7 a.m. at Route 25 and Kenyon Road. Henry died at the scene and Campbell died at the local hospital to which she'd been transported, the coroner's office news

release said.

Bartlett police said a preliminary investigation has determined the Honda was northbound on Route 25 and making a left turn onto Kenyon Road on a green light when the driver failed to yield to a Mack semi-tractor trailer truck that was southbound on Route 25, police said.



Basketballs, teddy bears and flowers filled a memorial created at South Elgin High School for 16-year old Tahlulay Henry, of Elgin and 17-year old Kamorra Campbell, of Bartlett students who were killed Thursday in a car crash in Bartlett (Gloria Casas/ The Courier News)

Autopsies conducted Friday listed a preliminary cause of death for both teens as multiple injuries due to a motor vehicle collision, the release said.

Toxicology tests will be conducted. The office is working with the Bartlett Police Department in the ongoing death investigation.

The car's driver, another passenger and the truck's driver were injured and hospitalized. One of the teens was reported to be in critical condition.

The Honda driver's name has not been released but authorities confirmed she is the sister of one of the teens who died.

An outpouring of sympathy in the aftermath of the crash appeared on social media and elsewhere Friday.



Police say the car in which four teens were driving to South Elgin High School collided with a dump truck Thursday morning at Route 25 and Kenyon Road in Bartlett, killing two of them. The car was hauled away Thursday by a Bloomingdale tow truck company. (H. Rick Bamman)

“It is with heavy hearts that the entire Bartlett community mourns with the family and friends of the South Elgin High School students involved in Thursday’s tragic car crash,” Bartlett President Kevin Wallace said in a statement.

“Words cannot capture the pain of losing two young women far too soon. Though their lives were short, there is no doubt that they brought love and joy to those they touched, teachers, classmates, friends, and family, and that they will be forever remembered,” he said.

South Elgin Mayor Steve Ward said that while the two teens were not from South Elgin, the community is reeling from news of their deaths.

“Everybody I’ve talked to is just heartbroken. It’s devastating,” he said.

When Ward saw the coverage of the crash on television Thursday, “my heart sank,” he said.

“Right now, the main thing is people need to support the school,” Ward said. “The school district is doing a phenomenal job doing what they need to do for these kids” and the village stands ready to anything it can to help.

South Elgin High School is part of School District U-46, which continued Friday to have school social workers and counselors available for students, staff and families who needed emotional support, Superintendent Suzanne Johnson in her weekly message to parents.

“Please continue to assist each other during this difficult time. Ask how your colleagues and students are doing and allow space and grace to process,” Johnson said.

In addition to thanking the South Elgin school's team and district officials, she also thanked "our community partners for your outreach and generosity."

"There will be more great days to learn in U-46, even if we have to take a break to mend some broken hearts," Johnson said.

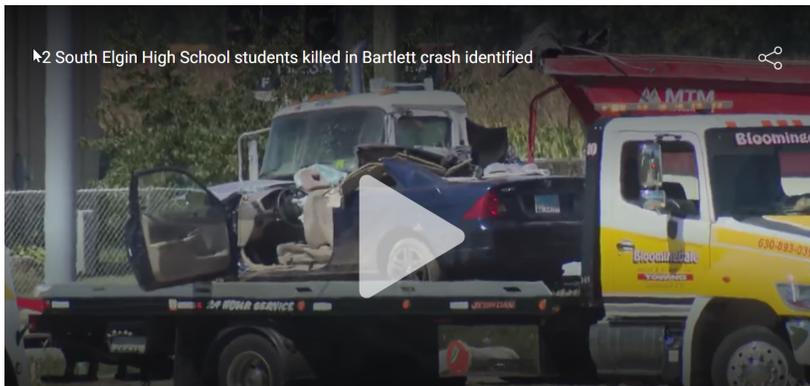
- Fox 32 -

2 South Elgin High School students killed in Bartlett crash identified

Posted 3 days ago

Two South Elgin High School students who were killed when their car collided with a semi-truck in Bartlett Thursday morning have been identified.

To watch the full report click [here](#)



- ABC 7 -

2 South Elgin High School students killed in Bartlett crash ID'd by coroner's office

**By: Jessica D'Onofrio, John Garcia, and Eric Horng
September 1, 2023**



Two South Elgin High School students killed in a crash in Bartlett on Route 25 have been identified as Kamorra Campbell and Tahlulay Henry.

SOUTH ELGIN, Ill. (WLS) -- South Elgin High School students arrived on campus this morning about 24 hours after a terrible tragedy.

Just after 7 a.m. Thursday, the four teenage girls were just a couple blocks away from South Elgin High School, but they never arrived.

Their Honda Civic collided with a semi-truck, pushing the wreckage into a corn field. Bartlett police said their preliminary investigation has found it appears the Civic failed to yield to the truck in the intersection.

An attorney for the family of the girl who was driving said a witness told him the Civic had a green arrow to turn at the intersection. Bartlett police said the full investigation and final conclusions may take a while longer.

Four girls were trapped inside the mangled Civic. Firefighters had to remove the roof to get them out. "Every accident is hard to deal with, especially one such as this," South Elgin Fire Chief William Luchsinger said.

Two of those girls have died and the other two were rushed to the hospital, where they remained Friday morning. The teen girls killed have been identified as 17-year-old Kamorra Campbell and 16-year-old Tahlulay Henry.

"I don't know where I'm going to go, you know," said Chiaunte Campbell, Kamorra's mother. "That was my backbone. That was my baby. That was my backbone."

"It's hard. It's hard. It's hard," said grandmother Sarah Campbell. "It's so hard."

Chiaunte said she heard the sirens after the crash.

"You never think, you know, as a mother that your kids are going to go to school and

not return home," she said.

Relatives said Kamorra was the sunshine of her family.

"That smile. She walked in the door, everybody in the way is gonna get a hug," her grandmother said.

Tahlulay Henry's older sister Aanomeya Henry is still hospitalized. School district officials identified the fourth teen as Elizabet Esparza, who they said also remains hospitalized where her condition has stabilized.

The driver of the dump truck was also taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

While several after school activities were cancelled Thursday, South Elgin opted to go ahead with Friday night's football game at Glenbard East. There was a moment of silence before the game.

There is now a growing memorial steps away from where the crash happened. There is also a memorial in front of South Elgin High School in memory of the two classmates killed.

A statement from the U46 school district said in part, "Our hearts go out to their families and loved ones during this incredibly difficult time. We are here to provide support and assistance to the affected families in any way we can. The South Elgin High School and District crisis team remains activated. Grief and loss social workers and counselors will be at the school to help students and staff for as long as needed."

The crash happened just before the start of the school day. School officials said they are providing lots of support.

"Very appreciative though of our collaboration with our first responders across our communities and their ongoing support," District U-46 Superintendent Suzanne Johnson said. "They are there with us at South Elgin High School still, providing resources, whether it is through their therapy dogs, additional grief counselors that they are able to bring us. But also, they have so many relationships already with us and it is very powerful to have them with us at this time."

- CBS 2 -

Two South Elgin High School students killed in a car accident: victims ID'd

By: John Dodge and Sabrina Franza

September 1, 2023



To watch the full report click [here](#).

CHICAGO (CBS) -- Two **South Elgin High School** students were killed Thursday in a car accident.

Police said the crash involved a Honda Civic and a dump truck driver at Illinois Route 25 and Keynon Road at 7 a.m. That intersection is just east of the high school campus.

One of the students in the Honda died at the scene, and a second student died shortly after being transported to the hospital, police said.

The victims were identified as Kamorra Campbell, 17, of Bartlett, and Tahlulay Henry, 16, of Elgin, by the Kane County Coroner's office. Preliminary information says their cause of death was due to multiple injuries as a result of the crash.

The driver and another passenger in the Civic were hospitalized along with the truck driver.

All of the students in the Civic are females, and two of the girls are related, CBS 2 has learned.

Video from Chopper 2 shows the dump truck loaded with sand tipped over on its side. The Civic was near the dump truck cabin in a field near the intersection.

Firefighters had to take the roof off the Honda to get to the teens inside.

"These are extremely difficult," said William Luchsinger, the South Elgin fire chief. "Firemen have hearts; they have emotions; they have feelings; and they have families."

A crisis team at School District U-46 Crisis Team was activated at South Elgin High School.

South Elgin principal Kurt Johansen said everybody is still trying to process it all.

"You just take it one step at a time," he said. "We're just trying to get through the moment right now and will try to get through the day, and then we'll try to get through the month. Take it a day at a time after that."

The school district released a statement:

It is with a heavy heart that we write about a loss in our South Elgin High School family. Losing a member of our school community is a tragedy, sad, and may be difficult to understand. Four South Elgin High School students were involved in a car accident this morning. According to our law enforcement, two of the students lost their lives, and one of the other students is in critical condition and is being treated at an area hospital, and the fourth student received non-life-threatening injuries. At this time, we cannot share the student's names out of respect to the families and to allow for next-of-kin notifications. We have school social workers and counselors available for emotional support for students, staff and families.

Our thoughts, prayers, and most sincere condolences are with the families and loved ones of the students during this incredibly difficult time.

The Coroner's Office said toxicology samples were collected and sent to a forensic department for analysis.

The investigation into what led to the crash remains ongoing.

- CBS 2 -

Teams come together at football game to remember South Elgin students killed in crash

By: Charlie De Mar

Sep 1, 2023



LOMBARD, Ill. (CBS) -- A moment of silence at a suburban high school football game for the visitors, who lost two classmates in a crash this week.

Two communities came together Friday night to pay their respects and to mourn the loss of two students killed in a crash.

The crash on Thursday morning took the lives of two **South Elgin High School** students. The school's football team played in Lombard Friday night.

As CBS 2's Charlie De Mar reported, it was a really special moment – as both teams took a knee at mid-field, many with their arms around one another. A moment of silence was observed to recognize the tremendous loss.

Meanwhile, police in Bartlett are providing more information about the crash as their investigation continues.

At the game in Lombard, the bright lights of high school Friday night football dimmed as the South Elgin students reflected on the tragedy that has rocked their community.

Before kickoff, Glenbard East High School held the moment of silence to remember South Elgin students Kammora Campbell, 17, and Talulay Henrym 16.

Both students were killed when the car they were in collided with a dump truck at Illinois Route 25 and Kenyon Road in Bartlett as they were on the way to school.

"I just feel sick to my stomach thinking about it. I can't even imagine," said South Elgin High School parent Jill Beebe. "My son drives to school every day, and it just breaks my heart."

Inside the stadium, parents made sure to honor the teenage girls.

"Worst nightmare. Worst," said Beebe. "We are all banding together. Everybody in South Elgin is trying to do a meal train and just be there to support."

Bartlett police said the driver of the Honda Civic failed to yield while taking a left. When the Honda Civic collided with the Mack truck, four people were inside the car.

The driver and another passenger, both girls who attend South Elgin, survived. One of the girls, passenger Elizabeth Esparza, had to be airlifted to a second hospital for treatment.

"I know they have their support team," said Janet Almanza, whose brother attends South Elgin High School. "I know that U-46 is talking to them a lot, and so, hopefully, everyone that needs to talk talks."

At the scene, Debbie Farsalas took a moment to leave flowers at a memorial that is growing.

"South Elgin High School literally is steps away. They were that close," Farsalas said. "This community loves them. They're there for them. This is not going to be forgotten for years."

The driver of both the Mack dump truck and the Honda Civic in which the students were riding suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

A relative of one of the victims said two of the girls who were in the car were related.

- The Courier News -

Elgin-area taxpayers looking at a 3% hike in the amount they pay to School District U-46 next year

By: Mike Danahey

Sep 01, 2023



Students and parents wait for the doors to open at Huff Elementary School in Elgin, one of the schools that has a higher enrollment this year after Garfield Elementary School was closed as part of the Unite U-46 plan. (Mike Danahey/The Courier-News)

People who own property in **School District U-46** can expect a 3% hike in next year's tax bill tied to a planned \$48.8 million increase in School District U-46's proposed 2023-24 budget.

Set to be approved Sept. 25, expenditures are expected to be \$775.3 million next year, according to a budget overview now available online to the public and presented last week to the U-46 School Board.

While some of the increase will be covered by growing revenue, including a projected \$21 million increase in evidence-based state funding and an additional \$12 million in investment income, as well as reserve funds the district's been accumulating, property taxes remain a chief source of district funding.

The exact amount of the hike won't be known until the tax levy is extended next year, but it's estimated the owner of a house currently valued at \$150,000 will see the amount paid to the district going up by about \$84, said Frank Williams, the district's assistant superintendent of finance. For someone who owns a home with a \$300,000 market value, the increase will be about \$168, he said.

"When creating the budget we have to project revenue from many sources," Williams said. "While we don't know the exact tax revenue at this time — the district will follow its normal practice of requesting tax revenue when we set our tax levy in December — we are using a 3% estimated projection for (the fiscal year), which equates to new revenue of \$3 for every \$100 increase of assessed value."

District officials knew from the outset that the tentative budget, which can still be adjusted by the school board, would have a "planned deficit" tied to the Unite U-46 capital projects plan, Deputy Director of Operations Ann Williams

said.

The massive building improvement initiative calls for some new schools to be built, additions to others added, and delayed maintenance and repair work undertaken. Some of the work is tied to moving sixth-grade students into middle school buildings and adding preschools to some elementary schools.

The total cost will end up being somewhere between \$310 million to \$380 million, officials have said.

This year they plan to spend \$111 million on capital projects, about \$50 million more than was spent last year, officials said.

One big chunk of that — \$45 million — will be going to the addition planned for Hawk Hollow Elementary School in Barlett, which is being converted into a middle school. Its square footage is expected to double under the construction plan, Ann Williams said.

Many of the other projects are yet to be decided as district officials continue to evaluate each item on the list to better determine how it should be prioritized, she said.

“We’re still making decisions on how to move forward,” Williams said.

Beyond that, operating costs are going up well, also affecting the amount of money the district needs to collect.

About 47% of the district’s expenditures — \$361 million — go to employee salaries and benefits. That’s an increase of 4% over last year, officials said.

The proposed property tax increase comes only months after voters approved a referendum authorizing the sale of \$179 million in building bonds to help fund the facilities master plan.

However, that money won’t be in hand until next year and is not included in the tentative 2023-24 budget, Williams said.

It will be part of the subsequent year’s budget but will have no effect on property taxes because it will replace a debt of the same amount that’s being paid off, she said.

Frank Williams said he believes the proposed budget is in line with “district’s mission of U-46 being a great place for all students to learn, all teachers to teach, and all employees to work.”

It also demonstrates the school board’s commitment to Unite U-46 by ensuring there is enough money to repair, improve and maintain the district’s capital

investments, he said.

“The 35,000-plus students that attend our schools come from many diverse backgrounds,” Williams said of the state’s second largest school district encompassing 90 square miles and 20 communities. “Using this as a focal point, the budget was developed with an equity lens centering on the uniqueness of the U-46 student population.”

To view the 2023-24 budget and the budget presentation to the board online, go to www.u-46.org/Page/9152.

- Daily Herald -

Week 2 football scores

9/2/2023

Cook

Barrington 35, Prospect 14

Palatine 42, Buffalo Grove 17

Conant 41, Wheeling 7

Hoffman Estates 42, Elk Grove 7

Hersey 49, Fremd 14

Schaumburg 35, Rolling Meadows 28

St. Viator 53, Riverside University/Meir, Wis. 0

Maine East 15, Round Lake 12

Maine West 49, Waukegan 0

DuPage

West Chicago 21, Bartlett 14 (OT)

Benet 38, Moline 7

Downers Grove North 35, Downers Grove South 14

Glenbard South 56, Fenton 0

Willowbrook 27, Glenbard North 14

Montini 44, Hillcrest 24

Bolingbrook 39, Hinsdale Central 31

Riverside-Brookfield 35, Hinsdale South 27

Lake Park 18, Oak Park-River Forest 16

Lockport 37, Wheaton North 22

Loyola Academy 27, Naperville North 6

Plainfield Central 15, Metea Valley 12

Neuqua Valley 10, Minooka 6

York 42, Nazareth 14
Addison Trail 21, North Chicago 7
Naperville Central 6, Plainfield North 3
Westmont 27, Prosser 21
Seneca 40, Lisle 7
South Elgin 17, Glenbard East 14
St. Francis 42, Sterling 28
Waubonsie Valley 20, Plainfield East 7
Wheaton Academy 41, St. Charles East 23
Lyons 13, Wheaton Warrenville South 0

Fox

Wilmington 31, Aurora Christian 7
West Chicago 21, Bartlett 14 (OT)
Cary-Grove 17, Crystal Lake Central 14
Prairie Ridge 38, Crystal Lake South 14
Burlington Central 41, Dundee-Crown 6
East Aurora 28, Elgin 0
Geneva 21, Lemont 10
Jacobs 28, Hampshire 7
Huntley 35, McHenry 6
Kaneland 40, Wauconda 13
Larkin 35, Streamwood 14
Lincoln-Way East 14, Batavia 13
Marmion Academy 40, Curie 0
West Aurora 45, Noble/Bulls 24
South Elgin 17, Glenbard East 14
St. Charles North 30, Crete Monee 14
Dwight/Gardner S.Wilmington Co-op 40, St. Edward 14
Wheaton Academy 41, St. Charles East 23

Lake

Antioch 55, Zion-Benton 27
Carmel 20, Lake Forest 10
Grant 21, Glenbrook North 14
Geneseo 27, Grayslake Central 7
Mundelein 42, Grayslake North 17
Lake Zurich 16, Glenbrook South 3
Vernon Hills 28, Lakes 21
Libertyville 34, Richards 14
Maine East 15, Round Lake 12
Stevenson 52, Taft 24
Kaneland 40, Wauconda 13

- Daily Herald -

Four second-half turnovers pave way for Larkin in 35-14 win over Streamwood

By: Allen Oshinski

Daily Herald Correspondent

9/1/2023

Sometimes time of possession is overrated.

Streamwood executed some clock-killing drives, but Larkin's quick strikes were enough to secure the Royals' first win of the young season.

Tizarian Johnson-Williams threw 2 touchdown passes to Erick Myrick and ran for a score, and Jalen Miller scored twice for Larkin in the Upstate Eight matchup at Millennium Field.

Larkin's defense forced 4 second-half turnovers as they Royals overcame a slow start by scoring 28 unanswered points in a 35-14 win.

"We can't sit back and wait," said Larkin coach Vincent Ray. "We have to fire off and go. And they caught fire and they decided to be the hammer that they're supposed to be. It's just getting into attack mode and it took the awhile to get into attack mode."

The teams were tied 14-14 at halftime when the Royals scored twice in a 30-second span to take control.

Streamwood tried an onside kick to open the second half but it didn't go the required 10 yards so Larkin took over in plus territory. Johnson-Williams completed 2 passes to Myrick to cover the distance, the second from 30 yards away.

The Sabres fumbled the ensuing kickoff. Despite an unsportsmanlike penalty, the Royals again took over in Streamwood territory. This time, they needed just a play to score, with Miller taking it in from 49 yards out.

"We had the energy coming out in the second half," Johnson-Williams said.

"Coach told us what we need to do and we executed the game plan. People just came to play."

Myrick caught another scoring pass in the fourth quarter following Damani Cannon's interception.

Larkin also recovered 3 Streamwood fumbles.

Johnson-Williams finished an efficient 7-for-11 for 103 yards. Miller ran for 110 yards on just 7 carries.

Streamwood took the opening kickoff right down the field, with Juan Cortes taking it in from 8 yards out. When the Royals answered with Miller's first score, a 12-yard run, the Sabres came right back. Taro Ishikawa capped a 12-play drive with a 10-yard scoring run to put the Sabres back on top. But it proved to be their last lead of the night.

The Sabres piled up more than 230 yards on the ground but didn't complete a single pass. Cortes led with 89 yards with Aden Strong right behind with an 88-yard performance.

"It's not that we can't score and it's not that we can't move the ball," said Streamwood coach Keith McMaster. "But you can't beat yourself like we did: dumb penalties, dumb mistakes. We've got some young kids out there."

- Daily Herald - South Elgin keeps UEC winning streak going with TD in final seconds

**By: Jared BirchfieldAllen
Daily Herald Correspondent
9/1/2023**



South Elgin's Ari Kravis (5) breaks a tackle for extra yards during Friday's football game against Glenbard East in Lombard. (Paul Valade | Staff Photographer)

Glenbard East came within seconds of snapping **South Elgin's** 24-game Upstate Eight Conference winning streak in Lombard Friday night. A last second scoring pass put the Storm up 17-14 and preserved the string of league wins. Glenbard East took the lead midway through the second quarter and stayed on top until the Storm's last score.

Trailing the Rams 14-10 and less than 15 seconds left to play, South Elgin lined up on Glenbard East's 5-yard line. Quarterback John Ginnan took the snap, rolled to his right and connected with Ishmael George, who was in the back right corner of the end zone for the winning TD.

"I think we had to overcome a lot of adversity from a wild week at school and we wanted to make sure tonight we played as hard as we possibility could," said South Elgin coach Dragan Teonic, referring to the car accident that killed two South Elgin students on Tuesday,

"I thought it was awesome, I think we overcame five four-down conversions and we had two turnovers. But those turnovers were overcome with the fact that we were able to get a sack in a key situation, a blocked field goal and a really good two-minute drill.

On its last possession before the Storm's winning TD, Glenbard East just missed an opportunity to extend its lead.

Glenbard East fans cheered as they saw Matthew Larson cross the goal line on a 1-yard run in a second down and goal situation. However, the play was called back due to a Rams' penalty.

Glenbard East (1-1, 1-1) couldn't advance the football on the next two plays. Facing fourth down and 12 yards from the goal line, the Rams attempted a field goal, which was blocked.

South Elgin (2-0, 2-0) scored on its opening drive of the game, completing the series with a 20-yard pass from Ginnan to Jabari Pruitt and led 7-0 after the first quarter.

Glenbard East tied the game 7-7, six seconds into the second quarter on a 1-yard scamper by Larsen. The Rams took a 14-7 lead on their third series of the game. The drive started with Ram Quami Stanton picking off a Ginnan pass at Glenbard East's 33-yard line and returning it to the Storm's 49-yard line. After

five Larsen carries moved the ball to South Elgin's 11-yard line, Rams QB Blake Salvino connected with Amonte Cook, who was standing left front corner of the end zone.

The Storm ran out of time and downs in its attempt to tie the game before the end of the first half. South Elgin's drive stalled at the Rams' 13-yard line. Facing fourth down and seconds left on the clock, Junior Sam Cutinello booted a 28-yard field goal, pulling South Elgin within 14-10 at halftime.