

Press Clippings - 9/18/2023

- Chicago Tribune -

Rick Armstrong's Aurora-Elgin area football rankings and players of the week

By: Rick Armstrong

Sep 18, 2023



Batavia's RJ Bohr (7) sacks St. Charles North quarterback Ethan Plumb (10) during a DuKane Conference game in St. Charles on Friday, Sept. 15, 2023. (Mark Black/The Beacon-News)

Yorkville and Oswego East enter rankings topped by Batavia. Geneva's Talyn Taylor and West Aurora's Luis Estrella are the players of the week.

Top 10

With records through Sunday and previous rankings in parentheses.

1. Batavia 3-1 (1)

Junior linebacker RJ Bohr delivers with eight tackles, sack and two passes defended.

2. Geneva 4-0 (2)

Sophomore defensive back Dane Turner sparks Vikings' defense with two interceptions.

3. Oswego 4-0 (3)

Allowing only 17 points in four wins, Panthers appear ready for rigors of conference.

4. **South Elgin** 4-0 (4)

Jack Ginnan throws three TD passes as Storm blank **Larkin** in Upstate Eight Conference.

5. St. Charles North 2-2 (5)

Jake Mettetal paces North Stars with TD receptions covering 72 and 15 yards.

6. Kaneland 2-2 (8)

Senior middle linebacker Damian Wilson makes nine tackles, including three sacks.

7. Waubonsie Valley 2-2 (6)

Warriors cough up three fumbles in first half, can't recover from early 17-0 deficit.

8. Yorkville 2-2 (NR)

Michael Dopart connects with Dominick Coronado on TD passes of 22 and 46 yards.

9. West Aurora 4-0 (9)

Junior receiver Terrence Smith catches two TD passes, returns kickoff 90 yards for TD.

10. Oswego East 2-2 (NR)

Sophomore Niko Villacci throws two TD passes, senior Armon Holmes tosses one for Wolves.

Offensive Player of the Week

Junior receiver Talyn Taylor catches five passes for 119 yards and two TDs and also throws a 31-yard TD pass to junior Finnegan Weppner in Geneva's 41-7 rout of Lake Park.

Defensive Player of the Week

Senior linebacker Luis Estrella accounts for 16 tackles to lead West Aurora's defense in a 21-7 win over Plainfield East in a Southwest Prairie Conference crossover.

- Chicago Tribune -

Local scores for the Southland, Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County

**By: From Staff Reports / Daily Southtown
Sep 18, 2023**



St. Rita's DJ Stewart (17) tries to shrug off a tackle from Mount Carmel's Dillon Conway (2) during a

CCL/ESCC Blue game in Chicago on Friday, Sept. 15, 2023. (Vincent D. Johnson/Daily Southtown)

Results and highlights of high schools and local colleges from the Southland and Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County coverage areas.

FOOTBALL
HIGH SCHOOLS
WEEK 5

THURSDAY'S GAMES
SOUTH SUBURBAN BLUE
Bremen at T.F. South, 6 p.
UPSTATE EIGHT
Larkin at Fenton, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES
CENTRAL SUBURBAN NORTH
Maine West at Highland Park, 6:30 p.m.
Vernon Hills at Maine East, 7:30 p.m.
CENTRAL SUBURBAN SOUTH
Deerfield at Glenbrook North, 7 p.m.
CHICAGOLAND CHRISTIAN
Bishop McNamara at Aurora Christian, 7 p.m.
Chicago Christian at Hope Academy, 7 p.m.
Wheaton Academy at St. Edward, 7 p.m.
DUKANE
Geneva at Glenbard North, 7 p.m.
St. Charles East at Lake Park, 7 p.m.
St. Charles North at Wheaton Warrenville South, 7 p.m.
Wheaton North at Batavia, 7 p.m.
DUPAGE VALLEY
Metea Valley at Waubonsie Valley, 7 p.m.
Naperville Central at Neuqua Valley, 7 p.m.
Naperville North at DeKalb, 7 p.m.
FOX VALLEY
Hampshire at Huntley, 7 p.m.
Jacobs at Dundee-Crown, 7 p.m.
McHenry at Burlington Central, 7 p.m.
KISHWAUKEE RIVER/INTERSTATE EIGHT BLUE
Johnsburg at Sandwich, 7 p.m.
Richmond-Burton at Plano, 7:30 p.m.

KISHWAUKEE RIVER/INTERSTATE EIGHT WHITE

Ottawa at Kaneland, 7 p.m.

NORTH SUBURBAN

Libertyville at Waukegan, 7 p.m.

Mundelein at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Warren at Lake Zurich, 7 p.m.

Zion-Benton at Lake Forest, 7:30 p.m.

NORTHERN LAKE COUNTY

Antioch at Grayslake North, 7 p.m.

Grayslake Central at Wauconda, 7 p.m.

Lakes at North Chicago, 7 p.m.

Round Lake at Grant, 7 p.m.

PUBLIC RED

Perspectives-Leadership vs. Morgan Park, 4:15 p.m.

SOUTH SUBURBAN BLUE

Lemont at Oak Forest, 7 p.m.

Tinley Park at T.F. North, 6 p.m.

SOUTH SUBURBAN RED

Richards at Evergreen Park, 7 p.m.

Shepard at Argo, 6 p.m.

SOUTHLAND

Kankakee at Thornwood, 6 p.m.

Riverside-Brookfield at Crete-Monee, 7 p.m.

Thornridge at Thornton, 6 p.m.

SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE WEST

Minooka at Oswego East, 7 p.m.

Oswego at Plainfield North, 7 p.m.

Yorkville at West Aurora, 7 p.m.

UPSTATE EIGHT

Bartlett at Glenbard South, 7 p.m.

Glenbard East at **Streamwood**, 7 p.m.

South Elgin at East Aurora, 7 p.m.

West Chicago at **Elgin**, 7 p.m.

NONCONFERENCE

Benet at De La Salle, 7:30 p.m.

Bolingbrook at Lincoln-Way West, 7:30 p.m.

Carmel at Mount Carmel, 7:30 p.m.

Hillcrest at Eisenhower, 6:30 p.m.

Homewood-Flossmoor at Stagg, 6 p.m.

Joliet Catholic at Wheaton St. Francis, 7:30 p.m.
Kingdom Prep Lutheran (Wis.) at Aurora Central Catholic, 6 p.m.
Lincoln-Way East at Andrew, 7 p.m.
Lockport at Bradley-Bourbonnais, 7:30 p.m.
Marist at IC Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
Marmion at St. Rita, 7:30 p.m.
Montini at Marian Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
Providence at De Paul Prep, 7 p.m.
Sandburg at Lincoln-Way Central, 7 p.m.
St. Viator at Brother Rice, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

PUBLIC WHITE SOUTH-CENTRAL

Ag. Science vs. Dyett at Gately Stadium, 5 p.m.

SOUTH SUBURBAN RED

Oak Lawn at Reavis, 1 p.m.

SOUTHLAND

Rich Township at Bloom, noon.

NONCONFERENCE

St. Laurence vs. Leo at St. Rita, 1 p.m.

LOCAL COLLEGES

CCIW

North Central College at Elmhurst, 2 p.m.

NONCONFERENCE

Madonna (Mich.) at St. Xavier, noon.

St. Francis at Taylor (Ind.), noon.

Siena Heights (Mich.) at Judson, 1 p.m.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

FOOTBALL

WEEK 4

CCL/ESCC BLUE

Loyola 41, Brother Rice 24

Brother Rice (2-2, 0-1): Randall Nauden 21 carries, 131 yards, 2 TDs (1, 60 yards). Cooper McAlilly 35-yard TD run.

FOX VALLEY

Crystal Lake Central 25, Burlington Central 10

SOUTH SUBURBAN BLUE

T.F. North 17, T.F. South 14

T.F. North (4-0, 1-0 SSC Blue): Dominic Gradford 29-yard TD pass to Terrion Long.

Tristan Jackson 4-yard TD run. First 4-0 record since 2009.

T.F. South (0-4, 0-2): Jamari Crawford 1-yard TD run. Streeter 3-yard TD run.

BOYS SOCCER

Batavia 2, Wheaton Academy 2

Beecher 4, Bishop McNamara 0

Bloom 2, Andrew 0

Brother Rice 3, IC Catholic 0

Burlington Central 1, Belvidere North 1

Burlington Central (6-0-3): Maximus Salas goal.

Chicago Christian 4, Evergreen Park 0

Chicago Christian (4-6-4): Evan Sweester goal, assist.

Clifton Central 5, Sandwich 2

Elk Grove 3, **Bartlett** 1

Geneva 3, **South Elgin** 2

Geneva (6-4-1): Kieran Kelly goal. Trent Giansanti goal. Carter Konkey goal.

South Elgin (4-5-2): Ryan Nguyen goal. Ashton Kerrigan goal.

Grant Park 3, Illinois Lutheran 2

Harvard 1, Jacobs 0

Lake Zurich 6, Lakes 0

Lake Zurich (7-3-1): Caden Wits 2 goals. Ethan Goldberg 2 goals. Anthony Kim 2 assists.

Lockport 4, Homewood-Flossmoor 0

Marian Catholic 5, Carmel 4 (OT)

Naperville North 5, Fremd 0

Naperville North (9-1): Jaxon Stokes 3 goals. Anthony Flores 3 assists.

St. Patrick 2, Marist 1

Marist: Jack Heidemann goal.

St. Viator 9, Joliet Catholic 0

Stevenson 3, Leyden 2

Wauconda 2, Lake Forest 1

Lake Forest (4-4-1): Tyler Bernstein goal.

Waukegan 1, Glenbrook South 0

West Aurora 7, Kaneland 0

West Aurora (11-0): Brandon Martinez 2 goals.

MORTON PREMIER INVITATIONAL

Benet 1, Lane 1

PLAINFIELD CLASSIC

Championship Round

Bolingbrook 1, Oswego 0, championship
Oswego 1, Downers Grove North 0, semifinal
Bolingbrook 3, Waubonsie Valley 0, semifinal
Final Round
Sandburg 9, Plainfield South 1
Sandburg (3-6-1): Merrill Surapiboonchai 3 goals. Ben Lyons 2 goals, assist.
Plainfield North 3, East Aurora 0
Wheaton North 3, Lincoln-Way East 0
STREAMWOOD FALL CLASSIC
Oak Park/River Forest 5, **Streamwood** 0, championship

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

GLENBARD WEST TOURNAMENT

Glenbard West d. Kaneland 25-12, 25-7, championship

MANTENO INVITATIONAL

Homewood-Flossmoor d. Timothy Christian 25-16, 25-13, championship

MOUNT PULASKI FALL FESTIVAL

Lincoln d. Newark 25-17, 25-19, championship

Newark (15-2): Kiara Wesseh 34 kills. Adrianna Larsen 22 kills. Lauren Ulrich 73 assists, 20 digs. Elle Norquist 44 digs, 7 aces.

OAK LAWN SPARTAN CLASSIC

Gold Bracket

Lincoln-Way West d. Romeoville 25-23, 25-16, championship

St. Laurence d. Lincoln-Way Central 25-15, 25-23, third

St. Laurence (17-7): Kayla Birmingham 23 kills, 15 digs, 5 aces. Aubrey Martinez 20 kills. Gabby Seyfarth 16 kills. Vianne Villa 59 assists, 12 digs.

Lincoln-Way Central (9-6): Kiera King 23 kills, 61 assists, 31 digs. Brooke Smid 22 kills. Kylie McCarthy 36 digs.

Silver Bracket

Providence d. Oak Lawn 22-25, 25-15, 15-10, fifth

De La Salle d. Evergreen Park 25-8, 25-11, seventh

WHEATON CLASSIC

Gold Bracket

Benet d. Marist 25-20, 25-18, championship

LOCAL COLLEGES

FOOTBALL

CCIW

North Central College (2-0, 1-0): Luke Lehnert 10-for-12, 263 yards, 4 TDs; 12-yard TD run. Joe Sacco 11 carries, 131 yards, 15-yard TD run. Joey Lombardi North Central College

70, Carthage (Wis.) 0

3 receptions, 110 yards, TD (22). DeAngelo Hardy 5 receptions, 102 yards, 2 TDs (3, 57).

MIDWEST

Lake Forest College 41, Cornell (Iowa) 7

Lake Forest College (3-0, 2-0): Tre Stewart 15-for-28, 202 yards, 2 TDs. Taylen Goodwin 9 carries, 81 yards, 1-yard TD run. Trevor Land 5 receptions, 88 yards, 2 TDs (45, 9); 26-yard TD run.

NACC

Aurora University 63, Benedictine 7

AU (3-0, 1-0): Ian Luyando 18-for-24, 388 yards, 6 TDs. Trey Madsen 5 receptions, 109 yards, 3 TDs. (2, 26, 62). James Mautino 3 receptions, 85 yards, 2 TDs (40, 20).

NONCONFERENCE

Concordia (Mich.) 54, Judson 0

Indiana Wesleyan 16, St. Xavier 15

St. Francis 14, Lawrence Tech (Mich.) 12

St. Francis (3-0): Carl Bew 14 carries, 115 yards, 65-yard TD run. Scott Tumilty 1-yard TD run.

- Daily Herald -

Week 4 football roundup for DuPage County and Fox

By: Dick Quagliano

9/16/2023

It was a wild and controversial finish in West Chicago Friday as Wheaton Academy lost to Hope Academy 30-29.

It was already a crazy fourth quarter as Hope Academy (3-1, 1-1) scored and converted a two-point conversion to take a 30-23 lead with under a minute to play. It was the fourth lead change of the quarter.

Undaunted, Wheaton Academy rallied. The Warriors marched 80 yards in 16 seconds to close to 30-29 as time expired as Brett Kasper connected with Ben Dehaan on a 40-yard touchdown to make it 30-29. Unfortunately, the Warriors were then whistled for an excessive celebration penalty as two Wheaton players had their helmets off.

The officials assessed two 15-yard penalties on the Warriors, making the extra point a 50-yard attempt. Ethan Head, who had previously converted three field goals of 26, 24 and

32 yards, saw his attempt fall three yards short.

Kasper had two touchdown passes and threw for 134 yards. Gino Spinelli had two rushing scores for the Warriors (3-1, 1-1).

Crystal Lake South 38, Hampshire 28:

Jake Christensen ran for three touchdowns and Caden Casimino ran for two others as Crystal Lake South rallied for the win. Trailing 14-7 in the second quarter, Crystal Lake South (2-2, 2-2) rattled off 24 consecutive points to pull away. The Gators piled up 237 rushing yards and 461 total yards.

Christensen had touchdown runs of two, eight and two yards and finished with 163 yards on 20 carries. Casimino had 55 yards on 14 carries with scoring runs of 19 and two yards. He was also 19-of-29 for 224 yards. JJ Semradek booted a 36-yard field goal.

Luke Lacke threw three touchdowns and was 15-of-32 for 269 yards for Hampshire (1-3, 1-3).

Hinsdale South 24, Addison Trail 0:

Hinsdale South (2-2, 2-0) got a trio of touchdown passes from Langston Love (11-of-16, 178 yards). Love connected with Nathaniel Fundator on a 17-yard scoring pass, Sam Schuyler on a 45-yarder and Daxton Michales from 9 yards out. It was the second consecutive shutout by Hinsdale South which allowed just 53 rushing yards to Addison Trail (2-2, 0-2).

York 56, Oak Park 28:

York piled up 546 yards of total offense as the Dukes (4-0, 1-0) marched on. Sean Winton was 13-for-26 passing for 203 and three touchdowns. Two of those touchdowns went to Luke Mailander (5 receptions, 142 yards) including a 94-yard touchdown. Chris Danko had five receptions for 54 yards and a touchdown. He also had a 99-yard kickoff return. Jake Melion (18 carries, 156 yards) ran for a pair of touchdowns.

York's starting defense, led by Donato Balice (INT), Jimmy Conners (INT), Cole Ostendorf, Andrew Bricker and Joe Reiff, held Oak Park (1-3, 1-1) to 30 rushing yards and 10-of-28 passing.

Fenwick 17, St. Francis 16:

Fenwick (3-1, 1-0) turned out the lights on St. Francis. A power outage knocked the lights out for a short period of time with 10.8 seconds to play with Fenwick at the St. Francis 8-yard line. When the lights returned, Fenwick's Noah Sur kicked a 25-yard field goal for the game-winner.

The Spartans (2-2, 0-1) had taken a 16-7 lead early in the fourth quarter on a 29-yard field goal by Jack Augustine, a 51-yard touchdown pass from Alessio Milivojevic to Zachary

Washington and a one-yard touchdown run by Tyvonn Ransom.

Glenbard South 57, **Streamwood** 6:

Streamwood (1-3, 1-3) took an early 6-0 lead. But it was all Glenbard South (4-0, 4-0) from there. Michale Champagne would throw three touchdown passes and run for a 47-yard touchdown and add a conversion run. He threw a 36-yarder to Carter London, a 20-yarder to Jonny Baldauf, and a 27-yarder to Cam Williams, who also had a 62-yard touchdown run. London added a 29-yard run while Tarwain Davis would score from 27 yards out.

West Aurora 21, Plainfield East 7:

Terrence Smith had a huge game for the Blackhawks (4-0). The junior caught a pair of touchdown passes covering 41 and 9 yards. He also returned a kickoff 92 yards for a touchdown. He finished 182 all-purpose yards. Quarterback Mason Atkins threw for 124 yards and a touchdown while Reece Wagner threw for 51 yards and a touchdown.

Coal City 41, Lisle 7:

Lisle fell behind 41-0 at the half. The Lions (1-3, 0-2) scored on a fourth-quarter touchdown pass by Drew Nigro.

Marquette 55, Westmont 6:

Lucas Fears had a 78-yard touchdown run in the second quarter for Westmont (1-3, 0-2).

Aurora Christian 46, St. Edward 0:

Aurora Christian (3-1, 2-0) rolled in **Elgin**. It was the second shutout of the season for the Eagles while St. Edward is 0-4, 0-2.

Glenbard East 57, East Aurora 6:

Blake Salvino threw four touchdowns as the Rams (3-1, 3-1) rolled past East Aurora (2-2, 2-2).

- Daily Herald -

Bartlett's run game wears down Elgin

By: Allen Oshinski

9/15/2023

Call it old-school, smashmouth, grind-it-out ... but whatever it's called, it describes **Bartlett's** offense to a T.

And Milan Vuckovich couldn't be happier about it.

Using its 1-2 sophomore punch of tailback Joey Caputo and fullback Isaac Harris, the Hawks downed **Elgin** in the second half and pulled away for a 35-14 Upstate Eight victory Friday in Bartlett.

Harris ran for 200 yards and 2 scores and Caputo added 178 yards and a score. Quarterback Vincent Yario threw for a touchdown and ran for another.

The teams were tied at 14 at halftime, but the Hawks broke it open after intermission. Harris scored his first touchdown from 10 yards out, breaking several tackles along the way, to make it 21-14. The score capped a 2-play drive, the other of which was his 50-yard run.

It was all Harris on the Hawks' next possession as well. He carried it 7 straight times, capping it off with a 3-yard burst for the score.

Caputo added the clincher on a 3-yard run with just over 3 minutes to go.

As the game wound down, the Hawks appeared to wear down the **Elgin** defense as Harris and Caputo picked up yardage in big chunks.

"We told those linemen, 'This is on you,' and they did exactly what we needed them to do," Vuckovich said. "And we found something with those two, the big fullback and the bigger tailback. They just went downhill and that was old-school, **Bartlett** football right there."

After a scoreless first quarter, the Maroons struck first. When Bartlett's field-goal attempt was blocked, Jeremiah Hill scooped up the loose ball and raced 75 yards the other way.

After **Bartlett** answered on Yario's scoring run, the Maroons took the lead again. They took advantage of a short field following the second of Julian Carlson's 2 interceptions, with Dward Ward taking it in from 8 yards away.

Bartlett could move the ball through the air when it had to. Late in the half, Yario found Jacob Caradine for a 38-yard score. The Hawks got the ball back late in the half and completed 2 more passes on the next drive but ran out of time at the **Elgin** 40-yard line.

Carlson nearly had a third interception just before halftime.

For the game, Yario completed 4 of 14 passes for 81 yards. All of the completions and all but one of the attempts came in the first half.

The Maroons alternated Nick Avina and Ward at quarterback. Neither could get much traction as a passer as both were plagued by drops. Ward finished as **Elgin's** leading rusher with 95 yards.

- Daily Herald -

Two goal-line stands help South Elgin shut out Larkin

By: Jared Birchfield

9/15/2023

South Elgin beat **Larkin** 36-0 Friday night at Memorial Field for its first shutout of the season.

But the pesky Royals did not make it easy for the Storm in the Upstate Eight contest. Twice, Larkin move the ball within ten yards of the goal line. Both times, **South Elgin's** defense made goal-line stands to keep the Royals off the board.

Larkin also had new quarterback. Aden Mora, a sophomore call-up, guide the team's offense throughout the entire game.

"It always good to get a win in conference play and it was a tough one. When we needed to make plays, we did," said **South Elgin** coach Dragan Teonic. "They had two very nice long drives. We bulked on the goal line and made the stops."

Mora did not have much time to prepare for his new role.

"He had two days of practice and I thought he did an outstanding job with trying to digest as much of the offense as he could," Larkin coach Vincent Ray said. "He played with some tremendous heart."

South Elgin (4-0, 4-0) wasted no time in getting on the scoreboard, scoring on the opening kick-off. Brandon Berrios caught the kick and after recovering his own fumble, raced 80 yards to put the Storm up 7-0, 17 seconds into the contest.

"When the ball was kicked, I thought I was going to catch it because I was under it but it slipped out of my hands," Berrios said. "But I knew I keep the play going. So, I took the ball and my blockers led the way to the touchdown."

Larkin (1-3, 1-3) came close to tying the contest on its first possession. The Royals marched 63 yards on 11 plays to **South Elgin's** 7-yard. Facing fourth and goal, the Storm defense stopped fullback Diyonnes King in the back field to end the drive.

South Elgin scored 3 second quarter passing touchdowns to open up the game up. Quarterback Jack Ginnan connected with Jabari Pruitt for a 22-yard TD score 58 seconds into the period. The junior also teamed up with Berrios for a 16-yard score. Ginnan closed out the second half finding Ishmael George, his favorite target in the end zone and completing a 23 -yard pass with 7.9 seconds left in the half. The Storm led 29-0 at halftime.

Ginnan completed nine of 14 attempts for 151 yards. George caught five for 84 yards. **Larkin** opened the second half with another long, time-consuming drive that moved the ball to the Storm's 2-yard line. This drive stalled out on an offensive foul and the Storm defense preventing a fourth down conversion.

Nicolas Barkho (7 carries for 54 yards) scored **South Elgin's** final TD on a 4-yard run at the 9:18 mark of the fourth quarter.

The victory was **South Elgin's** 28th conference win in a row.