

## **Press Clippings 10/26/19 to 10/28/19**

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**There are no U-46 related news stories.**

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#### **---The Courier-News---10/27/2019**

#### **U46 board opposes arming staffers**

Resolution coming up again at state school conference

**By: Rafael Guerrero**

School District U46 board members oppose a resolution to allow schools to arm and train school staff that will be discussed at a state school conference next month.

As is the case every fall, U46 officials and board members reviewed the resolutions to be discussed at the Illinois Association of School Boards conference, which brings education representatives from across the state to Chicago. School boards generally reach a consensus in their respective board rooms on the IASB resolutions and send one of their members to the conference to vote on each proposal. The votes at the conference give the IASB direction on potential legislation to pursue.

One of the more contentious proposals at last year's conference was a resolution requesting lawmakers allow school districts to train and arm school staff with guns, but the resolution failed 203-179. A revised resolution from a rural western Illinois district is up for a vote at this year's IASB conference, one that the IASB recommends that school boards support.

At a meeting Monday, the U46 cabinet of administrators told the school board they opposed the resolution.

"There's additional requirements and certification," U46 chief legal officer Miguel Rodriguez said. "Even though IASB is recommending you adopt it, we as cabinet members recommend you do not adopt it."

Board members agreed to reject the resolution, just like last year.

The school board, meanwhile, will wait until its next meeting to decide whether to support creating a grant program to add school safety personnel. The resolution from the Wheeling school district would lobby for the program to hire school resource officers or safety personnel.

Administrators suggested the school board oppose the resolution. CEO Tony Sanders said while they support the grant program, the IASB resolution includes language that would allow school districts to hire off-duty or retired police officers.

"We think if anyone is going to be someone who is armed in our schools, it should be someone as (a school resource officer)," Rodriguez said.

Some on the school board, though, support the resolution's intent. Board member Kate Thommes said U46 is fortunate their secondary schools have school resource officers and law enforcement agencies can respond to an emergency within minutes. The situation could be different in rural and downstate districts, she said.

"It's arrogant of us to determine how a community vastly different than us gets to protect itself," she said.

"I get that we're supposed to be representing our district. However, this particular situation here has ramifications statewide," added board member Melissa Owens. "I really do feel like the rationale behind this (resolution) was to bridge that gap and to open some possibilities for schools downstate that have very little resources, very little funding for them to be able to try to address the security concerns."

The school board will wait until its next meeting in November to support or reject the resolution in order to get more specifics, such as training requirements and more on the off-duty/retired officers component. The IASB conference is scheduled for Nov. 22-24.

## **Career Pathways charts practical course**

**By: Linda McDaniel-Hale**

In the 2021-22 school year, students in District U46 will begin participating in a new academic program called Career Pathways in which they'll select from 16 different career clusters and start to develop work skills.

Current 7th-graders will be the first class to enroll in this innovative program. "The new College and Career Academies will be designed to prepare U46 students for the rigors of college and tomorrow's career skills," the district's website says.

All five high schools will house five academies emphasizing fine arts, human services, liberal arts, business and STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics).

Lela Majstorovic, U46 assistant superintendent for secondary education, said, "We are hoping to empower students to explore a field of interest and learn more about themselves in the process."

This program is an outstanding way to prepare students for their future career paths, especially for those students not interested in pursuing a college degree. As the baby boomers employed in the trades continue to retire, the workforce is in great need of skilled workers.

What better way to give students the opportunity to learn job skills while they are in high school? After graduation, students with job skills can work and attend college courses at night or take them online. With the cost of college being so expensive, this is definitely a cost-effective alternative to attending full-time.

Judy Mortrude, senior policy analyst for the Center for Law and Social Policy said, "When it comes to workforce development, career pathways are the best way to build individual prosperity and regional economic competitiveness."

As the second largest school district in the state, U46 is showing itself to be a trendsetter for developing programming that will provide its students with the opportunity to graduate with skills to immediately join the workforce.

The U46 community will be able to welcome the class of 2025 into job opportunities using their newly-acquired skills. Career Pathways will make it possible for students to better utilize their four years of high school, and it's especially helpful for those students who are unsure of wanting to attend a four-year college or university right after graduation.

## ---Chicagobears.com---10/26/2019

### This week in the community:

The Bears continued to support Crucial Catch initiatives throughout the month of October while celebrating youth and high school football.

**Advocate Surprise:** Javon Wims surprised participants in an Advocate Cardio Strength Class at Advocate Lutheran General–Cancer Survivorship Center by helping to lead stretches and distributing gift bags. He also surprised life-long Bears fan and breast cancer survivor, Jolanta Krysztopa, with a customized jersey as well as tickets and pregame field passes to an upcoming Bears game thanks to our Community Connections program brought to you by Jewel Osco.



**Hometown Grant:** The Chicago Bears, in partnership with Midwest Dairy, awarded two **Elgin U-46 schools**, **Lords Park Elementary** and **Ellis Middle School**, with a \$10,000 NFL Hometown Grant to support the schools' nutrition and physical activity programs. The assembly featured an appearance by David Montgomery and Staley Da Bear. Developed by the NFL and Fuel Up to Play 60 in 2014, the initiative provides grants to support physical activity and nutrition programs in school districts in 32 NFL markets.

**High School Coach and All-Star of the Week:** Adam Nissen of St. Laurence High School in Burbank, IL, was named the Chicago Bears High School "Coach of the Week" for Week 7 and running back Ian Ridge of Elk Grove High School in Elk Grove Village, Ill., was named the Chicago Bears "High School All-Star." Nissen and the Vikings (4-3) tallied a 21-10 win at Brother Rice (4-3) on October 11 to keep their postseason hopes alive; Brother Rice was ranked No. 10 in the Illinois Class 7A AP Rankings at the time.

Ridge, a junior, registered a school-record 422 rushing yards and seven touchdowns in the Grenadiers (2-5) 59-33 win at Wheeling (0-7) last Friday. His 422 rushing yards are tied for 18th in IHSA history. The “Coach of the Week” and “High School All-Stars” programs are brought to you by Athletico Physical Therapy.



**Mini Monsters Clinics:** The Bears hosted two Mini Monsters Clinics brought to you by Advocate Health Care this past week. One clinic was held at Whittier Elementary School with alumnus Anthony Morgan and the other was held at Anderson Elementary School with alumnus Jim Schwantz. Local police officers also helped out at Whittier Elementary School. So far this year, more than 10,000 kids have participated in Mini Monsters Clinics, which is a free 90-minute youth program that stresses the importance of healthy eating, physical activity and proper hydration through fun, non-contact football drills.

## **SPORTS**

**---The Courier-News---10/27/2019**

### **Saved by Xavier**

Bonds racks up 308 yards and 4 TDs as Elgin edges East Aurora

**By: Paul Johnson**



Elgin's Xavier Bonds runs the ball against East Aurora on Friday.



Elgin quarterback Jeffery Lomax tosses a pass to Darien Jackson for a touchdown.

Elgin coach Anthony Mason said he knew senior receiver Xavier Bonds was ready to go Friday night against East Aurora.

How big was the game?

The winner would become playoff eligible for the first time in at least a decade, but Mason had no idea what Bonds had in store.

An incredible performance by Bonds in all three phases of the game propelled the Maroons to a 32-26 Upstate Eight Conference victory.

It was the fifth straight win for Elgin (5-4, 5-4), which ended up on the right side of the ledger as Bonds delivered 308 total yards and four touchdowns.

“I knew for a fact he was ready to go, but man, that performance is one of the best I’ve ever seen as far as all-around,” Mason said. “He’s our everything.”

Bonds’ 4-yard TD run with 0:29 left in the first half gave Elgin a 26-12 halftime lead. He then electrified the Memorial Field crowd with a 95-yard kick return to start the second half.

“Coach said, ‘Make a play, XB,’” Bonds said. “I didn’t expect them to kick it to me. I got the ball, went to one side, they all went to one side. I just cut back and made a play.”

Junior quarterback Jeffery Lomax threw three TDs in the first half, with two to Bonds of 17 and 80 yards. Lomax added a 33-yarder to Darien Jackson.

Brandon Bridges also ran for 109 yards for the Maroons.

Behind senior quarterback Orlando Garcia, however, East Aurora (4-5, 4-5) fought back. Elgin did not score again after Bonds’ kickoff return.

Garcia threw an 11-yard TD pass to Sebastian Renteria and added a 1-yard TD run to make it interesting in the second half. Garcia ran for 145 yards and threw for 131.

“It’s like having a coach out there,” East Aurora coach Nick Kukuc said of Garcia. “He did an outstanding job. He’s the heart and soul of this team.”

Despite the loss, East Aurora had its most wins in 20 years. The Tomcats were looking to return to the postseason for the first time since 1982.

“I’m so proud of them, not only because of the 4-5 record,” Kukuc said.

“I’m proud of them because they created a culture.

“The goal for us every year is to leave the program better than you found it. These guys did that. I’m so proud of them.”

Bonds needed his second interception of the game and a pass breakup to stop a potential first down on East Aurora’s last drive to help Elgin hold off the hard-charging Tomcats in the fourth quarter and earn the win.

Bonds spoke Friday morning with 2018 Elgin Sports Hall of Fame inductee Richard Hersey. Bonds broke Hersey’s single-season TD record, pushing his season total to 18 with the kick return.

“He told me to go get it,” Bonds said. “It was one of my personal goals.”

In addition, Bonds and the Maroons achieved a major team goal.

“It means a lot, going to the playoffs,” Bonds said. “We’re going to make a run for it.”

**---Daily Herald---10/26/2019**

## **Bartlett earns UEC share by stopping Streamwood**

**By: Seth Hancock**

The Bartlett football team keeps building momentum, winning their seventh straight game heading into the playoffs on Friday night at Bartlett.

Jumping to a 21-0 lead after one quarter, the Hawks went on to defeat Streamwood 47-6 to clinch a share of the Upstate Eight Conference title with South Elgin and Glenbard East.

Bartlett (8-1, 8-1 UEC) scored on all three of its first quarter possessions with no drive longer than 55 yards, and it took only 13 plays from scrimmage. Senior Tyler Rivelli struck first on a 3-yard scoring run, and junior quarterback Michael Priami threw a pair of TD passes from 35 yards out to Hayden Angell and 29 yards to Alec Palella.

"We had to come out fast," said Priami who finished 6-for-9 with 169 yards and 3 TD passes as well as 1 rushing touchdown. "That was our game plan all week, just go out and hit them first and we did that, 21-0. We got three touchdowns in the first and put them to bed early."

Priami added a 55-yard TD pass to senior Mathew Young for a 41-6 lead late in the third quarter, and he had a 14-yard scoring run in the fourth to end the game's scoring.

Although leading throughout, the Sabres (2-7, 2-7) showed some fight not allowing any more first half points to Bartlett. Streamwood also gained 113 of its 138 total yards in the first half.

After the Hawks increased their lead to 27-0 after an 80-yard punt return from Nicholas Bucaro, Jakobe Strong had a huge return on the ensuing kickoff setting the Sabres up 8 yards from the end zone. Senior Sirrion Dixon eventually put Streamwood on the board on a 1-yard touchdown run to pull within 27-6 with 7:44 left in the third.

"We had kind of just gotten a little bit healthy, so we were able to move it a little bit," Sabres coach Don Guindon said. "I'm proud of their effort and stuff like that, especially in our last game with our seniors."

A little over two minutes later, Jordan Snyder capped a 54-yard drive with a 3-yard touchdown run for a 34-6 Hawks lead.

The Hawks offense finished the game with 332 total yards, and their defense forced two turnovers.

For Bartlett coach Matt Erlenbaugh, earning a conference title and heading into the postseason with a strong winning streak, which included a huge 17-14 victory over rival South Elgin last week, shows that the team is buying into the program's system.

"It's a good feeling," said Erlenbaugh. "It shows our guys that we're on the right path and the things that we're doing in the offseason, the things that we were preaching and stressing, it's showing and it's paying off. Keep the course, and great things will come."

## **South Elgin tops Fenton to tie for UEC crown**

**By: Allen Oshinski**

A certain symmetry attended South Elgin's 56-13 defeat of Fenton Friday night in South Elgin.

The Storm scored 2 touchdowns through the air. Two backs scored twice apiece on the ground. And special teams added 2 scores for the Storm (8-1, 8-1).

Symmetry or not, the scoring output was a thing of beauty for the Storm after being held to their lowest point total of the season a week ago against Bartlett. The win allowed South Elgin to clinch a share of the Upstate Eight title with Bartlett and Glenbard East and improve its playoff seeding.

Alex Noworol returned 2 punts for touchdowns, Marquis Gillespie II and Corve King scored twice each on the ground, and Ben Karpowicz threw 2 TD passes for South Elgin.

Nick Benn threw a touchdown pass to Andre Bess and ran for another score for Fenton (2-7, 2-7).

The Storm wasted no time, scoring on the game's first possession. Gillespie took a pitch 18 yards down the left sideline to put the home team ahead for good. Then, after the defense forced a 3-and-out, Noworol returned the ensuing punt 44 yards for another score.

"It's always great to get going early," Karpowicz said. "It makes everybody play easier, especially after last week after we had a tough time moving the football, it was good to get out here and get back to normal."

Four second-quarter scores allowed the Storm to break the game wide open. Karpowicz threw scoring passes to Gillespie and King, King scored on a 48-yard run, and Noworol capped it off with his second touchdown return 8 seconds before halftime.

"I thought we played really well in all three phases," said Storm coach Dragan Teonic. "We've got a couple of situational things that we probably need to address. But I'm really proud of the kids."

Teonic views the conference crown as the first in school history, as the Storm previously won a division of the UEC.

Fenton kept things interesting for awhile. After a long kickoff return by Frank Krygier, they drove 52 yards, with Bess scoring on a 22-yard screen pass to make it 21-7. But South Elgin needed just 4 plays to get it back, with King taking it the last 48.

Karpowicz was the model of efficiency, attempting just 5 passes but completing all 5 for 108 yards and adding 16 yards on 3 rushes. Gillespie finished with 123 rushing yards on just 7 attempts while King rushed 4 times for 67 yards. With a 63-yard TD reception, Gillespie finished with 186 yards from scrimmage.

For Fenton, Benn threw for 116 yards. Bess caught 2 of those passes for 51 yards and rushed for 70 more.

## **Elgin holds off East Aurora to become playoff eligible**

**By: Jared Birchfield**

The name is Bonds ... Xavier Bonds.

That name will always be associated with Elgin's 32-26 win over East Aurora Friday night to become playoff eligible for the first time in nine years.

The senior scored four of the Maroons' five touchdowns, intercepted two passes and forced a Tomcat fumble.

Bonds' most critical play came with 2:49 left to play in the game. East Aurora was on Elgin's 39-yard line and threatening to tie the game at 32-all. He intercepted an Orlando Garcia pass at the 26-yard line to end the threat and the drive.

"He wanted it. We told him at the beginning of the game, it was his (game). It was senior night and he was ready to go," said Elgin coach Anthony Mason. "He fought hard. He went out and showed everybody that he is an all-state player."

The game was still tense. Elgin was unable to mount a drive on the ensuing possession and punted from its 30-yard line. The Tomcats regained the ball with 1:14 left to play. On fourth down-and-inches to go, Garcia was stuffed.

Garcia had given the Maroons' defense fits all night. The senior QB rushed 29 times for 152 yards.



Elgin (5-4, 5-4) jumped out to a 12-0 lead in the first quarter both on passes from Jeffrey Lomax to Bonds (3 catches for 106 yards). Lomax completed 5 of 8 attempts for 138 yards.

East Aurora (4-5, 4-5) sandwiched two scores between two Elgin touchdowns in the second quarter to trail 26-12 at halftime.

After a 33-yard scoring pass from Lomax to Darien Jackson, Kimani Williams scored twice for the Tomcats on runs of five and 33 yards.

Bonds ended the first half scoring with a 5-yard run.

Bonds opened the third quarter by returning the opening kick off 98-yards. It was his 18th TD of the season, setting a new Elgin single season scoring record.

East Aurora answered with two scores of its own. The first was an 11-yard pass from Garcia to Sebastian Renteria. The second was a 1-yard plunge by Garcia.

Going into tonight's game, Elgin had 36 playoff points (total of opponents wins) and will pick up four more since all of its games were played against Upstate Eight Conference foes. Last year, teams with five wins needed 38 points to secure a playoff berth.