

**UPCOMING EVENTS****Elgin Boys Basketball**

- Boys Basketball
- Dec. 28-29 Mike Smith Classic

Girls Basketball

- Dec. 27-29 Bastrop Tourn.
- Dec. 31 @ Hendrickson

Bastrop Boys Basketball

- Dec. 27-28 Boerne Tourn.

Girls Basketball

- Dec. 27-29 GM Blackman Tourn.
- Dec. 31 Manor

Smithville Boys Basketball

- Dec. 28-30 Cameron Tourn.
- Dec. 31 @ LaGrange

Girls Basketball

- Dec. 28-30 Cameron Tourn.

Cedar Creek Boys

- Dec. 27-28 Fredericksburg Tourn.

Girls

- Dec. 27-29 GM Blackman Tourn.

- Dec. 31 Cedar Creek

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Elgin grounds Lady Eagles

By Matthew Hooks

tpsports@taylorpress.net

In a never-close contest, the Elgin Lady Cats defeated Cedar Creek at home last Friday 43-21 to open district play 1-0.

The Lady Cats built a 13-3 lead over the Lady Eagles to close out the opening quarter.

Midway through the second, Elgin had stretched their lead even further against the Lady

Eagles 19-4, a lead that culminated in a 29-6 halftime advantage for Elgin.

With 2:30 remaining in the third quarter, the Lady Eagles would finally break into the

double-digit column, trailing 34-10.

The Lady Cats headed into the fourth with a 36-11 lead over Cedar Creek. The Lady Eagles battled their toughest in the final quarter, but it

was the Lady Cats coming away with the win.

The Lady Cats move to 11-5 overall with the win and will be in action again on New Years Eve as they travel to face Pflugerville Hendrickson.

Hawks hand Bears fifth straight loss

By Matthew Hooks

tpsports@taylorpress.net

The Bears dropped their fifth straight game to start district play 0-1 last Friday against the Pflugerville Hendrickson Hawks 66-55.

The Hawks grabbed the early 7-4 advantage in the first quarter with

4:38 to play.

In the second quarter, the Bears battled back to tie the contest 14-14 before hitting a three ball for the lead with 7:47 to play in the frame.

Later in the quarter, the Bears would stretch their lead further after connecting again from long range to 22-14 with

6:36 remaining until the break.

With 3:30 to play in the half, the Hawks stormed back to within two points, 22-20.

With less than a minute to play in the second, the Bears would again connect from long range to retake a five-point lead 29-24.

The Hawks would swing the tables in the second half, and with 4:03 remaining in the game, take a 53-48 lead over the Bears.

The Bears would drop another three ball with under a minute to play to decrease the Hendrickson lead, but the Hawks held on for the win.

As a team, the Bears collected 31 rebounds and 11 steals. They shot 43% from the field and 30% from long range.

The Bears were in action on Saturday against 8-1 Del Valle and also on Tuesday back in district action against the Brenham Cubs.

Lady Hawks crush Bastrop

By Matthew Hooks

tpsports@taylorpress.net

Hendrickson wasted no time against the Bastrop Lady Bears last week 79-18.

With the opening quarter winding down, the Lady Hawks had already

built a 35-4 lead over the Lady Bears.

In the second, the Lady Hawks had extended their lead to 39-6 and continued to grow it to 46-6 late in the second quarter.

In the third, the Lady Hawks continued to dom-

inate, stretching their lead to 50-9 with under seven minutes to play in the quarter.

A brief 6-4 run by the Lady Bears would loosen the Hendrickson grip a little at 54-12.

By the final quarter, the

Lady Hawks had established a 63-17 lead over Bastrop with 7:47 to play.

Hendrickson would finish the contest with a 16-1 run for the win.

The Lady Bears tallied

16 rebounds in the contest and three steals. Bastrop

shot 23% from the field and 30% from three-point range.

Next up, the Lady Bears will be hosting the GM Blackman tournament Dec. 27-29, followed by a home game against Manor to close out 2021 on Dec. 31.

Tigers come up just short against Bellville

By Matthew Hooks

tpsports@taylorpress.net

The Smithville boys basketball team came up just a little short of taking down the Brahmas last Saturday in Bellville, falling 57-55.

After one quarter, the Brahmas held a slim 14-12 advantage.

After two quarters of play, the team headed to the halftime locker room knotted at 25-25. A Deacon Bauerschlag three ball

knotted the game with under one minute to play.

Bellville won the third quarter 17-15, and those two points would be the difference as each team scored 15 in the final eight minutes of the game.

With 2:28 to play in the third, Smithville held a slim 36-35 lead. As the third came to a close, the Brahmas had reclaimed the lead 42-40, a lead that would stretch to 46-40 with under seven minutes

to play in the final frame.

At the 2:54 mark of the fourth, the Brahmas would lead 52-47 as the game came to a close.

The Tigers tallied 25 rebounds and 11 steals against the Brahmas. They

shot 38% from the field and 26% from long range and finished the night 60% from the charity stripe.

On Dec. 28-29, the Tigers will be back in tournament action at Cameron.

CELEBRATING ELGIN'S SESQUICENTENNIAL Christmas celebrations in 1940

Press release

City of Elgin

The City of Elgin will celebrate its Sesquicentennial in 2022. As we look forward to a year to commemorate, educate and celebrate in our community, we look forward to sharing retrospectives about the community.

In 1940, Santa visited the town tree in Veteran's Park every Saturday during December, and the city had a large Christmas parade led by the high school band that was attended by thou-

sands of people. The Elgin Courier also described all the musical performances that the area churches were having.

Christmas music at that time was mainly carols accompanied by organs. St. Peter's Lutheran Church had planned their program and they asked six of their male high school band members to play carols on their band instruments. These boys kept some of the traditions of the lands of their ancestors with food, celebrations, and a love for polka music.

They found that all the assigned carols could be played with a polka beat, and they did this in the performance. What a surprise. The Silent Night Polka and other such carols certainly made the 1940 St. Peter's Christmas program memorable.

Special thanks to Sydne Arbuckle, native Elginite and local historian, for sharing the oral interview excerpt. The Depot Museum, operated by the Elgin Historical Association, manages the photography collection and archives. In addition, several books on Elgin area history, Elgin, and stories from Elgin people are available at the Depot Museum at 14 Depot Square in downtown Elgin.

Join the celebration for the Elgin Sesquicentennial, and volunteer by emailing community@ci.elgin.tx.us or call 512-229-3227.

Jim Mogonye, Emil Mogonye, Milton Dusek, Charlie Mogonye, Joe Haisler and Frank Mogonye were close friends and/or cousins that formed a musical group.

They thought their group sounded great as they practiced marches and polkas.

They found that all the assigned carols could be played with a polka beat, and they did this in the performance. What a surprise. The Silent Night Polka and other such carols certainly made the 1940 St. Peter's Christmas program memorable.

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Community member donates holiday gifts for 74 students at BTW Elementary



Billy Martinez brings toys for each of the BTW Elementary students on Communities In Schools' caseload.

Photo courtesy of Communities In Schools

Press release

Communities In Schools

When Billy Martinez learned that Communities In Schools was looking for holiday gifts for CIS students at Booker T. Washington Elementary school, he volunteered to give a toy to each of the 74 students

on the CIS caseload.

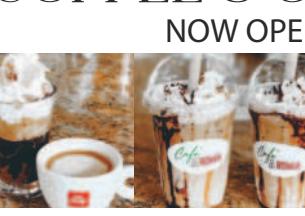
Billy is battling colorectal cancer stage IV and says that helping others helps him feel alive. "Seeing smiles and joy helps me forget about what I am going through," he says.

In addition to the toy donation, Billy and his family donated teddy

bears for the CIS calming corner on campus, and shoes and clothes for the CIS Clothing Closet.

CIS Program Manager Nadia Castilla says, "Billy and his family are a wonderful blessing. Seeing the students as they walked in to a room full of toys was amazing!"

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