

Hazelwood West Boys Volleyball Returns After 18-Year Absence

By Jim Wieners

Hazelwood West last played High School Boys Volleyball in 2003, along with Hazelwood Central, Hazelwood East and St. Thomas Aquinas-Mercy.

Since then Hazelwood Central, Hazelwood East and Hazelwood West dropped Boys Volleyball while Aquinas-Mercy and Rosary became Trinity Catholic in 2003-2004, but the school closed in May 2021.

Although Hazelwood Central and Hazelwood East still do not field Boys Volleyball, Hazelwood West returns the sport after an 18-year absence. Hazelwood West became the first in North County to field Boys Volleyball around either the late 1980s or early 1990s. No Ferguson-Florissant District high schools field Boys Volleyball, and never have fielded Boys Volleyball.

It was a club sport at first but the Missouri State High School Activities Association made it a varsity sport around the late 1990s. However, since there are less than 50 high schools playing Boys Volleyball, and St/Today High School Sports reports that there are 47, MSHSAA can not sanction the state championships so the teams, mainly in the St. Louis area, play post-season tournaments in a two-class format, Class Three and Class Four. Hazelwood West could be in Class Four but assignments are not available.

According to St/Today High School Sports, Hazelwood West head coach Michael Vaughn reports that none of the players competed in the past. Vaughn, who says he coached Girls Volleyball for 15 years, reports that there will be a varsity team and a junior varsity team. Unlike in 2003, where matches are best of three sets, this year many, if not all varsity matches, will be best of five.

Hazelwood West Volleyball began their return about two weeks ago with road matches at St. Rose Philippine Duchesne in St. Charles on March 23 and at Westminster Christian Academy in Town & Country on March 24. West's Varsity lost three very close sets to Duchesne, 25-23, 26-24, 27-25 but the results oft the three-set loss to Westminster were not, 25-15, 25-13, 25-10. West's junior varsity lost two set to one at Westminster.

Hazelwood West returns to action Thursday, April 7, with a 5:30 varsity match at Bayless a day before playing their home opener, Friday, April 8 against former Suburban North Conference rival Ritenour at 6 p.m. West also visits former Suburban North rivals, Pattonville, April 12 while having an April 20 rematch with Ritenour at Costilow Field House. Also, West hosts a pair of St. Louis Public Schools (Collegiate School of Medicine & Bioscience April 19 and Soldan International Studies April 27) that just added Boys Volleyball. Moreover, West has a rematch at Collegiate School of Medicine & Bioscience on May 4.



15-year-old boy taken to hospital after being struck by Hazelwood school bus

HAZELWOOD — A 15-year-old was taken to a hospital on Wednesday after he was run over by a school bus in Hazelwood, authorities said.

The boy's injuries were not considered life-threatening, St. Louis County police said.

Shortly after 1:30 p.m., there was a "disturbance" involving the teen, an adult and additional parties in the 900 block of Prigge Road, which is in front of Hazelwood Southeast Middle School, police said.

The teen tripped, and was run over by a Hazelwood School District bus, according to police, who said the bus driver did not see the teen.

No other details were available.



Teen hit by a bus in north St. Louis County in serious condition

ST. LOUIS COUNTY, Mo. – A 15-year-old boy was seriously injured after being struck by a school bus in north St. Louis County on Wednesday.

The incident happened around 1:30 p.m. at Hazelwood Southeast Middle School, located on Prigge Road, according to the Spanish Lake Fire Protection District.

“The whole back bus tire went completely over his abdomen,” Breanna Davis, the teen’s mother, told FOX 2.

The teen was taken to St. Louis Children’s Hospital. Davis said her son is on a ventilator and suffering from broken ribs, a broken collar bone, a broken arm, and a damaged lung.

Police have not released any further details on the incident.

Student struck by school bus at Hazelwood Southeast Middle School

ST. LOUIS COUNTY, Mo. — A student was struck by a school bus and injured at Hazelwood Southeast Middle School Wednesday afternoon, a district spokeswoman said.

First responders with the Spanish Lake Fire Protection District were called to Hazelwood Southeast Middle School at around 1:25 p.m. A captain with the fire protection district said the student was in serious condition and was taken to St. Louis Children's hospital for treatment.

"We can confirm there was an accident today at Hazelwood Southeast Middle School involving a Hazelwood School District bus," Michelle Whaley with the Hazelwood School District said in an email. "This accident resulted in a student being transported to the hospital for medical attention."

A St. Louis County Police Department spokesperson called the incident a "disturbance involving the school bus" and said a 15-year-old boy was injured. The spokesperson said the boy was not a student on the bus and a related adult was also involved in the "disturbance."

This story will be updated when more information becomes available.

A captain with the Spanish Lake Fire Protection District said the child was in serious condition and was taken to St. Louis Children's Hospital for treatment.



School Bus runs over student in North County



ST. LOUIS, Mo. (KMOV) - Officials reported a 15-year-old student was struck by a school bus near Hazelwood Southeast Middle School Wednesday afternoon.

Police told News 4 that while the bus was pulling in, there was a disturbance in the lot. The student was outside and allegedly tripped and fell, and the bus ran him over.

The student was taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Conservative-backed school board candidates win in Rockwood, St. Charles County



The wave of conservative candidates for school board races had mixed results in Tuesday's local elections, including big wins in the hotly contested Rockwood School District.

Izzy Imig was the top vote-getter in the district after amassing more than \$32,000 in campaign donations and making regular appearances on conservative talk radio. The second open seat went to Jessica Laurent Clark, who was also supported by conservative groups.

School board campaigns across the region were marked by a conservative push against pandemic-related mask and quarantine policies, that then broadened to oppose diversity and equity programs and books with racial and gender themes.

This year, leaders of conservative groups including No Left Turn in Education and Moms for Liberty endorsed candidates in nearly all school board races. Two candidates endorsed by a Maryland Heights megachurch lost their races Tuesday night — Linda Henning for Ritenour School Board and Jeff Mintzclaff for Kirkwood School Board. Conservative candidates were also defeated in Mehlville and in Lindbergh, where Julia Voss and incumbent Jennifer Miller, backed by the teachers union, won the two open seats.

Candidates backed by conservatives also won in Francis Howell, where Randy Cook and Adam Bertrand earned the most votes.

Voters in Normandy and Riverview Gardens elected two school board members each after years under state-appointed boards. Christopher Petty, dean of students in the **Hazelwood School District**, and Harlan Hodge, senior manager of diversity and inclusion at BJC HealthCare, were elected to the Normandy board. In Riverview Gardens, voters elected Niketia Coleman, a teacher in Hazelwood, and retired businesswoman Wanda Lane, who was endorsed by the North County Labor Club.