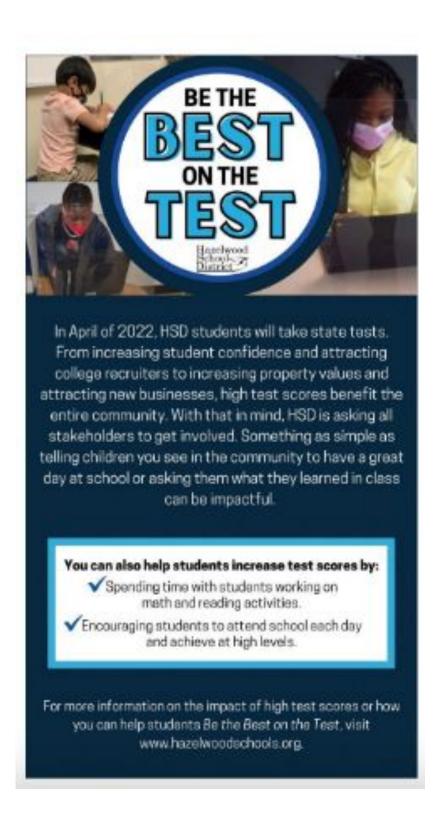
## COMMUNITY NEWS





## Boys basketball notebook: Francis Howell relishes rare home games; Breese Central topples top-ranked Nashville



No. 5 seed Hazelwood Central (7-7) rolled to a 55-26 win behind a smothering defensive effort. Senior guard Trevin Williams had a game-high 20 points along with seven rebounds and four steals for the Hawks.

No. 6 seed Lafayette (10-5) took out No. 3 seed Liberty 68-51 as three Lancers scored in double figures. Senior guard Matt Jones led the way with 28 points.

The semifinals will pit rivals against one another as No. 4 large school De Smet (11-5) faces Hazelwood Central at 7 p.m. Wednesday. It will be the third consecutive time the Spartans and Hawks will face one another at the Parkway West Showdown. Though it's the first time they haven't met in the championship game. De Smet won the previous two times.

No. 7 large school Parkway West (15-1) ended a five-game losing streak to Lafayette last season. Since 2004 Lafayette has dominated Parkway West by winning nine of the previous 11 meetings. The Longhorns haven't won consecutive games against the Lancers since they took four in a row between 2001 and 2004.

The championship game is set for 8:30 p.m. Friday at Parkway West.