

Sports



Associated Press

St. Louis' Brandon Moss watches his two-run home run during the sixth inning Tuesday evening against the Chicago Cubs in St. Louis.

Rookie Reyes comes to rescue for Redbirds

BY DAVID WILHELM
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ST. LOUIS

Rookie Alex Reyes and Brandon Moss came to the St. Louis Cardinals' rescue Tuesday.

Reyes relieved ineffective left-hander Jaime Garcia in the second inning and blanked the Chicago Cubs over the next 4 1/3 and the slumping Moss clubbed a tie-breaking home run in the sixth in the Cardinals' come-from-behind 4-2 victory.

The Cardinals (76-68) remained one-half game behind the New York Mets

(77-68) for the second NL wild-card berth. The Mets outlasted Washington 4-3 in 10 innings.

Garcia entered the game in a slump and remained on shaky footing with a 1 2/3-inning performance, the shortest start of his career. He allowed two runs on three hits, walked two, struck out one and permitted Dexter Fowler's leadoff homer.

Cardinals manager Mike Matheny pulled Garcia after Addison Russell's RBI double, pitcher Jason Hammel's single and Fowler's walk that loaded the bases in the second.

Reyes came in firing and

struck out Kris Bryant with the bases loaded, and the Cubs from that point managed just one more hit — a single by Bryant against Reyes in the sixth. Reyes experienced control problems, walking six, but avoided hard contact.

"I threw a lot of pitches," said Reyes (2-1), who found the strike zone on just 43 of his 85 pitches. "I was kind of all over the place, but at the end of the day, what's important is giving your team a chance to win and trying to put zeroes on the board."

The at-bat against

Cardinals 4, Cubs 2

Alex Reyes threw 4 1/3 shutout innings in relief of Jaime Garcia and rookie Aledmys Diaz and Brandon Moss hit two-run homers to lead the Cardinals.

By the numbers

Moss was 1-for-41 coming into the game, but finished 2-for-3 with a walk and his 26th home run. ... The home run for Diaz, his 15th, came in his first start since July 31. ... Kevin Siegrist registered his second save of the season. ... The Cubs stranded 10 runners.

Up next

Carlos Martinez (14-7, 3.05 ERA) vs. Jon Lester (16-4, 2.51 ERA), 12:45 p.m. Wednesday

SEE CARDS, 5B



ZIA NIZAMI News-Democrat

Belleville West's Trevor Biver and Althoff's Tyler Stone battle for the ball during their game Tuesday at GCS Ballpark. See a gallery of photographs at bnd.com.

Two local football teams are No. 1 in state rankings

BY NORM SANDERS
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Two metro-east teams now are ranked first in the state in the latest state football rankings released Tuesday by The Associated Press.

Althoff (3-0) remained No. 1 in Class 4A for the second straight week after delivering a 40-16 victory over then-third-ranked Mater Dei. East St. Louis (3-0) took over the No. 1 spot in Class 7A following the Flyers' 58-13 victory over Alton, coupled with Chicago Mt. Carmel's 35-28 loss to 8A No. 1 Loyola Academy.

East St. Louis, which beat St. Louis powerhouse CBC 32-28 the week before, was ranked second in 7A last week. The Flyers are ranked first, ahead of No. 2 Mt. Carmel (2-1) and No. 3 Batavia (3-0).

In 4A, Althoff is No. 1 ahead of No. 2 Rochester (3-0) and defending 4A state champion Chicago Phillips (2-1). Phillips beat Althoff 51-7 last November in the 4A state title game, while Althoff defeated Rochester 46-42 in the 4A quarterfinals.

Edwardsville (3-0) moved up a spot from sixth to fifth in the Class 8A state rankings after beating Collinsville 49-0.

Triad (3-0) held on to the No. 7 spot in Class 5A while Cahokia (2-1), which lost on the road to 4A fourth-ranked Geneseo (3-0), is 14th in 5A.

Columbia (3-0) moved up from eighth to seventh in Class 4A after crushing Dupu 42-0 in a Cahokia Conference game. Mater Dei (2-1) fell from third to ninth in 4A following the loss to Althoff.

In 3A, Central (3-0) is inching closer to the top 10 and came in at No. 12 this week following a shut-out win over Freeburg.

Red Bud (3-0) broke through into 2A state rankings at No. 13 following a 62-48 Cahokia Conference victory over Carlyle. Red Bud is averaging 51.7 points and nearly 400 yards of offense per game.

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MORE INSIDE
See state football polls, 2B

Althoff gets past Belleville West on PKs

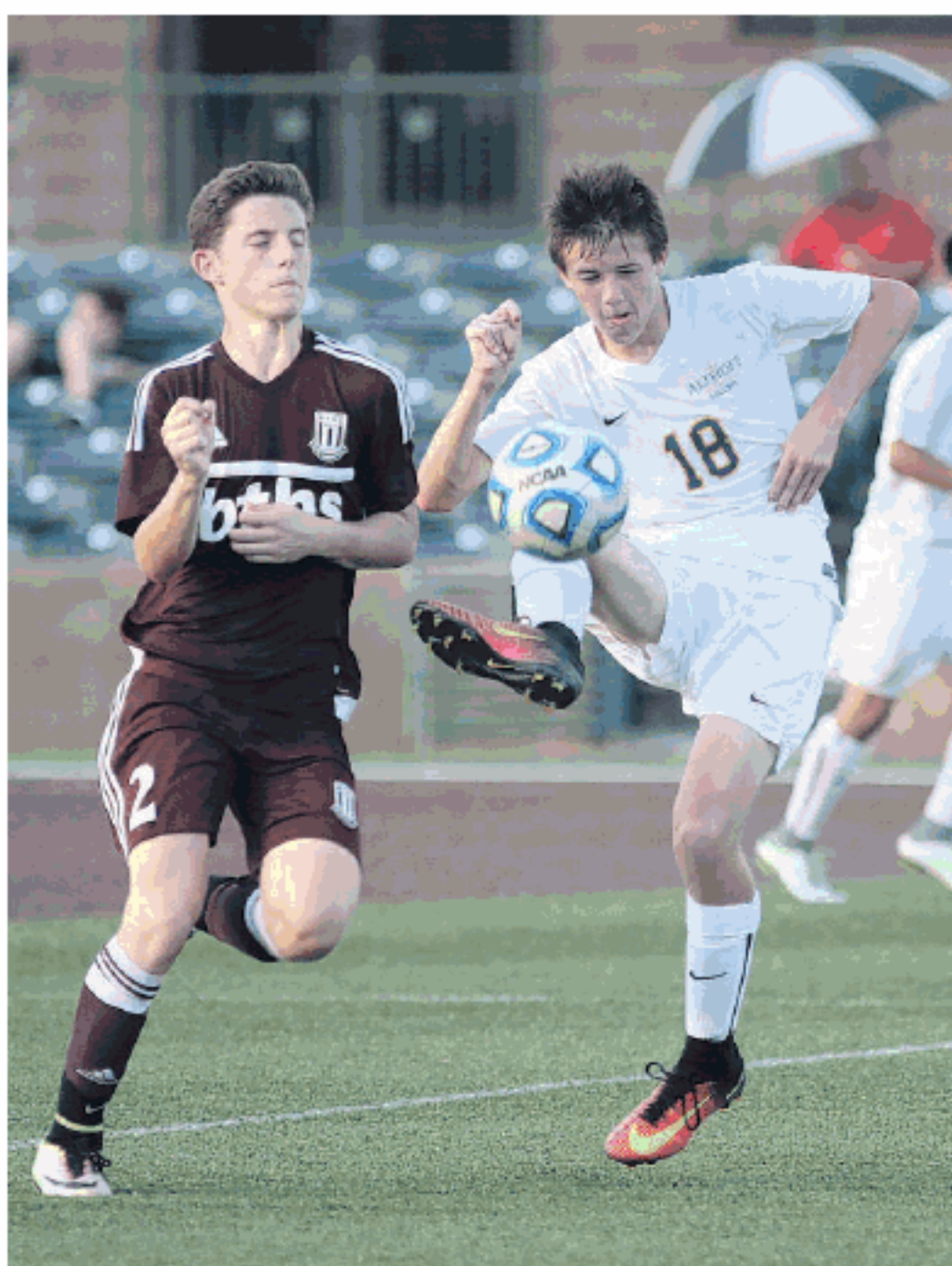
Althoff's Stephen Waltrip scored with 26 seconds left in the second overtime to tie the game and the Crusaders had a 4-1 advantage in penalty kicks for a 3-2 win over Belleville West

BY DEAN CRIDDLE
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SAUGET

It wasn't how Yogi Berra would put it when he said it was "deja vu all over again," but the second meeting of the year on the soccer field between Belleville West and Althoff on Tuesday was pretty similar to the first one a little over three weeks ago but with a wild, strange and controversial ending this time.

Althoff senior Stephen Waltrip scored on a penalty kick with 26 seconds left in the second overtime period and the Crusaders dominated the penalty kick round as they scored a 3-2 win over the



ZIA NIZAMI/BND zizami@bnd.com

Belleville West's Max Oplit and Althoff's Tyler Stone close in on the ball.

Ballpark.

Belleville West (2-6-1), which lost to Althoff 1-0 in the season opening Metro Cup Soccer Tournament in a game decided in penalty kicks, had the better of the scoring chances throughout regulation Tuesday. And when Ryan Herling scored with just over three minutes left in the second overtime period, the Maroons seemed destined to even the season series with their city rivals.

But it wasn't meant to be as after what referees called a foul in the box, Waltrip beat goalie James Wiegiers with the game tying goal.

Althoff coach Skip Birdsong, who suffered a broken finger in his Crusaders coaching debut when Althoff beat Belleville West earlier in the season, left GCS Ballpark not only uninjured, but also elated his team rallied to win the game.

"We normally wouldn't have been playing them (West) twice in a season

had we not seen them in the (Metro Cup) Tournament. But what are the chances that both games are tied after regulation and then after two overtimes, and then are decided on penalty kicks. I would think they're pretty remote," Birdsong said. "I'll say the same thing I said after we won the first time. We beat a very good Belleville West team tonight. This is a big win for our kids and this program."

Waltrip's goal not only tied the game at 2, but gave Althoff (5-3) all the momentum heading into penalty kicks. Jimmy Monken gave Althoff an early 1-0 in the penalty kick round and when the first two Maroons players were stopped, Althoff never looked back.

The Crusaders won the penalty kick round 4-1.

KEY SEQUENCE

While Althoff won the game, the Maroons had the better scoring chances. After Althoff's Mitchell Kidd scored at the 26-minute mark of the first half, the Maroons, after numerous shots had failed to reach their mark, tallied in the final seconds.

Taking a pass from

SEE ALTHOFF, 4B

Maroons in a nonconference soccer game at GCS

CRIDDLE'S RIDDLES BY DEAN CRIDDLE

Who was top 'Bama QB?



Today's question: In 1992, University of Alabama fans selected the all-centennial team. Kenny Stabler was elected the backup quarterback. Who was selected to be the starter? Yesterday's answer: Joe Montana. He lit up the Falcons in Atlanta on Oct. 14, 1990, for six touch-down passes and 465 yards passing in a 45-35 victory.

FOUR-GAME PLANNER

The next four games for area professional teams.

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

Table with 5 columns: Team, Date, Time, Location, Broadcast. Rows include Cardinals, Fighting Illini Football, Missouri Tigers Football.

Gray indicates away game

ON THE AIR

- GOLF: 2 p.m. FS1 — USGA, U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship, semifinals, at Elverson, Pa.
HOCKEY: 6:30 p.m. ESPN2 — World Cup of Hockey (Exhibition), Russia vs. Canada, at Pittsburgh
MLB BASEBALL: noonMLB — Chicago Cubs at St. Louis OR Tampa Bay at Toronto (12:30 p.m.)

- PARALYMPICS: 1 p.m. NBCSN — 2016 Rio Summer Games (Track & Field, Wheelchair Rugby, Wheelchair Basketball quarterfinals), at Rio de Janeiro
SOCCER: 1:30 p.m. ESPN2 — UEFA Champions League, group stage, Sevilla at Juventus

LOCAL SCHEDULE

- High schools and colleges: COLLINSVILLE INVITATIONAL, 6 p.m.
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS GOLF: Alton vs Granite City at Legacy GC, 3:30 p.m.
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER: Roxana at Hillsboro, 4:30 p.m.

FROM PAGE 3B

ALTHOFF

Blake Williams, Max Oplt scored to tie the game at halftime. Building on its momentum, West probably had the better scoring chances in the second half as well. But couldn't take advantage until Herling's goal gave it the lead with just over three minutes left in the second overtime. "I thought we had numerous scoring chances in the first half then it opened up even more in the second half," West coach Rob Thornberry said. "We just didn't take advantage of our opportunities."

collided. Both shaken, play was stopped and the Crusaders were awarded a penalty kick. "It was a 50-50 ball and both players went after it," Thornberry said. "I'll say it was a 'bold decision' by the officials. Obviously the referees made a decision and we have to live with it." Birdsong, despite having the decision go his way, still wasn't 100 percent sure on the call. "Honestly and I was looking right at the play when it happened, I thought it was the right call," Birdsong said. "I guess it's one of those things where if I was on the other end, I would have felt differently. It was a tough call."

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER

Birthday wish comes true as Columbia tops rival Gibault

BY NORM SANDERS nsanders@bnd.com

COLUMBIA No matter what else Sam Spivey got his mom for her birthday on Tuesday, it would have been tough to top his game-winning goal that gave Columbia a 1-0 victory over Monroe County soccer rival Gibault. Michelle Spivey, this one was for you. "It was my mom's birthday, I was trying to give her a good gift," said Sam Spivey, a junior midfielder who scored the game's only goal on a 25-yard free kick with 4 minutes, 13 seconds remaining in the first half. "That was my dreams and prayers for that to go in for my mom, for her birthday, and for my teammates. It was just unbelievable how it happened."

KEY PERFORMER

Spivey put his foot into the ball and picked the top left corner as the shot eluded Gibault goaltender Trevor Davis. "I saw the goalie was on

the right side, so I tried to go up and over the wall and it worked out for me," said Spivey, who has four goals this season. "It's something I do on FIFA (a soccer video game) ... that's not something I can do every time. I'll say there was definitely a bigger source inside me that made that happen." Columbia is off to an 7-0-1 start and junior goalkeeper Jon Kuebler has recorded eight straight shutouts. He stopped all four shots he saw Tuesday and has handled 24 without a mishap this season in 473 minutes of action. The lone blemish on the Eagles' record was a 0-0 tie against Highland on Monday. But they bounced back quickly, putting a damper on Gibault's homecoming by getting a first-half goal from Spivey and then applying heavy defensive pressure the rest of the night. Columbia coach Jason Mathenia seemed impressed with Spivey's accuracy on such a long shot. "Whenever he's able to get hold of a dead ball, he's

been good on them," Mathenia said. "That was pretty picture perfect right there. He hit that well and it went where it needed to go. With the size of their keeper it's about the only place he could have hit it for the keeper not to get it." Along with Kuebler, who made a huge save early in the second half on Gibault's Dalton Scace, the Eagles' airtight defense includes Cole Bivens, Charlie Harres, David Hawickhorst and Connor Pelt. "We've taken a lot of pride this year on defending," Mathenia said. "Even withstanding the pressure of tonight ... having a lot of luck on our side, Kuebler's done a phenomenal job in goal for us. "We just continue to strive on doing the right things: defending properly and limiting opportunities." KEY SEQUENCE There was no shortage of opportunities for Gibault (4-5-1) on Tuesday. One of the best came

just under 27 minutes into the first half when a well-struck shot by Kyle Rocca glanced off the crossbar. Scace had several good chances as well and a second-half free kick by Gibault's Karson Huels also found the crossbar instead of the back of the net. While Gibault kept applying pressure in the Eagles' end, the Hawks got few shots on net as they kept missing high and wide. "Yeah, a disappointing second half," Hawks coach Matt Reeb said. "I don't know how you can dominate a second half much more than we did without finding the goal, but credit to them. They'd bend and bend and bend but they didn't break." Davis stopped seven of Columbia's eight shots. A huge crowd packed Oerter Park in Columbia for what has become a fierce rivalry. Columbia is 8-4-1 in the last 13 meetings against Gibault, including 1-0 victories in three of the last four games. Norm Sanders: 618-239-2454, @NormSanders

VIDEO

See a video of Columbia's Sam Spivey talking about his game-winning goal at bnd.com

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER

Edwardsville remains unbeaten, blanks Collinsville

BY TODD ESCHMAN teschman@bnd.com

EDWARDSVILLE The Edwardsville Tigers kept their loss column clean and gave themselves a leg up on a Southwestern Conference championship Tuesday. Edwardsville shut out Madison County rival Collinsville, 4-0. The Tigers improved to 8-0-1 and have just two more conference games in the final month of the season. "This is a good one to win, but it's also one you don't want to read too much into," said Edwardsville coach Mark Heiderscheid. "We did a good job with Collinsville, but I think a lot of that is because we got the two quick early goals. Collinsville did a great job working throughout the contest. It was a much more challenging game than 4-0 reflects." Edwardsville took the lead 13 minutes into the

game. Riley Patterson — a three-star college football recruit who's committed as a place kicker at the University of Memphis — put a rocket on goal that Collinsville goalie Brett Niedzwiecki was able to stop. He couldn't control the ball, however, and Michael Picchiotti was there to put it in the net. "Riley has been launching those shots all year," Picchiotti said. "You just know when he hits it there's a chance the goalie isn't going to be able to save it because his ball has a lot of movement and he hits it really hard. I was just ready for the follow up because I knew it was coming." It took Patterson less than two minutes to put Collinsville in a 2-0 hole when he found the upper right corner of the goal with a left-footed laser shot from just outside the goalie box. "That was a bomb," Heiderscheid said. "There's a reason he's

ranked as high as he is as a football kicker. He cracks the heck out of it. He's a great football kicker, but he's also an academy soccer player for us since he was 12 or 13 years old. He's pretty good at this sport, too." Collinsville controlled possession for much of the remaining 20 minutes of the first half, though the Edwardsville defense didn't let the ball get too close to goalie Daniel Picchiotti. The Kahoks got their best chance to score 39 seconds before the intermission when a yellow card set up a free shot from just outside of the Tigers' goal box. Nick Suria took the shot but it sailed high and wide of the goal. Collinsville's prospects for a comeback took a big blow almost as soon as the second half started. Edwardsville's Michael Glisson broke away with a one-on-one with the Niedzwiecki, but was taken down by Collinsville's Brendan Peterson inside the box to

draw a penalty kick. Niedzwiecki made an outstanding save to his left — and several others after the penalty — but the Kahoks were left a man short for the rest of the game. Peterson also will have to sit out the Kahoks' next game. "Niedzwiecki was the no. 1 goalie in our area last year as a junior and, honestly, there is that possibility that a big save can turn the momentum," Heiderscheid. "At 2-0 and you have a penalty kick that's missed can almost be as much a detriment as an asset. It's a good thing we got that other goal because otherwise it's a much more challenging game." The Tigers made the score 3-0 with 26:53 left when Glisson scored on a header off a ball sent from the corner by Michael Picchiotti. They added another at 12:38 when Bayne Noll got a break away and beat Niedzwiecki one-on-one. Collinsville (3-4 overall, 2-1 conference) next faces Althoff at McKendree University on Thursday at 5 p.m. Edwardsville travels to Normal West on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. VIDEO See a video at bnd.com

ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STATE POLLS

ILLINOIS TOP 10 BY CLASS

Here are the latest rankings of Illinois high school football teams in each class, according to an Associated Press panel of sportswriters:

CLASS 8A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including Loyola, Homewood-Flossmoor, Glenbard West.

Others receiving votes: Glenbard North 7, Hinsdale Central 7, Oswego East 5, Marist 5, Wau-bonsie Valley 4, Niles Notre Dame 4, Stevenson 3, Bolingbrook 2, Lyons 1, Maine South 1.

CLASS 7A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including East St. Louis, Chicago Mt. Carmel, Batavia.

Others receiving votes: Benet 12, Rolling Meadows 10, St. Patrick 6, Wheaton North 6, Lake Zurich 3, Hoffman Estates 1.

CLASS 6A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including Sacred Heart-Griff(Spr), Prairie Ridge, Cary-Grove.

Others receiving votes: Riverside-Brookfield 20, Crete-Monee 19, Galesburg 11, Providence 5, Bloomington 5, Quincy 3, De La Salle 2, Reavis 1.

CLASS 5A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including Peoria Central, Sterling, Nazareth.

Others receiving votes: Decatur Eisenhower 6, Morgan Park 5, Woodstock North 3, Cahokia 1, Champaign Central 1, Limestone 1.

CLASS 4A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including Althoff Catholic, Rochester, Phillips.

Others receiving votes: Aurora Central Catholic 5, Dixon 2, Genoa 2, Rock Island Allean 2, St. Edward 1, Manteno 1.

CLASS 3A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including JC Catholic, Wilmington, Monticello.

Others receiving votes: Elmwood-Brimfield 10, Breese Central 8, Bloomington Central Catholic 4, Carlinville 3, St. Joseph-Ogden 2, Westville 1.

CLASS 2A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including Downs Tri-Valley, Deer Creek-Mackinaw, Sterling Newman.

Others receiving votes: Wethersfield 16, Hamilton West Hancock 6, Red Bud 5, Rockridge 4, Carmi White County 4, Johnston City 3, Champaign St. Thomas More 3, Chicago (Hope) Academy 2, St. Bede 1, Sangamon Valley 1, Gibson City-Melvin-Stibley 1.

CLASS 1A

Table with 4 columns: School, W-L, Pts, Prv. Lists top 10 teams including Decatur St. Teresa, Ottawa Marquette, Tuscola.

Others receiving votes: Pawnee 14, Camp Point Central 12, Argenta-Oreana 7, LeRoy 2, Aquin 2, Amboy-LaMoille 2, Arcola 1.