Bears Open Season Against Seahawks

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Jay Barrett/KMXT

The Kodiak High School Bears open the 2008 season tomorrow as the team to beat. The Bears were ranked as the number one small school in a preseason poll of sports broadcasters around the state. Jay Barrett has this preview.

The junior varsity game against the Seward Seahawk begins at 11 a.m. with the varsity playing at 2, over at Baranov Park.

The Kodiak High School Bears football team is starting the season ranked number one after back-to-back championship game appearances the last two years. They received seven first-place votes in a poll of broadcasters, ahead of two-time defending state small schools champions the Soldotna Stars, which received two. Todd Cook is back as head coach after a year as defensive coordinator. He says SoHi’s slipping in the ranks is probably due to a massive graduation from last year’s team, but he’s not discounting their chances:

-- (KHS 1 31 sec “… athletic, and they’re well-coached.”)

Doug Letch, Kodiak Football League co-founder, and now game announcer for KVOK radio, says SoHi’s made some other changes as well:

-- (KHS 2 16
sec “…
watching the Bears scrimmage on Saturday.”)

Cook said
the Bears didn’t graduate as many seniors off its team as SoHi, but most of the position players on offense are gone:

-- (KHS 3 48
sec “…
I’m feeling real confident at where we’re at.”)

With the
graduation of Jimmy Eggemeyer, Cook said on Tuesday’s Talk of the Rock that there’s competition for the quarterback spot between freshman Kevin LaPola and junior Zach Bailor.

-- (KHS 4 47
sec “…
it could change week-to-week.”)

Cook says
the Bears offense will be flexible, but will concentrate on the run:

-- (KHS 5 11
sec “…
shut down the run, then we’ll be passing it.”)

The big
full back is junior Anthony Antonio, who will also play on the defensive line:

-- (KHS 6 28
sec “…
The Tusty. (laughter) There you go. I like it.”)

The Bears start the season tomorrow here at home against the Seward Seahawks.

-- (KHS 7 18 sec “… win every time they walk on our field.”)

The condition of the gridiron at Joe Floyd Track and Field at Baranov Park is reportedly better than it has been the past two seasons, with fresh white lines painted on it just this week.

I’m Jay Barrett.

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