Bears Drive the Mariners Back into the Sea

Friday, 06 March 2009

Jay Barrett/KMXT

The Homer High School Mariners basketball teams and their supporters are checking the ferry schedule tonight after the girls and then the boys were eliminated from the Northern Lights Conference basketball tournament today by the Kodiak Bears.

The Lady Bears came out of hibernation early to play the 8 a.m. game, and dominated the Lady Mariners 48-to-32. Rachel Norton had 16 points and Betsy McCarty had 15 as the Bears stayed alive to advance to the third round and a chance at a berth to state. Star guard Joanna Garcia added nine. The Bears will play tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. against Palmer, who were beat by Colony 53-32 this afternoon.

Meanwhile, the Kodiak boys came out with a dominating performance by the starting five, who accounted for all the scoring, as the Bears crushed the Mariners 69-58. A late surge by Homer closed what had been a 20-point Kodiak lead. Three Bears were in double figures, and another was right behind. Mark Galindo led all scorers with 20 points, while Raphael Matautia had 18 and David Diocares 16, in what was one of the higher scoring games of the Bear's season. Erin Domingo had a pair of threes and scored nine points, while Zach Watkins added six.

The boys advance to play tomorrow morning at 10:45 against the loser of the Colony-Wasilla game, which started 4:45 p.m.

In other action on day two of the Northern Lights Conference tourney, the Lady Stars from Soldotna beat cross-town rival Skyview 49-35 to advance against the loser of tonight's Kenai-Wasilla game. That game will also be at 9 a.m., and may be played in the Kodiak Middle School.

The Kenai boys won their losers bracket game against Skyview 54-33, and will play tomorrow morning against the loser of tonight's Soldotna-Palmer game.

The girls'

third-place game will be at 2:15 Saturday afternoon and the boys' will be at 4.
The girls' championship game will be at 6:15 and the boys' is at 8 p.m.