

Friday February 27, 2009

State hockey tournament back in I.F.

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For the second year in a row, the state high school hockey tournament is coming to Tautphaus Park.

The tournament kicks off at 2:30 p.m. today when Idaho Falls takes on Boise, last year's second-place finisher.

The tournament also features teams from Bonneville-Hillcrest, Skyline, Salmon, Sun Valley, Mountain View and Meridian. Meridian is the defending state champ.

Bonneville-Hillcrest, eastern Idaho's best finisher last year, losing in the semifinals, takes on Sun Valley at 4:20 p.m. Salmon faces Mountain View at 6:10 p.m. and Skyline takes on Meridian at 8 p.m.

Today and Saturday are designated for pool play and at 7 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. Sunday are the semifinals. The championship is at 2:20 p.m. Sunday.

ALL-STAR GAMES: The North Idaho College Athletics Department announced its 2009 prep all-star game rosters Monday.

Eastern Idaho placed two boys on the roster, Firth's Colter Reeves and Shelley's Tanner Higham. Only one girl, Teton's Laurel Kearsley, qualified for the 12-member girls team, but Bonneville's Bryndy Anderson and Sugar-Salem's Brooke Hansen took the two alternate spots.

The sixth annual game is scheduled for March 14 at North Idaho College. The game pits all-stars from District I and District II against the rest of the state. The south girls team is 4-1 in the series while the south boys are 3-2.

The girls' game starts at 1 p.m. and the boys start at 3:30 p.m. A 3-point contest of boys vs. girls and a slam-dunk contest are scheduled between games.

Admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens and are available at high schools.

A selection committee of sports writers and broadcasters from throughout the state chose the seniors for the team.

To see the complete roster, go to www.postregister.com/blogs/sports and search "all-star game."

BOYS SOCCER POY: The Gatorade Co. named Boise's Justin Hill its 2008-09 Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year last week. He is the sixth player of the year from Boise High School.

The junior midfielder scored 13 goals and tallied 18 assists on the way to leading Boise to its second straight 5A state title. A member of the U.S. Youth Soccer Region IV Olympic Development Program team, Hill scored two goals in the 4-1 championship game win against Mountain View.

