

Dekaney, Cy Falls, and Barbers Hill headed to Girls State Tournament

Written by Yolande Y. Lezine
Thursday, 01 March 2012 11:27



Yolande Lezine
Sports Editor

The Dekaney Wildcats, Cy Falls Eagles, and Barbers Hill are all headed to the High School Girls State Basketball Tournament in Austin, Texas this weekend.

Dekaney, (39-1) and Cy Falls, (37-2) will both be making their first trip to Austin to compete in the Class 5A State Semifinals. Cy Falls will face Duncanville (38-1) in a 5A semifinal at 3:30 p.m. and Dekaney will play San Antonio Reagan (34-4) at 8:30 p.m. in the Frank Erwin Center, which is located on the campus of the University of Texas.

The Lady Wildcats defeated DeSoto 50-46 and Sachse 47-42 to advance to their first ever Region II Championship at the Ferrell Center in Waco, Texas. The sister-duo of junior Kayla Nevitt (17 points) and senior Shunta Nevitt (14 points) helped to lead Dekaney to victory. Kayla Nevitt hit a jumper with 27 seconds remaining and followed with a clinching layup with four seconds left to lead Dekaney to the win over DeSoto. Junior guard Brianna Taylor led all scorers with 20 points.

Top-ranked Cy Falls avenged a loss in the Class 5A Regional Semi-Finals last year when they lost to Courtney Williams and the North Shore Mustangs; however, that was not the case in a 50-27 route of North Shore.

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The win by the Lady Eagles set up a final between Alief Elsik and Cy Falls. Elsik's duo of Crystal Porter and Akunna Elonu were too much to handle. Porter scored 16 points and 10 rebounds, while Elonu added 14 points and 14 rebounds in a 43-40 victory over Clear Springs. Clear Springs Lady Chargers, who are loaded with a group of talented sophomores will be back in the coming years. The Chargers were led by Sophomore forward Courtney Latham with 11 points, 6 rebounds, and 5 steals.

CyFalls defeated Elsik 59-52 to capture the Class 5A Region III Championship and advance to the state tournament for the first time in school history.

"It's been our goal for three years now, and it's not easy to do," Cy Falls head coach Jim Stephens said. "The thing about getting here is it's not just today. It's the entire year of what these girls have done has gotten us to this step to have the opportunity to go to Austin.

Elsik, the Region III champion last season, ended the year at 28-8. Cy Falls was led by Shernise Robertson who led the way with 15 points, and teammate Loryn Godwin added 15 points and grabbed 8 rebounds. Akunna Elonu had 15 points and eight rebounds for the Lady Rams.

It could be an all-Houston area final if both teams are victorious on Friday night.

Barbers Hill (38-3) defeated the previously unbeaten Beaumont Ozen team 66-39 in the Class 4A Regional Championship. With the win, Barbers Hill earned their first trip to the state tournament as a 4A school and dealt the defending region champion Panthers their first loss in 35 games.

Vanderbilt bound Kendall Shaw pulled down a season-high 18 rebounds and scored 8 points in the win. Nekia Jones led the Ozen Panthers with 17 points.

Barbers Hills basketball legacy has a chance to grow this weekend. The Eagles won three state championships as a 3A school. They will face Mansfield Summit (35-3) in the first Class 4A semifinal at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 1st. The winner will play the winner of Victoria East

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(40-2)/Rockwall (33-7).