

Timm, UNC Bears set sights on NCAA tournament berth

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

It will take two wins to get Victoria Timm, a 2008 graduate of HHS, and the University of Northern Colorado women's basketball team back to the Big Sky Conference Championship.

Last year the Bears fell to Idaho State by just three points in the championship game. A win would have earned UNC their first NCAA Tournament appearance for women's basketball since becoming a Division I program in 2006.

"To be that close motivates you," explained Timm.

In the game, Timm led the Bears with 18 points. UNC went on to compete in the Women's National Invitation Tournament, bowing out in the first round with a 54-42 loss to the University of Colorado.

Timm was named to the Big Sky Conference Championship All-Tournament Team for her play.

"We definitely want to win it (Big Sky Conference Championship) this year, and more than any other year, we think that we can," said Timm.

The Bears have beaten every team in the conference at least one time, excluding Southern Utah University, who has yet to secure a spot in the conference tournament.

This year the Bears enter the conference tournament as the No. 2 seed. If the women should make it, the championship game will be played Saturday, March 16 in Missoula, Mont. at the University of Montana.

Timm expressed that the team is excited about going to Montana as they have had success there this season.

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If they do not win the championship, they could end up playing in the WNIT as they did last season or in the Women's Basketball Invitational as they did two seasons ago.

Timm expressed that although they have yet to reach the "Big Dance," the team does have a good amount of postseason experience that will help them handle upcoming games.

Timm explained that when she signed to play at UNC, she had expectations of playing in the NCAA Tournament. To be able to fulfill that goal would make her feel accomplished and proud to be part of the up-and-coming program.

The 2013 NCAA Division 1 Women's Basketball Championship bracket will be announced Monday, March 18 at 5 p.m. on ESPN.

The first round of the NCCA Tournament will begin Tuesday, March 19 with games to be played the following day as well.

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