Port Alsworth Lynx wins championship honors

by Bernie P. Gurule Activities Coordinator Lake & Peninsula Sch. Dist.

The Lake and Peninsula School District hosted two double elimination tournaments to determine the 3-player (coed) and mixed team (5-player coed) champions.

The Port Alsworth Lynx, coached by Ronda Unruh, received a first round bye as the tournament top seed and eventually had to work its way back in the losers bracket to earn the 3-player championship honors. The Lynx beat the Chignik Lagoon Wolverines, was defeated by

Perryville Eagles, bounced back to beat the Chignik Lake Wolves, and defeated the Eagles in a rematch to force the "IF" match. Port Alsworth used Glenny Alsworth Jr.s' ace serving and consistent spiking to claim the hard fought championship match. Amber Lang's excellent digs, saves, and sets for Glenny and her teammates proved to be most valuable throughout the tournament. Lyle Wilder, Sonnet Alsworth, Sarah Harding and Dustin Lang provided key contributions to this fine team effort.

Second place team Perryville coached by Jim Farmer on its home court blazed through its first stopped by the Lynx. Curt Kosbruk, Rebecca Kosbruk, Austin Shangin, Clemintine Shangin, Aaron Phillips and Rene Kosbruk treated the home town fans to exciting volleyball action.

Other teams competing were the Port Heiden Wolves, Kokhanok Warlords, Chignik Lake Wolves, Nondalton Warriors, and the Chignik Lagoon Wolverines.

In mixed coed play (5 players) the Chignik Lagoon Wolverines coached by Brad Nyquist lost only two games on its way to the championship title. In first round action the Wolverines led by Senior Jeremy Anderson came from behind in 2 games to defeat the Chignik Lake Wolves. In an exhilarating 2 game blitz upset of Port Alsworth the Wolverines proved they were "The Team" to deal with. Now projected into the championship match with Perryville, the Wolverines rode its momentum to take an early command and never looked back.

The Perryville Eagles found themselves only 1 match away from the first place trophy but could not slow down the Chignik Lagoon Express. Teammates Jolene Peterson, Angela Grunert, Brent Pederson, Jesse Anderson, and Captain Jeremy Anderson capped their fine season with the title.

The final game halted 1 game point from completion (14-3) when a potentially serious injury to Perryville's Austin Shangin forced cancellation of remaining play. The Wolverines earned the championship and after transport to Dillingham it was determine that Austin had a pinched nerve and has recovered quickly.

The Port Alsworth Lynx won the Academic Team Award with an impressive 3.75 grade point average. Four of the seven teams involved in the tournaments, sported GPA's of 3.0 or higher. Congratulations all teams!