

Middlebrook Wins Regional Title

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Watauga High sophomore Darby Middlebrook turned in another strong effort on Saturday in the Western Regional Championships at McAlpine Park in Charlotte.

Middlebrook, who won the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference championship on October 20, continued her winning ways on Saturday as she won her first regional championship. She bested the field in 17:47. Teammate Hannah Barbour was 11th in 19:00. Madison Harmon was 12th and Hailey Middlebrook was 21st.

Watauga's fifth runner, Molly Ruble, was 34th. Team-wise, the Pioneers finished fourth. Ardrey Kell, which pulled off the daily-double by winning both the men's and women's titles, bested the field with 61 points.

For the WHS men, Daniel Osborne came within one second of winning his first regional title. Osborne, the men's NW3A/4A champion, burned up the course in the blistering time of 15:48, but Cole Rains of T.C. Roberson crossed the finish line in 15:47.

Peter Vandenberg finished in seventh place in 15:58, Clark Brackney was 16th in 16:26 and Andrew Vandenberg was 37th, but he turned in an excellent time of 16:36. The Pioneers finished fourth as a team; Ardrey Kell won the regional title.

Up next, the state championships at Beeson Park in Kernersville next Saturday. The men's Class 4A championship race begins at 10 am; the women's Class 4A championship race begins at 11 am.