For the second year in a row, South Caldwell (21-4) was eliminated in the opening round of the state playoffs.

The Spartans, the No.1 seed from the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference, dropped a 5-4 decision to Mooresville Friday night in the first-round of the Class 4A state playoffs. The team also sat through a 50-minute rain delay. The Spartans rallied from an early 1-0 deficit, and jumped in front 3-1 in the third inning. Dylan Poarch had a solo home run in the comeback.

But the Blue Devils (20-7), who have won 13 of their last 14 games, came charging back. A three-run homer by Josh Holcomb in the fifth inning put Mooresville on top to stay. Jacob Hatton, who served up the home-run ball, suffered the loss.

"It's a tough loss, especially for these seniors," said South Caldwell coach Jeff Parham. "They've been a good group."

The Spartans, who won their first regular-season conference championship since 2008, finish the season on a two-game losing streak. They were bested by Watauga in the NW3A/4A Conference championship game last Saturday.

The Blue Devils, the No.4 seed from the I-Meck Conference, will play either T.C. Roberson or East Mecklenburg in the second round. Those teams were rained out Friday night in Asheville.

In Class 3A, Fred T. Foard (11-13) advanced as the Tigers defeated West Henderson 5-3 on Friday night. The Tigers will play at South Point Tuesday night.

Hickory and Patton were suspended by rain Friday night. The game resumes Saturday at 12 noon with Hickory leading Patton 3-0 after two innings of play.

FRIDAY'S SCOREBOARD:

BASEBALL (FIRST ROUND STATE PLAYOFF GAMES):

CLASS 1A: HENDERSONVILLE 3, AVERY 1
CLASS 2A: STARMOUNT 8, BUNKER HILL 3
WILKES CENTRAL 7, BANDYS 0
CLASS 4A: EAST GASTON 5, A.C. REYNOLDS 1

WOMEN'S SOCCER (SECOND ROUND STATE PLAYOFF GAMES):

CLASS 1A: AVERY 3, WEST WILKES 1
CLASS 2A: SHELBY 2, ASHE COUNTY 0
CLASS 3A: ST. STEPHENS 6, ENKA 0
CLASS 4A: T.C. ROBERSON 2, PORTER RIDGE 1