

## **UPDATED: WHS Netters Claim 21st Victim**

Written by Mike Kelly  
Friday, 09 September 2011 08:39

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The Watauga High volleyball team has been on cruise control the last three years.

Since the Pioneers (7-2 overall; 2-0 Northwestern 3A/4A Conference) were victimized by Alexander Cental in 2009, they've been on a mission. The end result, the Pioneers have won 21 consecutive games in the NW3A/4A. The latest victim was Hickory.

The Pioneers swept the Red Tornadoes in a three-game sweep, 25-14, 25-10, 25-16 at David Craft Gymnasium in Hickory, NC. Kristen Carter backboned the Pioneers with 31 assists. Colby Combs had ten kills and four blocks; Hannah Stewart and Channing Hagaman each had nine kills; Rebecca Hayes had six kills and Anna Church had five aces.

The JV team was not as fortunate. The Pioneers (6-1) suffered their first loss of the year. After winning the first set 25-18, Hickory came charging back to win 25-23, 25-18 to win the match 2-1. Whitney Dunnigan led WHS with 17 assists, 17 digs and four aces; Kiersten McClannon had eight kills and four aces; Cheyenna Jones had 15 digs and Sierra Hill had eight kills and three aces.

The Pioneers will host a tri-match Saturday at Lentz Eggers Gym with Starmount and Reagan.

## **WHS SOCCER WINS FIFTH STRAIGHT**

The Watauga High men's soccer team had an easy time disposing of North Buncombe 4-0 Thursday night in Boone.

The Pioneers (7-1) took a commanding 3-0 lead by halftime and coasted home. Logan Raichle put the Pioneers on top to stay with a goal at the ten minute mark of the first half. Jake Chasteen picked up the assist; and the pair reversed roles on WHS's second tally at the 18-minute mark for a 2-0 advantage.

Zack Helms scored at the 25 minute mark of the first half on an assist from Sam Schell for a 3-0 lead. Berkley Wilcox scored WHS's final goal at the 44 minute mark of the second half. Justin

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Wolfe picked up the assist.

The JV team won 5-0. Justin Hall led the way with three goals; Jacob Michael and Gabe Irwin had the other WHS goals. Fred T. Foard comes to town for the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference opener Monday night. But the Pioneers will be short-handed for that game.

Alex Parsons will not be available. He will be attending a wedding. Joey Spinetto is nursing a hamstring injury and goalkeeper Jeff Caldwell has a dislocated finger, and he could be out for a week. Jake Chasteen will take over in goal for Caldwell.

"And moving Jake there is like losing four starters," said WHS coach Woody McKay. "Jake has been outstanding for us this season. but we'll fight through it. Injuries happen. Other people will have to step up."

## **WHS TENNIS DROPS SECOND STRAIGHT**

The Watauga High women's tennis team dropped a 5-4 decision to Hickory Thursday night on the road.

The win moves Hickory into sole possession of first place in the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference. WHS (4-3 overall; 3-1 NW3A/4A) has lost two in a row. Sarah Petersen and Nicole Fox lost 10-3 at No.2 doubles, which turned out to be the decisive set in the match.

"Hickory has gotten their act together," said WHS coach Christine Vanard. "We just have to bounce back. We'll see Hickory again October fourth at our place."

Meredith Smith, Hannah Petersen and Margaret Anagnos were victorious in singles play; Smith and Anagnos picked up a win at No.1 doubles. The Pioneers travel to T.C. Roberson for a non-conference match, Wednesday, September 14.

## **Hickory 5, WHS 4**

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### **SINGLES**

Meredith Smith (W) def Jackie Lomboy (H) 6-2 6-1

Hannah Petersen (W) def Erynn Hurst (H) 6-1 6-0

Madeline Finley (H) def Sarah Petersen (W) 6-2 6-3

Margaret Anagnos (W) def Caroline Smith (H) 6-4 6-4

Julia Kessel (H) def Liz Clark (W) 6-4 6-4

### **DOUBLES**

Smith/Anagnos (W) def Lomboy/Hurst (H) 10-2

Finley/Kessel (H) def S. Petersen/Fox (W) 10-3

Fisher/Caroline Moore (H) def Clark/Grace Owen (W) 10-2

### **WHS JV FOOTBALL FALLS**

The Watauga High JV football team had its two-game winning streak snapped by West Caldwell Thursday night at Jack Groce Stadium.

The Warriors defeated WHS 20-15. T.J. Poulos scored both WHS (2-2) touchdowns; Zeb Speir threw a touchdown pass and scored on a two-point conversion; Stephen Shirley had an extra point. The Pioneers open Northwestern 3A/4A Conference play at Fred T. Foard next Thursday night.

## **SMITH MAKES TWO STOPS IN PACKERS DEBUT**

Former Appalachian State University linebacker D.J. Smith had a pair of tackles in his National Football League debut with the Super Bowl champion Green Bay Packers. Green Bay, thanks to a goal-line stand as time expired, hung on to beat the New Orleans Saints 42-34 at Lambeau Field in the season opener for both teams. Smith, a two-time All-America with ASU, won a national championship with the Mountaineers in 2007.