

## Smith Advances To State Tournament

Written by Mike Kelly

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Watauga High senior Meredith Smith marched her way to a top four finish at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Class 4A Western Regional on Saturday at Cornelius-Hough. Smith, who played No.1 singles and No.1 doubles for the Pioneers during the regular season, clinched her state berth on Friday afternoon. Smith defeated Sarah Yuan of Ardrey Kell, 6-4, 7-5 in the opening round; she followed that up by knocking off Melissa Blate of A.C. Reynolds, 6-3, 6-0 in the second round to qualify her for the State tournament next weekend.

Unfortunately, Smith lost both of her matches on Saturday. She lost to Briana Bodner of Hough, 1-6, 2-6 in the semifinal round; she lost to Gabby Moore of Hough in the fourth-place match, 4-6, 4-6. The state tournament will be played next weekend, October 26-27 at the Millbrook Exchange Park in Raleigh.

Hannah Petersen was defeated by Megan Mullen of Lake Norman in her first round match, 3-6, 0-6; the doubles team of Emily Burwell and Nicole Fox was defeated by Mary Lowery and Isabella Dokell of Lake Norman in the first round. 3-6, 2-6.

WHS (15-0) takes on Pfafftown-Reagan in the second round of the NCHSAA Class 4A state playoffs Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. at the WHS tennis courts. The Pioneers defeated Reagan 5-4 in Boone back on August 21.