Written by Mike Kelly
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Hard to believe, but the winter sports season is quickly winding down. Saturday, another indoor track season with come to a close. And the Watuaga High boys and girls track teams will right in the mix.

The Pioneers will send six individuals and two relay teams to the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, N.C., for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Indoor Track and Field Championships.

The boys team will compete in three events. Bryan Brackney will compete in the 1,000-meter run; Josh Anderson in the 1,600. Brackney, Anderson, Ryan Hellenbrand and Michael Holland will anchor WHS's 4x800 relay team.

For the girls, they will compete in seven events. Madison Harman has qualified in two events, the 1,600-and 3,200-meter runs. But according to head coach Kevin Shaw, Harman may not compete in the 1,600. Harman, Doria Kosmala, Kaitlyn Herman and Lily Weeks make up WHS' 4x800 relay team; Kosmala will run the 1,000; Alison Seramur will compete in the pole vault, and Taylor Drummonds will compete in the pole vault and the 55-meter hurdles.

Senior Darby Middlebrook, who will attend the University of Michigan in the fall, will not compete at state this season. Middlebrook, who won a state title in the 1,600-meter run last season at the indoor finals and set a state record in that event, has been recovering from a leg injury she suffered at the Class 4A Western Regional in Charlotte on October 27.

She saw very limited duty during the indoor season, primarily as a thrower. But Middlebrook will represent WHS in the swimming championships in Cary, N.C., on Thursday. She is a member of WHS' 400 freestyle relay team, and she will also compete in the 500 freestyle. Middlebrook set a school record in the 500 freestyle at regionals last Saturday (5:22.02).

WHS STATE QUALIFIERS

Bryan Brackney - 1000 m run
Josh Anderson - 1600 m run
Josh, Bryan, Ryan Hellenbrand and Micheal Holland - 4 x 800 m relay
Madison Harman - 1600 m run & 3200 m run - we will probably scratch her from the 1600
Doria Kosmala - 1000 m run
Taylor Drummonds - 55 m hurdles & pole vault
Alison Seramur - pole vault
Madison, Doria, Kaitlyn Herman and Lily Weeks - 4 x 800 m relay