

## Storm Girls Finished Fourth At Tournament

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The Watauga Storm 7th grade girls basketball team finished in fourth place this past weekend in a basketball tournament in Winston Salem, N.C. The

Storm lost its opening game to the Roanoke Roar, 29-4. Madie Darner led the team in scoring with four points. But the Storm rebounded and finished fourth in tournament play.

The Storm defeated Hendersonville 23-22 in overtime in the second round. The Storm, which led by seven in the first half, fell behind 20-16 with 30 seconds to play.

But Sophie Reese knocked down three big free throws to cut the lead to one with ten seconds left. After Hendersonville made one of two free throws, the Storm forced overtime when Taylor Walker hit a shot from the baseline, tying the game at 21-21.

Darner knocked down the first shot in overtime and the Storm played great team defense to hold on for the win, 23-22. The Storm was led in scoring by Walker who had ten points, Darner who had eight points, Reese who had three points and Maddisen Robinson who chipped in two points.

In the third place game, the Storm lost to Roanoke Roar, 30-26. The game went back-and-forth with multiple lead changes. But the Roar eventually pulled away and hung on to win the game. The Storm was led in scoring by Darner with 11 points, Robinson with nine points, Walker with four points, and Emma Saltman had two points. Other key contributors in the tournament to the Storm's fourth place finish were Makenzie Thompson, Makenzie Robinson, Emma Ward and Kaylee Cottom.