

Welsh Could Return For State Playoffs

Written by Mike Kelly

Thursday, 21 February 2013 23:08

Watauga High senior Danielle Welsh could be back playing in Monday's state playoff opener at Lentz-Eggers Gym, according to head coach Klay Anderson. Welsh injured her knee in WHS' regular-season finale at St. Stephens last Friday

night (February 15). She suffered the injury late in the second quarter and had to be helped off the floor.

She returned briefly in the third quarter before she was forced to leave the game again, only this time without assistance.

"We really miss Danielle," said WHS coach Klay Anderson before Wednesday night's Northwestern 3A/4A Conference Tournament semifinal game at Craft Gymnasium in Hickory.

"We don't want to rush her back. I know she wants to play, and on top of that, it's her senior year. We sat her out this week, and we'll see how things go. It will be a game time decision."

The WHS boy's and girl's teams will both host a first-round state playoff game Monday night at Lentz-Eggers Gym. The WHS girls (11-13), the No.2 seed among the Class 4A schools in the NW3A/4A Conference, will probably receive the eighth seed in the Western Pod. They could possibly face Charlotte Olympic (5-16) Monday night in a first-round game.

The WHS boys (13-10), the No.1 seed among the Class 4A schools in the NW3A/4A, could be seeded as high as fourth. And the Pioneers could possibly play East Gaston (11-13) or Charlotte-Garinger (8-16) in the opening round.

The state playoff pairings will be posted as soon as they're released by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association on Saturday.