

## Indians Rally Past WHS

Written by Mike Kelly

Wednesday, 27 March 2013 08:39

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The Watauga High girl's soccer team suffered its first conference loss of the year Tuesday night. The Pioneers (3-3-2 overall; 2-1-1 Northwestern 3A/4A Conference) let a 4-2 second-half lead slip away in a

5-4 loss to St. Stephens on the road. The Indians scored three times in a 20-minute stretch of the second half to win the game. Hannah Younger paced WHS with a goal and an assist. Trailing 1-0, Younger got WHS on the board with a goal in the 18th minute of the first half to tie the game. Cassandra Alvarez had an assist on the play.

That goal also ignited a WHS rally. The Pioneers scored consecutive goals by Cole Ellis in the 24th minute and Tristan Derrick in the 32nd minute for a 3-1 lead. The Pioneers led 3-2 at the break.

"The game was very back and forth," said WHS coach Brittany Bolick. "We are optimistic about our next meeting with them. Our girls fought very hard and we certainly have all the skill to do well in the future."

Alvarez had a goal and an assist in the loss; Tori Derrick had an assist. The Pioneers are scheduled to play at McDowell tonight at 6 p.m.

## HICKORY DOWNS WHS TENNIS

It's been a while, but the Watauga High boy's tennis team suffered a rare conference loss Tuesday night. The Pioneers, who have won consecutive conference titles since 1993, dropped an 8-1 decision to Hickory Tuesday night in a Northwestern 3A/4A Conference match. It's the first time the Pioneers have lost a conference match since Scott Taylor, now in his sixth year, took over as head coach in 2008.

Landon Taylor picked up WHS' (3-3 overall; 1-1 NW3A/4A) only win at No.1 singles. He defeated Brad Bowman of the Red Tornadoes 4-6, 6-3, 1-0 in the tie breaker. The Pioneers are scheduled to play at Newton-Conover today.

### **Hickory 8, Watauga 1 Singles**

Landon Taylor(W) def Brad Bowman 4-6 6-3 1-0

Michael Mirkes def Harrison Battle(W) 2-6 6-4 1-0

Luke Kessell def Caleb Gould(W) 6-0 6-1

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Will Arditti def Dristen Trate(W) 6-0 6-1  
Nick Carlton def Noah Moomaw(W) 6-2 6-2  
Bailey Poston def Will Spinetto(W) 6-3 6-0

### Doubles

Bowman/Mirkes def Taylor/Battle(W) 8-4  
Kessell/Poston def Gould/Trate(W) 8-6  
Arditti/Carlton def Moomaw/Spinetto(W) 8-3

## WHS SOFTBALL SUFFERS FIFTH-STRAIGHT LOSS

If you think the Watauga High baseball team is having problems. What about the WHS softball team. The Pioneers (3-6 overall; 1-5 Northwestern 3A/4A Conference), who had ideas of a promising season, have stumbled out of the gate. The Pioneers, mired in a five-game losing streak, dropped a 3-0 decision to St. Stephens on the road Tuesday night.

The loss leaves WHS in sixth place, and wondering what will happen next. Winning pitcher Katie Baker of the Indians gave up one hit and struck out 12. The Pioneers only had three players reach base (two by error). Michala McCune had WHS' only hit. That came in the fifth inning.

Kim Robinson suffered the loss. She gave up three runs, all unearned, on three hits. She had seven strikeouts, but she also walked five batters.

The Pioneers are scheduled to play Fred T. Foard at home Thursday, weather permitting.

## WHS LACROSSE, GOLF POSTPONED

The Watauga High boy's lacrosse match at Hickory, and the girl's match at Huntersville-Hopewell were postponed on Tuesday night. No make up dates have been announced for those games. And the WHS boy's golf team was postponed for the third time in five days.

Their Northwestern 3A/4A Conference opener at Catawba Springs was called off on Tuesday afternoon. The Pioneers are scheduled to play at Orchard Hills Golf Course in Granite Falls, N.C., Thursday. South Caldwell will be the host school.

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