

Pioneers Upended By Schubert Again

Written by Staff Reports
Friday, 03 May 2013 08:38

The Watauga High softball team had a much better showing against Lexi Schubert and Fred T. Foard in their third and final meeting of the season. Unfortunately, Schubert, who tossed a perfect game against WHS (6-12) in their last meeting (by a 16-0 score on April 24), bested the Pioneers again with a 3-1 win Thursday in the semifinal round of the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference Tournament in Taylorsville, N.C.

The Tigers, the No.2 seed in the NW3A/4A Tournament and the No.1 team in the state in Class 3A, advance to the finals for the second year in a row. They will play Alexander Central in the finals Friday night at 6 p.m. The Cougars, the No.1 seed and the No.1 team in the state in Class 4A, advanced to the finals by knocking off St. Stephens 7-1 in Thursday's first semifinal game. The Pioneers, the No.6 seed, was looking for its second upset win in three days. And WHS, which upended South Caldwell Tuesday night, grabbed a 1-0 lead in the first inning.

Senior Taylor Drummonds, who was 1-2 with a run scored and a stolen base, walked with one out, stole second base, and scored on Hope LaPointe's RBI double. But from that point on, Shubert was in complete control. She struck out 12 and did not walk a batter after she gave Drummonds a free pass in the first inning.

Shubert retired 12 of the next 14 batters she faced. The only WHS players to reach base during that stretch were Drummonds, who singled in the third and was thrown out trying to steal, and Caitlin Westphal, who was hit by a pitch.

Losing pitcher Kim Robinson nearly matched Shubert on the mound. Robinson, a senior, who has struggled with her control all season, gave up three runs, one earned, on four hits, she struck out ten and walked three in six innings. The third inning proved to be her downfall.

Addie Bolick walked and scored all the way from first base on an Erynne Chalk single that was misplayed in the outfield. That tied the game, 1-1. And Chalk scored moments later on Shubert's double for a 2-1 lead. Schubert helped her own cause with two hits on the night.

The WHS baseball team plays South Caldwell in the semifinal round of the NW3A/4A Tournament today at 4:30 p.m. at MSDeal Stadium in Granite Falls, N.C. Coverage begins at 4 p.m. on Classic Hits 100.7 FM.

NORTHWESTERN 3A/4A SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT AT ALEXANDER CENTRAL THURSDAY'S GAMES

ALEXANDER CENTRAL 7, ST. STEPHENS 1
FRED T. FOARD 3, WATAUGA 1

FRIDAY'S GAMES

FRED T. FOARD v. ALEXANDER CENTRAL, 6 P.M.

NORTHWESTERN 3A/4A BASEBALL TOURNAMENT AT MSDEAL STADIUM

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GRANITE FALLS, N.C.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

WATAUGA v. SOUTH CALDWELL, 4:30 P.M.
FRED T. FOARD v. ALEXANDER CENTRAL, 7 PM

SATURDAY'S GAME

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME, 7 P.M.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOLF WRAPS UP SEASON

The Watauga Middle School boy's golf team saved its best for last. Watauga had its strongest showing of the season Thursday in the season-finale at the Boone Golf Club. Watauga had a season-low 192 for a team score and finished third in the four-team field. Caldwell County, which dominated the competition this season, won its fifth consecutive match with a team score of 164. Burke County finished second with a 175. Clay Bollinger of Caldwell County was the leading medalist. He bested the field with a two-over-par 37 on the par 35 course. Rory McNeil paced Watauga with a 44, and finished seven shots off the lead. Alan Graham of Watauga had a 45; Jordan Austin had a 48.

Team scores

Caldwell 164

Burke 175

Watauga 192

Alexander 208

Medalist: Clay Bollinger of Caldwell shot two over par 37.

Watauga's scores.

Rory McNeil 44

Alan Graham 45

Jordan Austin 48

Benjamin Critcher 55

Joseph Critcher 56

Ridge Northern 57

WHEELER SIGNS WITH LMC

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Watauga High senior McKayla Wheeler will sign her National Letter of Intent with Lees McRae College later today. She will play for Ray Cameron, the forefather of lacrosse at WHS. Cameron, who took over the women's program at LMC this season, started up girl's lacrosse at WHS as a club sport before it was adopted by the school as a varsity sport in the spring of 2010.