Written by Daniel Clark
Friday, 29 May 2009 08:54

Courtesy: Watauga Media Relations (Daniel Clark)

Watauga Lady Pioneer senior Chandler Butler has been voted the winner of the 2008-2009 Hall of Fame award, given annually to the most outstanding female student-athlete.

The award is given not only for their accomplishments on the playing field but also for academic achievements, character and sportsmanship. The award was presented Friday May 29th at the school wide senior award ceremony.

Butler earned 11 varsity letters, and six all-conference honors during her time as a Lady Pioneer. She stared as a three-sport athlete all four years, playing volleyball, basketball and softball and excelling at all of them.

Butler kicked off her illustrious career as a Lady Pioneer with basketball. Slated to be a junior varsity player her freshman season, that was soon changed when she was called up midway through the season. She worked her way into a starting role at point guard right before the Christmas tournament and would not relinquish that position for the next four years. She led the team her last two seasons in assist to turnover ratio and was instrumental in helping the Lady Pioneers improve their win totals from nine, her first two seasons, to 22 her junior and senior year.

Her career as a softball player would once again begin with her freshman season where she started at second base for coach Brian Vannoy. Butler became know for her versatility on the softball diamond as she started at second base for her first two seasons before moving to catcher as a junior. Her senior year, she anchored the shortstop position. As a member of the softball team she was a three time All Northwestern 4A selection and had a career batting

average of over .300. As a junior, Butler was named all district seven as a utility player for Watauga.

The sport that Butler would ultimately make her biggest splash in at Watauga was volleyball. Called up to varsity as a sophomore, she quickly got into the rotation at setter and would go on to earn all-conference honors that season. As a junior, she was named a team captain and later that season was named Northwestern 4A conference player of the year as well as team MVP. Her senior campaign came with the pressure of huge expectations to live up to and she did not disappoint. Once again, she was named a team captain and she repeated as Northwestern 4A player of the year and team MVP. She holds multiple team records and saw her teams advance to at least the third round of the State Playoffs every season. After graduation next week, Butler plans to attend UNC Greensboro.