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The Watauga High football team captured its Northwestern 3A/4A Conference opener Friday night by knocking off South Caldwell 20-15 at Jack Groce Stadium.

It is the third time in four years that the Pioneers (4-2 overall; 1-0 NW3A/4A) have beaten South Caldwell.....Senior Logan Smith had a big night with 97 yards rushing and a touchdown on offense, and 11 tackles on defense. Smith, whose been nursing a sprained shoulder, leads the Pioneers in rushing with 345 yards and seven touchdowns. He also leads the team in tackles with 44. Robbie Sherrill is right behind him with 43.....Sherrill had 11 stops and a quarterback sack Friday night against the Spartans. As a team, WHS had seven quarterback sacks. Junior Jordan Pineda had two of them. He also had nine tackles and 2.5 tackles-for-loss.....Devan Corum ran for 73 yards, passed for 93 and threw a touchdown pass. Corum has thrown for 827 yards on the year with seven touchdown passes and three interceptions. He's also second on the team in rushing with 312 yards and three touchdowns.....Travis Oliver, despite a first degree seperated shoulder two weeks ago against A.C. Reynolds, caught three balls for 81 yards and a touchdown Friday night. He's Watauga's leading receiver with 19 grabs for 393 yards and five TDs.....Despite the loss, South Caldwell still leads the all-time series with 18 wins and 15 losses....The Pioneers travel to Hibriten Friday night. They haven't played the Panthers since 2006. WHS beat Hibriten 22-14 in Lenior that year. Our coverage begins at 6:30 pm on Oldies 100.7 FM. WHS has won eight of the last 14 meetings between the schools.....In other games last night, in the NW3A/4A, Hickory beat Fred T. Foard, 28-20; Hibriten beat St. Stephens, 34-13. But the win may have been costly as quarterback Jamichael Walton of the Panthers suffered an arm injury and left the game in the third quarter.....Alexander Central (6-0) had the week off. The Cougars play Hickory Friday night. The Pioneers travel to Taylorsville to play the Cougars October 23.....Ashe County falls to 1-5 losing 28-27 at West Wilkes.....Avery improves to 4-2 beat Thomas Jefferson 51-0 in Newland. Quarterback Alex Villanueva threw three touchdown passes and ran for a score. The Vikings have won three in a row.