Written by Mike Kelly
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The Watauga High football team has received a 14th seed in the Class 4A state playoffs.

The Pioneers (6-5 overall) will open post-season play on the road against Ragsdale in Jamestown, NC Friday night. The Tigers (11-0) won the Piedmont-Triad 4A Conference championship. They only allowed 17 points in six conference games.

They closed out the regular season pounding High Point Central 34-7 Friday night. As a matter of fact, High Point Central and Kernersville Glenn were the only teams to score against them in league play. And Glenn gave the Tigers their closet game at 23-10.

For the year, the Tigers have outscored their opponents by the whopping margin of 353-67. Ragsdale, a Class 3A powerhouse over the years, moved up to Class 4A this season. This will be the first meeting ever between the schools.

Injury-wise, Offensive lineman Jared Pitts of the Pioneers suffered a broken right hand Friday night against St. Stephens. Wide receiver/defensive back Trey Kavanaugh has a badly sprained shoulder. He was injuried during the fourth quarter of Friday night's loss. Both men are listed as questionable for Friday's playoff opener.

Alexander Central, the No.2 seed overall in the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference and the No.1 seed among the Class 4A schools, is a No.5 seed. The Cougars (10-1) entertain Porter Ridge from the South Carolina 3A/4A Conference.

Ashe County is a No.14 seed in the Class 2AA playoffs, and will play at East Lincoln in the opening round; Avery is a No.12 seed in Class 1AA, and the Vikings travel to Bessemer City on Friday.

Friday night scores:

NW3A/4A

St. Stephens 16, WHS 13
Hickory 42, South Caldwell 7
Hibriten 48, Alexander Central 7

Other games:

Ashe County 26, East Wilkes 14
Avery 42, Mitchell 38