

Five WHS Soccer Players Named All-Region

Written by Mike Kelly
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The Watauga High women's soccer team had five players named to the Class 4A All-Region 11 team.

Skylar Hicks, Kendyl Baird, Lillie Brady, Katherine Mayhew and Bethany Miller were selected. Mayhew, who ironically was not named to the Northwestern 3A/4A All-Conference team, is the only senior in the group.

Hicks and Baird are sophomores, Miller is a junior and Brady is only a freshman. The WHS women's soccer team finished in sixth place in the NW3A/4A Conference, and made the state playoffs. The Pioneers, who were 10-8, lost to Mooresville on penalty kicks in the first round. Hicks and Miller were Watauga's all-conference selections.

Evaul Region 10 coach of year; Vikings have six All-Region players selected

Head coach Tom Evaul of the Avery High Vikings was named the Region 10, Class 1A Coach of the Year after he guided the Vikings to the the state championship game last Saturday in Raleigh.

The Vikings (20-2-2), who were ranked No.1 in the state in Class 1A, lost to Southwest Onslow 2-0 in the state finals. The Vikings finished the season with a No.2 state-ranking. They also had six players selected to the Class 1A, Region 10 team: Emily Banner, Mercedes Bentley, Haydon Blackburn, Katelyn Eudy, Elyse Perry and Mary Chestnut-Smith.

Kidd, Jillings both named All-Region Coaches of Year

A pair of former Watauga High soccer coaches received coach of the year honors. Doug Kidd, who coach the WHS men and women from 1992-2008, was named the Class 2A,

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Region 4 Coach of the Year after he led the Swansboro High women to their second straight state championship last Saturday in Raleigh.

The Pirates (22-4-1) defeated Forbush for the second year in a row, 2-1 in the finals. Brian Jillings, who was an assistant coach under Doug Kidd at WHs, was named the Class 3A, Region 11 Coach of the Year. Jillings, who is currently the men's and women's coach at Hickory High, spent two years under Kidd at WHS. He was also the head men's and women's coach at East Burke before taking the Hickory job.