

WHS Softball To Face ACR in Playoff Opener

Written by Mike Kelly
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The Watauga High softball team will open state playoffs at home against A.C. Reynolds, a wild card team from the Mountain Athletic 3A/4A Conference.

The Pioneers (9-12) are the No.4 seed from the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference. Ironically, the Pioneers and the Rockets (9-13) are former conference foes from the old Northwestern 4A Conference. The winner of this game will play either Lake Norman (the No.1 seed from the I-Meck Conference) or Mallard Creek (a wildcard team from that same league) in the second round.

The Pioneers haven't won a state playoff game since 2008, when they defeated Harding University High from Charlotte in a first-round game. Alexander Central (24-1), the No.1 seed coming off its first loss of the year, will open at home against Mooresville. In Class 3A, Hibriten (12-12), the No.3 seed among the 3A schools in the NW3A/4A Conference, travels to Lawndale Burns; St. Stephens (15-10), the No.2 seed travels to West Henderson; Fred T. Foard (19-4), the No.1 seed that defeated Alexander Central to win the NW3A/4A Conference tournament, entertains R.S. Central.

A starting time for the WHS-ACR game has yet to be announced by the WHS athletic department.

The state softball playoffs are scheduled to begin Tuesday, but there's a 90% chance of showers and thunderstorms in the forecast.