

West Soccer Captures Gold

Written by Mike Kelly
Sunday, 19 June 2011 16:24

Watauga County played a role on Sunday as the West men and women's soccer teams won the gold medal for the first time in two years.

The West women, led by Jason Dragoon, won the gold medal by knocking off the South 3-2 at Wake Forest Sunday morning; the West men followed suit by crushing the South 7-1 in the gold-medal game at the North Carolina State Games at Wake Forest University. The West men were coached by former Watauga High assistant coach Brian Jillings; Lillie Brady and Lydia Mauney of the Pioneers played for the West women.

The West women took a 2-0 halftime lead in their game and survived a second-half rally by the South. Megan Nanny of Shelby, Emily McCord of T.C. Roberson, and Tori Andreski of Wilkes Central scored for the West. Jackie Lomboy of Hickory picked up an assist.

In the men's game, the West simply dominated from start to finish as Jillings picked up his second gold medal. Both the West men's and women's teams picked up their first gold medals since 2009.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

GOLD MEDAL GAMES:

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WOMEN: WEST 3, SOUTH 2
MEN: WEST 7, SOUTH 1

BRONZE MEDAL GAMES:

WOMEN: NORTH 2, EAST 1
MEN: EAST 3, NORTH 0

REGION 7 DROPS FINALE, FINISHES SIXTH

The Region 7 All-Stars closed out a frustrating weekend as they lost their final game Sunday morning and finished in sixth place.

Region 7 (1-3) dropped an 8-4 decision to Region 8 in the fifth-place game at the North Carolina State Games, which was played at Forsyth Country Day High School in Winston-Salem. Sunday's game also closed out a tough weekend for three members of the Watauga High baseball team.

Max Linville, Ryan Turner and Matt Proffitt all played for Region 7. Linville was hitless in six trips with a walk, but according to Region 7 coach Mike McCann, the Catamount coaches liked what they saw.

"We had Max moving around defensively," he said. "But no matter where we put him, he played very well. The Western Carolina coaches wanted to see him in the outfield, and Max didn't disappoint them. He's got great speed and a very good arm."

Ryan Turner was 1-7, he got on base three times, had two stolen bases and scored twice. And Proffitt, who left Sunday's game with a sore arm after playing one inning, was 0-3 with a walk. Pitching-wise, Proffitt picked up Region 7's only win of the tournament. He went three innings

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allowing no runs on two hits in a victory against Region 1 on Saturday.

"Ryan and Matt performed very well for us this weekend," McCann said. "Ryan was solid in the field, and he found ways to get on base. I was real impressed with his aggressive play on the bases. He runs the bases well, and when he gets on, he can be a real weapon.

"Matt was strong in the field, but I was real impressed with the way he pitched on Saturday. He really got after their hitters. He threw a strong game for us on Saturday."

Region 2 won the gold medal; Region 6 won the bronze.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

SEVENTH PLACE GAME: REGION 1 DEFEATED REGION 4, 11-7

FIFTH PLACE GAME: REGION 8 DEFEATED REGION 7, 8-4

BRONZE MEDAL GAME: REGION 6 DEFEATED REGION 3, 3-2

GOLD MEDAL GAME: REGION 2 DEFEATED REGION 5, 5-3