Pioneers Earn Another Shutout

Written by Mike Kelly Thursday, 22 September 2011 07:23

The Watauga High men's soccer team posted another shutout Wednesday night. The Pioneers (9-3 overall; 2-1 Northwestern 3A/4A Conference) blanked Alexander Central 2-0 in overtime at Jack Groce Stadium in a NW3A/4A game. It was WHS's seventh shutout of the season, and the sixth shutout for goalkeeper Jeff Caldwell, who missed a game last week with a dislocated finger. The Pioneers have also been very stingy at home by shutting out five consecutive opponents----a streak of 420 scoreless minutes.

"Our defense has just been very good this season, especially at home," said WHS coach Woody McKay. "And we've done a good job pushing the ball into the attack zone. It's been enjoyable, so far."

But it was also a little nerve racking Wednesday night as the teams went into overtime in a scoreless tie. Logan Raichle finally broke through as he scored on a penalty kick in the 82nd minute of the first overtime period.

"And he earned it," McKay said. "He did a great job attacking the net and drew the foul from the defender."

Zack Helms added an insurance goal on an assist by Sam Schell to close out the scoring in the second overtime period. The JV team their game by that same 2-0 score. Hunter Martin had a goal and an assist; Patrick Williamson scored the other WHS goal.

The Pioneers travel to South Caldwell Monday night.