

Wright On!

Written by Mike Kelly
Thursday, 08 March 2012 13:15

Former Watauga High softball player Tori Wright is off to a blistering start at the collegiate level. The former Pioneer leads Peace College with a .395 batting average and a

.474 slugging percentage. Wright, a freshman who has started 13 games for the Pacers this season, has 15 hits, including three doubles. She's driven in nine runs and she also has two stolen bases. The Pacers, who are 7-9 through their first 16 games of the season, play a double-header at Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., on March 14.

Peace College is a Division III school located in Raleigh, N.C., and a member of the USA South Atlantic Conference. Wright majoring in veterinary medicine at Peace College.

Watts Impressive Early On At Milligan

Former Watauga High pitcher Jake Watts has picked up right where he left off last season with the Pioneers. Watts, a freshman, is currently 3-1 with a 4.86 earned-run-average. He has appeared in five games, and in 16 2/3 innings of work, Watts has given up nine earned runs on 12 hits with 15 walks and 19 strikeouts.

Watts was 9-4 for the Pioneers last season and led them to the Class 4A Western Sectional finals. He suffered a 1-0 loss against Porter Ridge in his final high-school game. The Pirates scored the game's only run on a throwing error.

But Watts was nearly unhittable during the final month of 2011. In his last nine appearances with the Pioneers, Watts has a microscopic 0.45 ERA.

Milligan is an NAIA school in Johnson City, TN., and a member of the Appalachian Athletic Conference.

NOTES: Former Pioneer Shelby Drummonds, a freshman at Salem College in Winston-Salem, has played in four games this season. She is batting .250 with three RBI and a stolen base. Pitching-wise, Drummonds is 1-2 with a 11.37 ERA. In three appearances, she's made two starts, she has two complete games, and in 12 2/3 innings of work, Drummonds has given up 16 earned runs on 13 hits with 20 walks and nine strikeouts.

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Salem is a Division III school and a member of the Great South Athletic Conference.

Photo Courtesy: Tori Wright, Peace College