

Pioneers Lead Wachovia Conference Cup Standings

Written by Staff Reports
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Watauga High sits atop the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference standings in the Wachovia Conference Cup race following the winter sports season. The Pioneers, following a second-place finish in men's swimming and solid performance in women's swimming (which produced three state qualifiers), and a state champion

in indoor track, lead the league with 126 points. And the Pioneers own a huge lead on Alexander Central. The Cougars, who turned in a strong winter season in men's and women's basketball, are in second place with 109.5 points. The men's basketball team shared a co-championship with Hickory; the women's team finished second and turned in its best season in more than 20 years. The Cougars made it to regionals before they bowed out against Myers Park. South Caldwell moves into third place, thanks to finishing first in men's swimming, and a third-place performance in women's basketball. The Spartans only find themselves two points behind Alexander Central for second place.

Conference Standings: Watauga 126, Alexander Central 109.5, South Caldwell 107.5, Hickory 105, Fred T. Foard 102, St. Stephens 97, Hibriten 73.

Ashe County finds itself in fourth place in the Mountain Valley 1-A/2-A Conference Wachovia Cup standings. The Huskies have 63.5 points and trail Forbush by one point for third place. The Huskies were led by the men's basketball team, which won the regular-season championship and lost to Wilkes Central in the tournament championship finals. Wilkes Central leads the league with 84.5 points; the women's basketball team, which won the regular-season and tournament titles, was a state finalist. The Eagles lost to Siler-City Jordan Matthews in the Class 2A state championship game.

Conference Standings: Wilkes Central 84.5, Elkin 69.5, Forbush 64.5, Ashe County 63.5, Starmount 60.5, West Wilkes 49.5, North Wilkes 47, East Wilkes 41.5, Alleghany 34.5.

Avery finds itself in fifth place in the Western Highlands 1-A/2-A Conference Wachovia Cup race. Hendersonville leads the league standings with 116.5 points; Polk County is in second place with 106 points.

Conference Standings: Hendersonville 116.5, Polk County 106, Charles D. Owen 102.5, Mountain Heritage 93.5, Avery County 88, Mitchell 81.5, Thomas Jefferson 77, Madison 53.