

## WHS Soccer Opens With McDowell

Written by Mike Kelly  
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Watauga High Athletics Director Tom Wright has announced that the women's soccer team will open the Class 4A State Playoffs at home Wednesday night against McDowell at 6 p.m. The Pioneers defeated McDowell 2-1 with a pair

of late goals by Hannah Younger and Kendyl Baird in the last 15 minutes of the game to pull it out.

WHS (11-6-1) is the No.1 seed among the Class 4A schools from the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference; McDowell (8-9) is a wildcard team from the Mountain Athletics 3A/4A Conference. The winner of this game will play either A.C. Reynolds or West Mecklenburg in the second round Friday or Saturday.

Senior Shenny Lenhart of ACR has signed with UNC-Asheville. Lenhart has also been selected to play in the Clash of the Carolinas All-Star Game in Daniel Island, S.C., on July 7. She has scored 35 goals this season, and 100 in her career. The Rockets (16-4-3) are MAC 3A/4A regular-season champions. Alexander Central gets in as the No.2 seed among the 4A schools in the NW3A/4A. The Cougars (6-8-6) will play at East Gaston, the No.2 seed from the MEGA 7 Conference, Wednesday night.

In Class 3A, St. Stephens (18-1-2), the No.1 seed among the 3A schools in the NW3A/4A, entertains East Henderson in the first round Wednesday night; Hickory (17-4-1), the No.2 seed, takes on Crest at home; Hibriten (7-9-4), the No.3 seed, is at Patton. In Class 2A, Ashe County (14-4-3), the No.2 seed from the Mountain Valley 1A/2A Conference, plays at Newton-Conover Wednesday.