

## Greene Wins Crucial Game For 29ers

Written by Staff Reports

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Former Watauga High pitcher Ethan Greene picked up right where he left off with the Pioneers. The right hander, who will attend Pfeiffer University in the fall, backboned Caldwell County to a 7-5 win against Hickory Tuesday night at M.S. Deal Stadium in Granite Falls. The win leaves Caldwell County (16-2; 9-4 in Area IV) just one half-game behind Hickory (15-3; 10-2) for first place in

the Area 4 Western Division standings. Greene, who shared Pitcher of the Year honors in the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference this spring, went nine innings, gave up five runs on six hits with three walks and 11 strikeouts. Cherryville, who will play at Hickory on Friday, is 18-4, 9-3. Caldwell will visit Shelby on Thursday and host Rutherford County for a doubleheader on Friday to close out regular season play. Hickory travels to Rutherford in its regular season finale on Saturday.

If Caldwell and Hickory end up tied for first, Post 29 owns the tie-breaker between the teams due to its sweep over Cherryville earlier in the season.

"He (Greene) is tough as nails. He's a gritty pitcher," said Caldwell County coach Brandon Banks. "He came out here tonight and got the job done. In a situation like this we are going to live or die with him. We sent him back out there and he finished it off."

"It's one of those games of when it was good it was and when it was bad it was bad," said Greene. "The good outweighed the bad enough to get a win. That was my mindset all night, to keep throwing it, to keep our team in it, and keep us in a position to win."