

Pioneers Upend No.8 Tigers

Written by Mike Kelly

Tuesday, 11 September 2012 10:41

The Watauga High men's soccer team picked up its biggest win since the Doug Kidd era (1991-2007) as they knocked off a ranked team on the road. The Pioneers (1-0 Northwestern 3A/4A

Conference; 7-1-1 overall) defeated Fred T. Foard 2-0 Monday night in Newton in the NW3A/4A Conference opener for both teams.

The Tigers (0-1; 8-1) were undefeated and were ranked eighth in the state in Class 3A. Logan Raichle played a huge role in the win as he scored on a penalty kick at the 59th-minute of the second half to snap a scoreless tie, and he picked up an assist on an insurance goal by Alex Parsons at the 73-minute mark to ice the game.

"Our defense was the key tonight," said WHS coach Woody McKay. "We really tightened things up at our end of the field. It was a great effort, and a huge win for us against a very good team on the road."

The biggest defensive play of the game came moments after Raichle scored. Goalkeeper Jake Chasteen made a diving stop on an apparant goal to preserve WHS' 1-0 lead.

"That was a great stop by Jake," McKay said. "They had a great look on that play, and Jake turned them away."

And it doesn't get any easier for the Pioneers. They return home to play Hickory Wednesday night at Jack Groce Stadium (JV match begins at 5 p.m.; the varsity match begins at 6:30 p.m.). The Red Tornadoes (9-0) are undefeated, and they're ranked fourth in the state in Class 3A. The JV team (5-0-2) won its match by that same 2-0 score. Jakey Irwin and Chase Palm scored for WHS.

TUESDAY'S GAMES

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WOMENS GOLF: NW3A/4A CONFERENCE MEET @ BOONE GOLF CLUB

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL: WOLVERINES v. EAST ALEXANDER @ HARDIN PARK SCHOOL, 4:30 P.M.