

Williams State's Top Scorer

Written by Mike Kelly
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Nick Williams has quietly established himself as a deadly force on the lacrosse field. The Watauga High senior, who set a school record with 37 goals last

spring, has doubled that total with 63 this season.

He now has 100 goals in his short two-year career. And Williams continued his scoring touch Tuesday night as he tallied seven times in WHS' 18-2 District 9 win against Freedom in the season finale for both teams in Morganton, N.C.

"Nick could easily be a Division I player," said WHS coach Chris Wallace. "Those 63 goals put him as the top scorer in the state. He's just a great player. The guy has a nose for the net, but it goes beyond that. He's pretty solid physically, and he has great speed. Those qualities really make him a dangerous player."

Zach Williams and freshman Ben Henson added two goals apiece in Tuesday's win. The Pioneers (6-0 in District 9; 6-5 overall) will open the state playoffs at home against the No.2 seed from District 8 Friday night at 6 p.m.

"It looks like we might play (Pfafftown) Reagan (7-4)," Wallace said. "We were supposed to play them this season, but the match got rained out. They play in a very tough league with Mount Tabor and Northwest Guilford. But they've lost three of their last four, so we might be getting them at the right time."

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS COMPETE IN LENIOR

The Watauga Middle School boy's golf team finished fourth on Tuesday at the Cedar Rock Country Club in Lenoir, N.C.

Watauga had a team score of 218. Caldwell County won its fourth consecutive match of the season by shooting a 183 on its home course.

Burke County finished in second place, three shots back. Hunter Riddle of Caldwell County was the leading medalist with a four-over-par 40. Alan Graham and Jordan Austin paced Watauga. They both fired a 12-over par 48.

The Watauga Middle School team will close out the season at the Boone Golf Club on Thursday.

Teams

Caldwell 183

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Burke 186
Alexander 194
Watauga 218

Medalist: Hunter Riddle , Caldwell County, 40

Watauga's scores

Alan Graham 48
Jordan Austin 48
Benjamin Critcher 59
Evan Catoe 63