

Margolis Named All-District

Written by Mike Kelly
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Hannah Margolis capped off a brilliant career by earning all-district honors for the second year in a row. Margolis, who graduated from Watauga High in June, was named third team All-District 11 by the North

Carolina Basketball Coaches Association.

Margolis backboned WHS to a 12-14 record in 2012-13. The Pioneers, who lost to Hickory in the semifinal round of the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference Tournament, took North Mecklenburg, the No.1 seed in the west, to overtime in the Class 4A sectional semifinals. Margolis fouled out of that game and the Pioneers lost to North Meck, 69-64. For her efforts, Margolis was named to the All-NW3A/4A Conference team. She averaged 11.7 points, 9.4 rebounds, 4.7 assists, 2.8 steals a game with 41 blocked shots. She shot 45% from the floor and 82% from the free-throw line.

Keisha Corpening of Hibriten was a second-team All-District 11 selection; Martha Mastin of Wilkes Central was named to the third team. Hannah Yazman of Hickory was named first team All-District 10; Danasia Witherspoon of the Red Tornadoes and Chelsea Turner of Fred T. Foard were named to the second team.

For the boy's, Kerigan Farley of St. Stephens, Zach Jarrett of Hickory and Darrion Evans of Freedom were named second team in District 10; Will Cornette of Wilkes Central and Mekhi Dula of West Caldwell were named second team in District 11; Calvin Shoemaker of Wilkes Central was named to the third team.

PHELPS NAMED ASSISTANT COACH AT BUNKER HILL

Watauga County native Jason Phelps has been named the offensive line coach at Bunker Hill High. Phelps, who graduated from Watauga High in 1992, was the head coach at Fred T. Foard the last two years. He resigned in February. Phelps' two teams at Foard went 5-15 overall and won two of 12 Northwestern 3A-4A games in two years. His first team went 3-7, which included a forfeit win from league foe Hickory (inadvertent use of an ineligible player), and last year's team went 2-8.

Foard won its opening game last season, 16-13 at North Lincoln, and was 2-1 after beating West Lincoln 34-31 in its third game. The Tigers then lost their last seven games and were outscored 289-61 in those games.

Phelps came to Foard after three seasons as head coach at Bartlett Yancey, where his teams went 6-26. Prior to that, Phelps was defensive coordinator for five seasons at Rockingham County and for four seasons at Roxboro Person. He was an assistant coach for two seasons at Starmount after starting his coaching career at Watauga in 1994 and staying there for three

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years.

Phelps, who turned 39 on March 1, is a graduate of Watauga High and Appalachian State.

HANCOCK STEPS DOWN AT EAST BURKE

Jon Hancock is the new head coach at Mallard Creek High. Hancock leaves East Burke, where he led the Cavaliers to 116 wins and two conference championships during his six-year stay in Icard, N.C.

Jerome Ramsey, who was the junior varsity coach last season, replaces Hancock.

Hancock, (116-51 at East Burke) has won 283 games (283-177) in his 17-year career. Hancock has had coaching stints at East Burke, Lincolnton, Forestview and Mallard Creek. He replaces David Rutledge, who left Mallard Creek to become varsity boys basketball coach at Wilmington-Ashley. Rutledge was the former head coach at Newton-Conover. The Cavaliers won 20 games or more in each of his last three years with the program (21-7 in 2011-12, 20-8 in 2011-10, 24-6 in 2010-09).

SMITH NAMED ALL-STATE

Rising sophomore Morgan Smith of Patton High has been named to the Class 3A All-State Team by the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association. Smith, as a freshman last spring, batted .382 with a .440 on base percentage. She scored 23 runs, had six doubles, five triples and a home run. She only struck out four times all year. Smith also had a .955 fielding percentage at shortstop.

ATTAWAY NAMED ALL-STAR

Aaron Attaway, who played high school baseball at Freedom and Patton (where he graduated from in 2010), has been named to the California Collegiate League All-Star Team. Attaway, who will be senior at Western Carolina University this fall, is hitting .337 with ten doubles (second in the CCL), ten stolen bases (tied for sixth), two home runs (tied for ninth) and 19 runs-batted-in (tied for sixth).

The CCL All-Star Game will be televised by Fox Sports West on July 17 from Compton, CA. Attaway plays for the San Luis Obispo Blues.