

Johnson Joins WHS Broadcast Crew

Written by Mike Kelly

Monday, 19 August 2013 08:11

There will be a new voice on Watauga High football broadcasts this fall. Seth Johnson, who graduated from WHS (in the spring of 2006) and played football for the Pioneers (2002-05) will join the broadcast crew this season.

Johnson, a nose tackle during his playing days, will join Mike Kelly, now in his 18th year of calling Pioneers' athletics, and Steve Behr of the Watauga Democrat, who has been covering sports in the High Country since the fall of 1999. Johnson, who is employed at U.S. Buildings in Boone (which is owned and operated locally by Tommy Sofield), played two seasons at the varsity level.

"I played for coach Adrian Snow my last two seasons," Johnson said. "I had a lot of fun playing football at Watauga. It was an honor for me to be a part of that program. And now, I get a chance to be a part of it, thanks to the radio broadcasts. I'm really looking forward to it."

But Johnson has been a well-known figure around Watauga County football in recent years. When his playing days ended, Johnson turned his efforts to coaching. He was an assistant coach with the middle-school team, the Watauga Wolverines, for six years (2006-11).

"I've always wanted to be a coach," Johnson said. "I really enjoyed working with (Dale) Allred and Coach "B" (Steve Breitenstein). I learned a lot from them, and it was great working with the young kids. I love football and coaching allowed me to stay in touch with the sport.

"And now that I have a full-time job, I can't coach like I did in past years, so working on the radio and calling the games will be a lot of fun. I'm real excited about it."

Johnson will make his broadcasting debut on Friday night, August 23, when the Pioneers open the 2013 season at home against Alexander Central. Coverage begins at 6:30 p.m., on AM 1450, WATA and GoBlueRidge.net.