

Pioneers Remain Perfect In Conference Play

Written by Mike Kelly

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The Watauga High girl's tennis team marched it way to another win in Northwestern 3A/4A Conference play Monday night. The Pioneers defeated Hickory 7-2 in a NW3A/4A Conference match at the WHS Tennis Courts in Boone, N.C.

The Pioneers (5-3 overall; 2-0 NW3A/4A) grabbed an early 4-2 lead in singles play and coasted home. Meredith Smith got this started by knocking pff Madaline Finley of the Red Tornadoes in straight sets, 6-2, 7-6 at No.1 singles. Meaghn Smith doubled WHS' lead by knocking off Jessie Herfurth in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3, at No.2 singles. Nicole Fox gave the Pioneers a 3-0 lead as she defeated Juua Kessel of Hickory 6-4, 2-6, 10-6 in the tiebreaker.

The Red Tornadoes bounced back with wins at No.4 and No.5 singles, but Annika Davidson halted the run by posting a 6-3, 6-2 win over Katie Mintenson at No.6 singles.

The Pioneers swept their way in doubles to win the match in convincing fashion. Meredith Smith and Fox won 8-3 at No.1 doubles; Meaghan Smith and Kelsi Kanoy won their match, 10-3, at No.2 doubles; Liz Clark and Davidson won their match at No.3 doubles, 8-5.

Ali Maupin and Taylor Paige won their exhibition doubles match, 8-1. The Pioneers travel to South Caldwell on Wednesday.

WATAUGA 7, HICKORY 2

SINGLES:

- 1.) MEREDITH SMITH (W) d. MADALINE FINLEY (H), 6-2, 7-6
- 2.) MEAGHAN SMITH (W) d. JESSIE HERFURTH (H), 6-3, 6-3
- 3.) NICOLE FOX (W) d. JUUA KESSEL (H), 6-2, 2-6, (10-6)
- 4.) CAMILLE HANSON (H) d. KELSI KANOY (W) 7-5, 6-0
- 5.) RACHEL KESSEL (H) d. LIZ CLARK (W) 3-6, 6-2 (10-8)
- 6.) ANNIKA DAVIDSON (W) d. KATIE MINTENSON (H) 6-2, 6-3

DOUBLES:

- 1.) MEREDITH SMITH and FOX d. FINLEY and J.KESSEL, 8-3
- 2.) MEAGHAN SMITH and KANOY d. HERFURTH and R.KESSEL, 10-3
- 3.) CLARK and DAVIDSON d. HANSON and MINTENSON, 8-5