

35 Years Later....

Written by Staff Reports

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Watauga High Athletic Director Tom Wright has announced that on November 1 during WHS' home football game against Hickory High School, the Pioneers will be honoring their 1978 Class 3A state championship team. WHS will honor the 35-year anniversary of its state championship on Senior Night.

The current group of seniors and the 1978 state championship team will be honored before the game.

At halftime, WHS will be honoring three special individuals, Danny Triplett, a member of the class of 1979 and Eric Breitenstein, a member of the class of 2008. Triplett and Brietenstein will have their respective jersey numbers retired during halftime ceremonies.

Triplett went on to play at Clemson, where he won a national championship with the Tigers in 1982; Brietenstein went to Wofford College, where he became that school's all-time leading rusher, an All-America, and finished third in the Walter Payton Award balloting last December, following his senior year.

The Payton Award goes to the best offensive player in the nation in the Football Championship Series. WHS will also recognize coach Bill Mauldin, who coached the 1978 state championship squad.