

Pioneers Win Eighth Straight on Senior Day

Written by Mike Kelly

Sunday, 06 October 2013 08:17

The Watauga High girl's tennis team is loaded with confidence right now. The Pioneers (11-3), fresh off their Northwestern 3A/4A Conference championship on Wednesday, closed out the regular season

Saturday by blasting Roxboro-Person 7-2 on Senior Day at the WHS Tennis Courts.

The Pioneers gained control right away as they won the first four matches of the day in singles play. Senior Meredith Smith got things started by defeating Hannah Mattson of Person in straight sets, 6-0., 6-1. Freshman Meghan Smith won her match by default at No.2 singles, Nicole Fox, another senior, defeated Cassidy Gillie 6-2, 6-3, at No.3, and Kelsi Kanoy defeated Danielle Russell, 6-1, 1-6, 10-4 in the tiebreaker, giving WHS a commanding 4-0 lead.

Kylie Winkleman, getting a chance to play at No.6 singles, didn't disappoint as she won her match against Kelsey Dawkins, 6-2, 6-4. That win also clinched the match for WHS. The Pioneers owned a 5-1 lead going into doubles play.

Meredith Smith and Fox, Winkleman and Annika Davidson won their matches at No.1 and No.3 doubles, respectively. The Pioneers travel to the Northwestern 3A/4A qualifier on Tuesday at South Caldwell High School.

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Liz Clark and Meredith Smith will compete in singles; Meghan Smith and Kanoy, Fox and Davidson will play doubles. The Class 4A Western Regional will be at Cornelius-Hough on October 18-19; the state dual team playoffs begin Tuesday, October 15. The Pioneers, the No.1 seed from the NW3A/4A Conference, will host the No.1 seed from the Mountain Athletic 3A/4A Conference in the first round.

NOTES: The Pioneers also dedicated the new tennis pavilion on Saturday.

WATAUGA 7, ROXBORO-PERSON 2

SINGLES:

1.) MEREDITH SMITH (W) d. HANNAH MATTSON (P), 6-1, 6-0

2.) MEGHAN SMITH (W) WON BY DEFAULT

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3.) NICOLE FOX (W) d. CASSIDY GILLIE (P), 6-2, 6-3

4.) KELSI KANOY (W) d. DANIELLE RUSSELL (P), 6-1, 1-6, (10-4 TIEBREAKER)

5.) GABRIELLE DUNN (P) d. TAYLOR PAIGE (W), 6-4, 6-0

6.) KYULIE WINKLEMANN (W) d. KELSEY DAWKINS (P), 6-2, 6-4

DOUBLES:

1.) MEREDITH SMITH/FOX (W) d. GILLIE/RUSSELL (P), 8-0

2.) MATTSON/DUNN (P) d. SAVANNAH COPELAND/PAIGE (W), 8-8 (7-5 TIEBREAKER)

3.) WINKLEMANN/ANNIKA DAVIDSON (W) d. DAWKINS/PHELPS (P), 8-6