

## WHS Tennis Sends Three To Regionals

Written by Mike Kelly

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It was a difficult thing to watch for Watauga High girl's tennis coach Beth Watts. Thanks to realignment, the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference will only send one singles player and one doubles

team to regionals this season. What makes it even tougher is that three of her players were eliminated at the hands of a fellow teammate Tuesday afternoon at the NW3A/4A Conference qualifier at South Caldwell High School in Sawmills, N.C.

WHS senior Meredith Smith of the Pioneers, the No.1 seed in singles play, defeated teammate Liz Clark, the No.2 seed, in the finals in straight sets, 6-4, 6-0. In doubles play, Meghan Smith and Kelsi Kanoy of WHS, the No.1 seed, defeated teammates Nicole Fox and Annika Davidson, the No.2 seed, 6-4, 6-4.

"I don't like it," Watts said. "But everyone played hard. The doubles match, especially, was very hard to take. At least three of my players are advancing to regionals."

Meredith Smith and the doubles team of Meghan Smith and Kanoy will compete in the North Carolina High School Athletics Association Class 4A Western Regional at Cornelius-Hough High School in Cornelius, N.C., next Friday and Saturday, October 18-19. The top four finishers in singles and doubles play advance to the state finals October 25-26.

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The NCHSAA state-dual team playoffs begin next Tuesday, October 15. WHS is the No.1 seed from the NW3A/4A Conference. The Pioneers will play the No.1 seed from the Mountain Athletic 3A/4A Conference at home.