

Seven Pioneers Named All-Conference

Written by Mike Kelly

Sunday, 17 November 2013 15:54

The Watauga High boy's soccer team capped off its brilliant season on Sunday when seven members of that team were named to the Northwestern 3A/4A

All-Conference Team.

Leading the way were Logan Raichle, who was also named the NW3A/4A Offensive Player of the Year, and Cam Linnville, who shared NW3A/4A Defensive Player of the Year honors with Luis Caballero of Freedom and Marcos Vargas of Hickory.

"It was a deserving honor for Cam and Logan," said WHS coach Woody McKay. "Logan scored some big goals for us in some of our big games in league play. Cam didn't score all that much, but he was a strong defender, and he did a great job pushing the ball up the field.

"I'm sorry the season ended like it did (with a first-round loss to Mooresville), but I was blessed with a great senior class, and a good group of players overall. It was a lot of fun coaching this team."

Raichle finished with 17 goals and 18 assists; Linnville had four goals and 14 assists. Raichle and Linnville were joined on the all-conference team by Tucker Chasteen, goalkeeper Jake Chasteen (who will play at Appalachian State University next fall), Canyon Mueller, Justin Hall and Dylan Hill. Jacob Michel was named Honorable Mention.

Fred T. Foard led the way with nine all-conference selections; Freedom had eight. Zach Durham of Foard was named the NW3A/4A Player of the Year. Scott Goforth of Foard was the Coach of the Year.

The Tigers (19-5-3), the regular-season champions in the NW3A/4A, lost to Marvin Ridge in the Class 3A western finals.

Raichle, Linnville and Jake Chasteen were also named to the North Carolina Soccer Coaches Association Class 4A All-Region 11 Team. Raichle, Linnville and Chasteen are two-time all-region performers.

Chasteen only gave up 13 goals in 21 games (0.62 goals-against-average) with nine shutouts this season. Chasteen was an all-state performer his junior year. He's the first WHS boy's soccer player to earn all-state honors since Ben Robertson in 2008, and he was also the first WHS junior to be named all-state since goalkeeper Andy Cooke in 1999.

Coach McKay is 57-22-9 during his four-year stay with the Pioneers. McKay led WHS to its first regional appearance since 1999 last fall. The Pioneers were eliminated by Asheville-Roberson in the regional semifinals.

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WHS ALL-NW3A/4A SELECTIONS

Logan Raichle

Tucker Chasteen

Jake Chasteen

Cam Linnville

Dylan Hill

Justin Hall

Canyon Mueller

PLAYER OF YEAR

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Zach Durham, Fred T. Foard

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

Logan Raichle, Watauga

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Cam Linnville, Watauga

Luis Caballero, Freedom

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Marcos Vargas, Hickory

COACH OF YEAR

Scott Goforth, Fred T. Foard

Photo Courtesy: Jake Chasteen, WHS Athletics