

WHS Softball Drops Season Opener

Written by Mike Kelly
Thursday, 06 March 2014 11:46

Costly errors in the first inning really put the Watauga High softball team in a huge hole. East Wilkes scored seven times in the first inning--- only one of those runs were earned---as the Cardinals defeated the Pioneers 12-2 in Rhonda, N.C. The game was called after 4 1/2 innings due to the ten-run mercy rule.

Winning pitcher Katie Lester was in complete control. She struck out 15 batters and didn't give up a hit until Elizabeth Dollar's leadoff single in the fourth inning.

The Pioneers (0-1) finally broke through in the fourth inning. After Dollar's single, Shelby Winebarger walked, and both players advanced on a wild pitch. A single by Megan Jackson plated Dollar. Winebarger scored on a double steal.

Our at bats got much better as the game wore on. The 15 strike outs were certainly no indication of the type of at-bats we were having. The players made some adjustments, we just couldn't seem to get the ball in play.

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"It's a long season and we are just getting started," said WHS coach Stephanie Kostis. "We haven't been fortunate enough to have a great deal of time outside and that hurt us. However, we showed signs of being a very tough team and look to continue to improve as our opportunities to work outside, hopefully, will be more frequent.

"We are dealing with a few early season injuries but our young players are filling in nicely and are gaining some valuable experience that will pay off when conference games roll around. I think it's a good thing that we have a chance to play tomorrow (at West Wilkes). West is a tough team and we need that. We want to see good teams and get more mentally tough while we are getting game experience. We are excited about what we have seen, at times, from our players."

The WHS junior varsity team defeated East Wilkes, 6-4. WHS' game tonight with West Wilkes has been postponed due to a winter weather advisory that begins at 6 p.m. for the region. No make up date has been announced. The Pioneers will play their Northwestern 3A/4A Conference opener next Tuesday at St. Stephens. JV game begins at 4:30 p.m.; the varsity game begins at 6:30 p.m.

JV GAME: WHS 6 East Wilkes 4

1 2 3 4 5 6 TOTAL

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Watauga High 0 0 0 3 2 1 - 6

East Wilkes High 0 0 2 2 0 0 - 4

Pitchers

Mariel Price (W) 4IP 4R 4ER 3H 4K 4BB

Sydney Jones (Sv) 2IP 0R 0H 2K

Leading Hitters

Alden McClure 3-3 2B RBI R BB SB

Lindy Norris 3-3 RBI 2R

Abby Hicks 1-3 RBI

Callie Bolick 1-3 SB

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Sydney Jones 1-4 RBI

VARSDTY WHS 2 East Wilkes 12

	1	2	3	4	5	Totals		
Watauga High		0	0	0	2	0	-	2
East Wilkes High	7	1	3	1	X	-		12

Game ends in 5th inning on 10-run rule

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WP: Kennedy Lester: faced 18 batters, struck out 15, walked 1, gave up two hits

LP: Michala McCune: (0-1): gave up 9 hits, struck out 2, walked 2

Of East's 12 runs, 9 were unearned as a result of 7 Watauga errors (along with 3 WP and 2 PB)

Leading Hitters:

East: Ashley Waggoner: 3/4 w/3 RBI

East: Kennedy Lester: 2/2 w/ 2 RBI, 2 doubles

WHS: Megan Jackson: 1/2 w/1 RBI

WHS: Elizabeth Dollar: 1/2

WHS SOCCER ROLLS ON....

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The Watauga High girls' soccer team notched another win and another shutout Wednesday night.

Tori Derrick led the attack with three goals, and Tristin Derrick had two assists in the win as WHS (2-0-1) knocked off McDowell 4-0 at the Freedom Tournament in Morganton, N.C. Torri Derrick has scored five goals in WHS' first three games this season.

The Pioneers have outscored their opponents 10-1 this year.

Emily Goodnight scored for WHS as well; Abby Carson and Kat Welsh each had an assist.

The Pioneers wrap up tournament play tonight against West Caldwell at 7 p.m.

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KNIGHTS DOWNS WHS TENNIS

The Ardrey Kell boys' tennis team knocked off Watauga 7-2 in its season opener Wednesday night in Charlotte, N.C. Caleb Gould and Will Spinetto picked up a win at No.2 doubles; Josh Lampkins and Brody Neal got a win at No.3 doubles.

The Pioneers (0-1) match at Salisbury has been cancelled and will not be rescheduled. The Pioneers take on Mooresville in their home opener on Saturday at the WHS Tennis Courts.

Watauga at Ardrey Kell March 5th 2014

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Ardrey Kell 7, Watauga 2

0-0 Conference

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0-1 Overall

Singles

Josh DuToit(AK) def Landon Taylor(W) 6-0 6-1

Karthik Arunkmar(AK) def Dristen Trate(W) 6-0 6-2

Michael Robertson(AK) def Caleb Gould(W) 6 0-6 0

Woody Watson(AK) def Will Spinetto(W) 6-1 6-3

Bobby Shore(AK) def Josh Lampkins (W) 6-0 6-1

Graham Basquin(AK) def Brody O'Neal (W) 6-1 6-4

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Doubles

Robertson/Watson(AK) def Taylor/Trate(W) 8-6

Gould/Spinetto(W) def Shore/Basquin(W) 9-8

Lampkins/O'Neal(W) def James Lee/Neil Kamar(AK) 8-3

Exhibition

James Lee(AK) def Blake Howser(W) 8-0

Neil Kamar(AK) def Zach Archer(W) 8-0

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Ross DeLorenzo(AK) def Daniel Lampkins(W) 8-3

Aneesh Goje(AK) def Michael Welsh(W) 8-0

WHS TRACK DOMINATES IN SEASON OPENER

The Watauga High boys' and girls' track teams had a strong showing in their respective season openers on Wednesday at Hickory.

The WHS boys won nine events and bested the field with 153 points; the WHS girls won six events and defeated Hickory 83-70.5 to win its first meet of the season.

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Kennon Fox and Zach Styron paced the WHS boys.

Fox won the shot put event with a throw of 40-feet, seven inches; he won the discus throw with a toss of 119-07. Styron swept the hurdle events.

He won the 110-meter hurdles in 16.7 seconds; he won the 300 hurdles in 43.6.

The WHS boys produced 40 top-ten finishers; the WHS girls had 29.

Matthew Hall won the boys' high jump with an effort of 5-08; Conner Pate won the 400 (54.0); Jacob Soule won the 800 (2:18.4). The Pioneers also captured the 4x800 (9:34.8) and the 4x400 (4:01.5) relay events.

Kathleen Mansure led the WHS girls as she won two events, the 1,600 (6:01.5) and 3,200 (12:57.1); Savannah Randle won the 100-meter dash (12.5); Lily Weeks won the 200 (29.0). The Pioneers also posted victories in the 4x200 (2:11.8) and the 4x400 (4:41.5) relay events.

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The Pioneers are headed to Winston-Salem for the Twilight Meet Friday night.

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