



Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians split soccer matches with Social Circle and George Walton

By Charles Duncan
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The Towns County Indians Soccer team finally hit paydirt on Saturday with a 6-1 victory over George Walton Academy.

Senior Rylan Albach led the way with three goals, including a penalty kick score, as the Indians dominated the Bulldogs in almost every facet of the game.

Blake Burnett, Cesar Bustamante and Noah Calhoun each added a goal in the route.

On Friday, the game results were a bit different. The Indians couldn't find the goal, but played with a resilient defensive effort in a 1-0 loss to the Social Circle Redskins.

The win over George Walton was the first win of the season for the Indians.

The Indians (1-3 in conference) have played some very close matches this season. They lost to Fannin County in the season opener by a score of 4-1.

They lost the following match up with White County by a score of 3-2. They lost their two-game series with Union County, both times by a 4-1 score. Sandwiched in between those losses was a 2-1 loss to Rabun County.

In the two following games, they lost to Aquinas 10-0 and to Riverside Military Academy, 9-0. Both schools are noted as soccer powerhouses.

The boys hoped to avenge their earlier season loss to Rabun County on Monday. Game results were not available at press time.

Come out and support the Indians as they battle their conference opponents on the soccer field.



The Indians Goalkeeper has been busy making saves of late. Photo by James Reese



Rylan Albach nails one of this three goals. Photo by James Reese



Noah Calhoun lands a goal. Photo by James Reese

Lady Indians scoring on record pace in wins over Social Circle, George Walton



Makayla Underwood puts the ball back in play against Social. Photo by James Reese

By Charles Duncan
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The Towns County Lady Indians' soccer team is red hot and scoring goals at an unheard of pace.

The Lady Indians evened their season record at 4-4 with a pair of wins last week. They defeated Social Circle 10-0 on Friday and upended George Walton Academy 6-2 on Saturday.

The Lady Indians have broken out offensively, scoring 25 goals over their last three games. On the defensive side, the Lady Indians have only surrendered 3 goals to three opponents over their last three games.

Leading the three-game offensive charge is Faithe Robinson. The super sophomore has scored 16 of the 25 goals for the Lady Indians. She scored five goals against Highlands, six goals against Social Circle and five goals against George Walton Academy.

In the same time span, senior Ali Bleckley has scored five goals and Makayla Underwood has scored two goals, while Vanessa Eller and Taylor Vardeman have each added a goal to the Lady Indians' scoring spree.

With wins over Social Circle and George Walton, the Lady Indians have improved their conference record to 2-1.

The Lady Indians are hoping to repeat their success from a year ago when they advanced into the state playoffs and finished with a 6-3-2 record. It was the first state playoff appearance by a Towns County soccer team.

The Lady Indians berth in the state playoffs last year followed a 2-0 shutout over Lakeview Academy in Gainesville to clinch a playoff berth.

They also played host to the school's first state soccer playoff game, hosting Our Lady of Mercy Bobcats. The Lady Indians lost a close one to the Lady Bobcats.

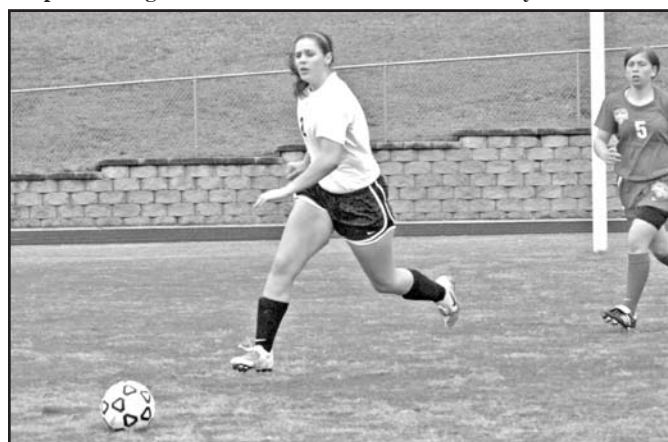
On tap this week for the Lady Indians, a road game against the Rabun County Lady Wildcats, a team they defeated early in the season by a 6-0 score. Game results from that Monday action was not available at press time.

Also, on Friday at 5:30 p.m., the Lady Indians play host to Athens Academy in a conference game.

Come out and support the Lady Indians in their drive for another playoff berth.



Faithe Robinson en route to one of the 16 goals she has scored over the past three games. Photo by James Reese



Ali Bleckley en route to an uncontested goal. Photo by James Reese



Faithe Robinson gains control of the ball during the first half of play. Robinson scored six goals against Social Circle. Photo by James Reese



Faithe Robinson's magic right foot launches another goal. Photo by James Reese

NASCAR 2012

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Stewart wins California rain game

Tony Stewart won Sunday's rain-shortened Sprint Cup race at California, after heavy rain showers forced NASCAR to call the 200-lap race at the end of 129 laps.

Tony Stewart was leading on lap 128 of the caution free race when it started sprinkling. NASCAR put out the yellow flag, and instead of pitting for fresh tires like some other drivers, he elected to stay on the track.

"It's a victory, but we would have liked to have gone the distance," said Stewart. "We had an awesome race car. The guys in the pits did a great job to keep me in front, because all our stops were under green."

Kyle Busch led earlier in the race and finished second. "NASCAR told us before the race that rain might be an issue," said Busch. "I think everyone was driving as hard as they could and trying to stay near the front. It was sunny when the race started, but after it got cloudy and the temperature dropped, our car was a little tight."

"A second-place finish is not nearly as good as first-place," Dale Earnhardt Jr. was third.

"We'll never know whether we could have won this one," said Earnhardt. "We did have a fast car, but there's a whole lot of other things that could have kept us back; traffic, pit stops, and other stuff."

Kevin Harvick was fourth, followed by Carl Edwards, Greg Biffle, Ryan Newman, Martin Truex, Kurt Busch, and Jimmie Johnson were the remaining top-10 finishers.

The rain was a blessing for Jimmie Johnson and his No. 48 team. His car developed an oil line problem as the cars circled the 2-mile track under caution. Johnson's car began smoking and he kept it rolling on the apron until NASCAR stopped the race.

Had the race gone back green he would probably have lost several laps, due to repairs on it. Top-12 leaders after 5 of 36: 1. Biffle-195, 2. Harvick-188, 3. Earnhardt-178, 4. Stewart-177, 5. Kenseth-176, 6. Truex-175, 7. Hamlin-171, 8. Johnson-156, 9. Bowyer-156, 10. Newman-155, 11. Menard-148, 12. Edwards-146.

LOGANO GETS FONTANA NATIONWIDE WIN

Joey Logano held off challenges from a succession of drivers to win Saturday's Nationwide race by

1.066-seconds ahead of Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

"It's important to keep the win streak going," said Logano, who survived a wild restart with 12 laps left and pulled away for the win. "You don't want to be the guy who didn't win it and broke the streak. Obviously, it makes me work extra hard, not that we don't work hard any other weekend; we try to win every one of them, but to keep a streak going like that is important for our whole company."

The victory was Logano's first of the season, second at Fontana and the 10th of his career. Logano is the first Sprint Cup Series regular to win a Nationwide race



Tony Stewart talks with Carl Edwards after his California Cup win

this season.

Brad Keselowski ran third, followed by Brian Scott and rookie Austin Dillon. Brad Sweet, Kenny Wallace, Kyle Busch, series leader Elliott Sadler and Brendan Gaughan completed the top-10.

"For me, this is one of the best Nationwide races of the year," Keselowski said. "You see a lot of really good action here, the way the track has worn in over time. And the way the cars are with really low power, they can seemingly draft very well and do some really cool maneuvers."

After debris punctured the radiator of her No. 7 Chevrolet, Danica Patrick retired with an engine failure and finished 35th.

Top-10 point leaders after 5 of 33: 1. E. Sadler - 214, 2. R. Stenhouse Jr. - 196, 3. A. Dillon - 187, 4. T. Bayne - 180, 5. S. Hornish Jr. - 160, 6. C. Whitt - 151, 7. M. Annett - 148, 8. T. Malsam - 144, 9. J. Allgaier - 126, 10. M. Bliss - 119.

Ed Clark has been President of Atlanta Motor Speedway for nearly 20 years. Clark recently reflected on some of his memories and thoughts of the past 20 years in a question-and-answer session, and what he thought were the greatest races at AMS:

"Well obviously the 1992 Hooters 500, that's probably first and foremost. The second one, I'll recall our first Camping World Truck Series, and how competitive it was. In fact the first couple of Truck races we had, there were three to four guys coming off the fourth turn going for the win. Those were great."

"One that truly stands out is the 2001 event when Kevin Harvick won. I've been in this business over 30 years, and I've never heard the fans in the stands continue to cheer and express their emotion for that long, once a winner had crossed the finish line. It literally went on for seven or eight minutes without dying down at all. I think it was several things, obviously a new winner, a great photo finish with Kevin just beating Jeff Gordon."

But the biggest thing, it was just a rush, a release of emotion for all the fans. The fact that Dale Earnhardt drove that very car and won that race in a photo finish the year before, his last win here, and being three weeks after his death, it was just an emotional release for everybody."

Weekend Racing: The

Cup and Truck teams are at Martinsville, the smallest (.526-mile), the shortest track on the NASCAR circuit. The Nationwide teams do not race again until Apr. 13.

When Martinsville Speedway first opened, NASCAR was just an idea. When NASCAR was formed, Martinsville Speedway was a charter member, a membership that endures after more than 60 years.

In fact, the historic Virginia half-mile oval is the only track that was on the schedule in the first NASCAR Sprint Cup Series season that still hosts the series today.

Martinsville Time Line:
September 7, 1947 : H. Clay Earles opens Martinsville Speedway as a dirt track with 750 seats and a paid crowd of 6,013. Red Byron wins the 50-lap feature for "Modified Stock Cars" and earns \$500 out of a \$2,000 purse.

July 4, 1948 : Martinsville runs its first race under a NASCAR sanction, with Fonty Flock winning the feature followed by Pee Wee Martin of Bassett, Va., Buck Baker, Bill Blair, and Tim Flock as 4,000 watched. Bill France finishes eighth while one of those sidelined with mechanical problems is 19-year-old Fireball Roberts.

September 25, 1949 : NASCAR's "Strictly Stock" division, now the Sprint Cup Series, makes its first appearance at the speedway and Byron wins again in an Oldsmobile 88 with Lee Petty second in a 1949 Plymouth. Seating increased to 10,000.

1950 : The speedway starts running two NASCAR Grand National (Sprint Cup) events races a year on the dirt track. The Strictly Stock Series was renamed the Grand National Series that year.

Sat., Mar. 31, Camping World Trucks Kroger 250, race 2 of 22; Starting time: 1 pm ET; TV: SPEED.

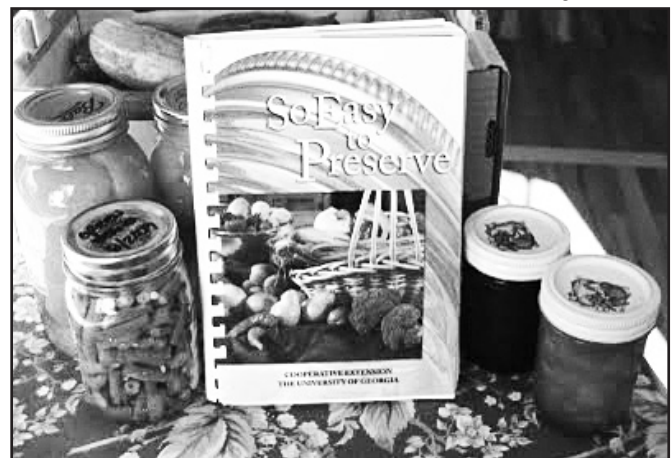
Sun., Apr. 1, Sprint Cup Goody's 500, race 4 of 36; Starting time: 12:30 pm ET; TV: FOX.

Racing Trivia Question: Who is Joey Logano's new crew chief in the Cup series?

Last Week's Question: Which is the oldest track on the NASCAR circuit? Answer: Martinsville. The first race was held Sept., 1949.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at hodges@race500.com. NTMar28,C1AC

Preservation seminar at library



So Easy to Preserve, published by the University of Georgia's Cooperative Extension Service.

There will be an educational presentation on Tuesday, April 3rd at Union County Public Library on getting ready to preserve the bounty from your garden. Allyson McGraw, retired University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service Agent, will be highlighting information on the safest and best methods to preserve your garden harvest this summer and fall.

The program will be presented two times on Tuesday, April 3rd. There will be a 10 AM and a 5:30 PM presentation. (You will only need to attend one.) Mrs. McGraw's presentation will be based on the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service's publication "So Easy

Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery events

May 8 - Veterans Appreciation Fishing Rodeo: 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Free event open to all U.S. military veterans. Bring your own fishing gear and bait. Free lunch.

May 9 - Special Kids Fishing Rodeo: 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Participants with special needs. Limited pre-registration required. Please call ahead 706-838-4723.

June 1 - Seniors Fishing Rodeo: 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Free event open to adults ages 55 and older. Bring your own fishing gear and bait. Free lunch and prizes.

June 2 - Family Fishing Festival: 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Free event open to youth ages 16 and under. Bring your own fishing gear and bait. Free lunch, prizes, exhibit booths, and scavenger hunt.

Located on Rock Creek Road off GA Hwy 60 near Suches, GA.

For information call 706-838-4723. NTMar28,Z4CA

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