



Towns County Herald's Sporting News



Rebels take down the Indians in home opener

JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

Fannin County dominates the plate

After playing in scrimmages and tournaments, the TCHS Indians returned home for their opener but the Fannin County Rebels spoiled the day. The Indians started well in the first when Brittany Ledford capped a long fly ball to end the Rebel offense. Haley Ledford opened the bottom with an infield single but strand her on second. In the second, Claire Wilson snags a shot and tosses to Chelsey Noblet at second for the DP to can the Rebels. Kayla Roberts then belted a long shot to the outfield and motored around to third for the "T" as the Indian dugout went wild. An RBI sac by Ali Bleckly put the Tribe up 1-0 after two innings. The Indians got a couple of out on the boards in the third but the Rebels had runners on every base. They knotted the game 1-1 on an infield single then took a 2-1 lead on an overthrow at first. Things fell apart for the Tribe as the Rebels picked up their fifth run in the third

off a fly ball to right field before Claire Wilson finally made the third out.

In the fourth, the visitors added their sixth run, 6-1 as they began to dominate the plate. A fly ball to left made it 7-1 and a shot to right made it 8-1 before the Tribe turned their second DP of the game to get out of the inning. In the fifth, the Rebels scored again

to make it 9-1 and call the game on the "mercy rule".

TCHS varsity softball team photos and actions shots are available for \$20 pre-paid this season. Post/past season CDs are \$30. Place your order early by seeing Jim or Lisa Bryant or contact at F5sports@yahoo.com to place your order. Individual photos may be purchased immedi-

ately by logging on to <http://jlbphotography.photorelect.com> OR Photorelect.com (type in Jim Bryant) and reviewing selected game photos of current sports. TCHS sports have been archived from the past thirteen years. Also be aware that the sports pages are now on line at townscountyherald.net each week.



Heather Hamilton gets the ball in her glove but it popped out for a no-catch call. Photos by Jim & Lisa Bryant



Chelsey Noblet rifles a throw to first for the second Indian DP in the game.



Kayla Roberts slides in for the "T" and shows her emotions.



Claire Wilson puts the tag on a Fannin Rebel in third base slide.



NASCAR 2009 By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

COUSIN CARL GOES INTERNATIONAL

Marcos Ambrose led 60 laps and only made one mistake in 74 laps, but that single miscue allowed Carl Edwards to make a pass on him on the last turn of the last lap to win Sunday's Nationwide Series race in Montreal, Canada.

"I made one mistake and it cost me the race," said Ambrose, who finished second. Ambrose was leading the race with Edwards right behind him as they entered turn-14, the last turn before the checkered flag. Ambrose did not brake hard enough and his No. 47 Toyota slipped sideways just enough to allow Edwards to get by. Ambrose regained control, but was not able to overtake Edwards.

Edwards did his traditional winning backflip, and said, "We just went international. Marcos Ambrose is probably the best road course driver there is. He's helped me a lot. It makes it special being able to pass him."

"I thought it was over. Once we came off the last hair-

pin corner, I drove it as hard as I could. He had a little bit of trouble with a wheel-spin, and I had a little run, but I couldn't out brake him. He just let off the brakes a little early and hopped the curb too hard and slipped on that last turn.

The win was the first career road course victory for Edwards.

NASCAR stopped the race with 16-laps to go and made teams switch to rain tires. When racing resumed, there were several multi-car accidents. Only 24 of the 43 starting cars were running at the end of the race.

"It was a crazy race," continued Edwards. "First it was dry, and then it was wet. At one point I was just trying to survive."

Andrew Ranger finished third followed by Jacques Villeneuve, Brad Keselowski, Tony Raines, Jean-Francois Dumoulin, Stephen Leicht, Brendan Gaughan, and Kyle Busch.

Top-10 points leaders after 25 of 35: 1. Kyle Busch-4034, 2. Edwards-3842, 3.

Keselowski-3752, 4. Leffler-3429, 5. S. Wallace-2900, 6. Allgaier-2898, 7. Keller-2821, 8. Gaughan-2787, 9. Blaiss-2774, 10. McDowell-2738

HORNADAY CONTINUES TO LEAD TRUCKS

Top-10 Truck Series leaders after 16 of 25: 1. Hornaday-2593, 2. Crafton-2373, 3. Skinner-2277, 4. Bodine-2169, 5. Scott-2134, 6. Starr-2110, 7. Braun-2096, 8. Setzer-2065, 9. Crawford-2051, 10. Cook-2015

Weekend Racing: The Camping World Trucks are at Newton, Iowa, while the Cup and Nationwide teams will be night racing at the 1.5-mile Atlanta Motor Speedway.

Sat., Sept. 5, Nationwide Series Atlanta 300, race 26 of 35, Starting time: 6:30 pm (EDT); TV: ESPN2.

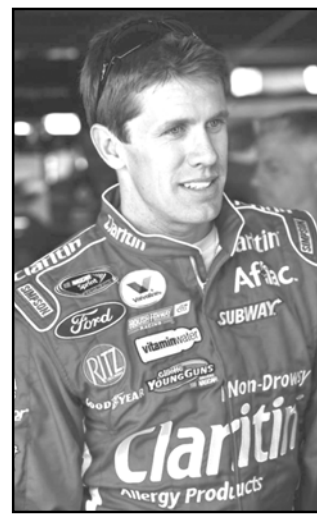
Sat., Sept. 5, Camping World Series Iowa 200, race 17 of 25, Starting time: 9:30 pm (EDT); TV: Speed Channel.

Sun., Sept. 6, Sprint Cup Pep Boys Auto 500, race 25 of 36, Starting time: 7 pm (EDT); TV: ESPN.

Racing Trivia Question: What is the name of the camp operated by Kyle Petty and his wife for kids with health care needs?

Last Week's Question: How many NASCAR Truck championships has Ron Hornaday won? Answer: He has three, 1996, '98, and 2007.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at: hodgesnews@earthlink.net



Carl Edwards

Local Racing Action



by Carl Vanzura

Rain was the winner at Tri-County

It was a bad week-end at Tri-County this week as heavy rains Thursday and Friday made the track to wet to race on for the go karts and stock cars. It looked like track officials could get the track ready for Saturday, but around 4 pm it started again and the final shower at 6:30 was just too much for the track to handle.

The Georgia Mini Sprints show will be rescheduled if they have an opening before the season at Tri-County ends.

Rain checks and arm bands will be honored this Saturday night when the Southeastern Sportsman Series make their second appearance at the track. In June, 21 of the high powered Sportsman racers put on one of the most exciting races of the 2009 season in front of a big crowd. The track is charging regular admission for this big event.

Tri-County has also announced that the season ending Demolition Derby is planned for the second Sunday of October paying \$500 to the leader of the first 20 laps and \$1500 to the last car running.

Several tracks got their events complete as they dodged the rain drops. One of the areas favorite drivers, Brasstown's Ray Cook out raced 51 other drivers to win the #10,000 to win Blue Grass 60 in Bardstown, KY. Ray is in the best year of his long career. Jake Knowles won at Cleveland Speedway. Young Ethan Hunter was the winner at Toccoa. Blairsville's Brian Kinnersley won the Crate feature at Toccoa. Lee Sutton took the win at Dixie Speedway. Vic Hill won the Tennessee Thunder show at Maryville's Mountain Speedway. Boyds Speedway and Westminster Speedway, like Tri-County fell to the wet stuff.



The Southeastern Sportsman Series will bring around 20 cars to Tri-County this Saturday night.

Photo by Jack Appleget

Wildcats blast Indians in five inning game

JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

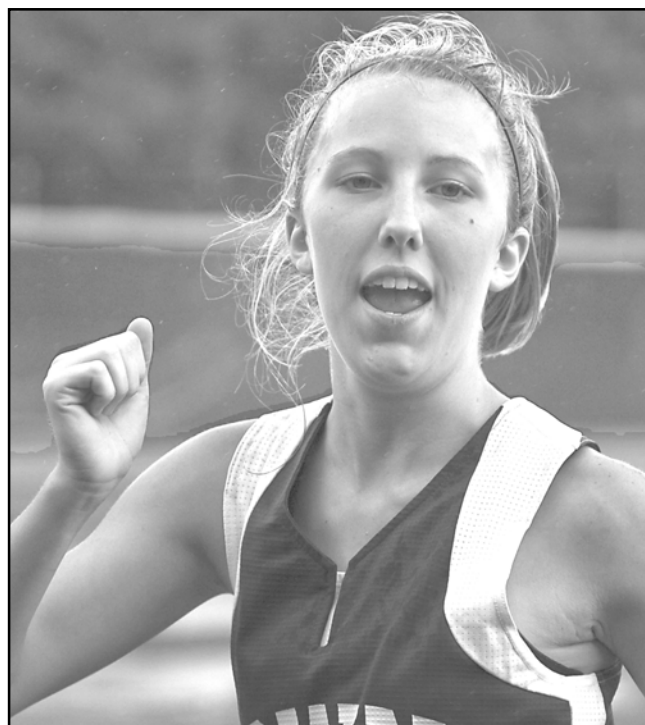
Indians lose early lead to Cats

The Rabun County Wildcats opened their home opener in style Tuesday by taking a 15-7 win in a game shortened five inning game. The Lady Indians took an early lead of 3-2 in the first inning but the red Cats used good hitting and aggressive base running to rally back in the second and take a 12-3 lead, thanks in part to a dropped infield fly ball that hit the ground. After going 6-3 then 8-3, the Cats eventually waited for the game to be called in five inning with the score 15-7.

TCHS varsity softball

team photos and actions shots are available for \$20 pre-paid this season. Post/past season CDs are \$30. Place your order early by seeing Jim or Lisa Bryant or contact at F5sports@yahoo.com to place your order.

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Chelsey Noblet tries to get her team up against the powerful Rabun Wildcats. Photo by Jim/Lisa Bryant

Herald's sports quote of the week

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

- Aristotle, Greek philosopher

Adult Coed Softball League

The Towns County Recreation Department and The Towns County Drug Coalition together will be offering an Adult Coed Softball program. The League will be for men and women 18 & over (You must be 18 before October 1 of current year).

Each team will consist of a minimum of 12 players with at least 3 females on the team's roster. When playing games, teams must have a minimum of 3 females continuously entered in the game.

You may form your team

and register or if you are an individual wishing to participate. The Recreation Department will take your name and then place you on a team.

Registration for the program will begin Aug. 24 and run thru Sept. 5, 2009. To register or for more information you may come by the Recreation Center or call us at 706-896-2600. Please remember deadline to register will be September 5. All games will be played at The Towns County Recreation Ballfields.

JV Indians rally for 5-4 win over the Rebels

JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

Coleman mound and stick dominates

In the season home opener for the JV Lady Indians' softball, the game was not decided until the end when the Tribe rallied for the 5-4 win. After Fannin took a 1-0 lead, the Indians opened the bottom of the first when Andrea Coleman dropped an infield pop fly between two Fannin Rebels. A bunt by Brittany Boyer moved Coleman into scoring position where she was plated off a sac by Makayla Moody, 1-1. The Tribe took a 2-1 lead when an RBI single down the third base line by Ashley Thrasher send Boyer across home, 2-1. In the second, the Rebels knotted the game 2-2 but again the Indian sticks were hot

when Whitney Higgins blasted a stand "D" down the left field line. Again the Indians took the lead when Andrea Coleman got a hit and the 3-2 lead.

With Rebels on first and second, Coleman pitched her way out of trouble in the third. Makayla Moody got robbed when she cranked a shot to right that drifted OB and a Rebel eased over for the foul catch. The game then went into neutral until the Rebels tied the game 3-3 on a long sac fly in the top of the fifth. Coleman blasted a double to the center field fence in the bottom but eventually died on third to end the inning. With a 2-out RBI single in the top of the sixth, the Rebels took a 4-3 lead when the Indians had their hands full trying to get the final out. Again, the Tribe stormed by when Megan Miller opened the bottom with a single and moved

into scoring position off a sac fly to center by Ashley Thrasher. Eighth grader, Kristen Cox then sent a worm-burner past short to

plate Miller, 4-4. Whitney Higgins hit the winning RBI single to take the game 5-4 for the home opener win.



Brittany Boyer comes sailing home in 5-4 JV win over Fannin County. Photo by Jim and Lisa Bryant



Kristen Cox and Davilyn Blythe wait for the late throw at second.



Andrea Coleman slides in safely at second.