

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



www.townscountyherald.net • E-mail: tcherald@windstream.net

## Homecoming week in full swing at TC High School



The 2011 Towns County High School Homecoming Court

**By James Reese**  
Towns County Herald  
tcherald@windstream.net

It's Homecoming Week in Hiwassee as the annual rites of fall take place at Frank McClure Stadium.

The week includes School Spirit filled activities that began on Monday with Dress Like a Little Kid Day.

On Tuesday it was Dress Like a Faculty Member Day; on Wednesday, the ever educational Dress Like a Nerd Day; on Thursday, the fun-filled Tacky Tourist Day; and on Friday Homecoming Week concludes with School Spirit Day.

The week's festivities also include a powder puff football game at Frank McClure Stadium on Thursday following the middle school match up between the Indians and White County.

The seniors and freshmen will take on the juniors and sophomores. Female high school faculty, staff, and administrators are welcome to play on their advisement level team. Male faculty, staff

and administrators are needed to coach, assist, announce, keep score and run the chains. The Homecoming King will be crowned at half time of the festivities.

For more information, contact: Jeannie Ledford (706) 896-4131, extension 1413 or Sarah Morrison at (706) 896-4131, extension 1200.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson



Ansley Vardeman and Walker Guss with Indians' Cross Country Coach Jeanne Ledford at Banks County Meet Photo by James Reese

## Ansley Vardeman sets Girls' Cross Country course record in Homer

**By James Reese**  
Towns County Herald  
tcherald@windstream.net

The Towns County Indians Cross Country teams traveled to Banks County last week and came home with very encouraging and positive results.

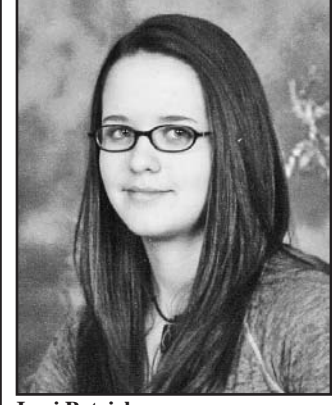
Sophomore Ansley Vardeman won her fourth meet of the year, this time in Homer in front of the Banks County faithful. Vardeman broke the

Banks County course record for Girls competition with a time of 22:17.

The Lady Indians finished a close second overall in the meet to the home town Lady Leopards of Banks County.

On the flipside, Walker Guss led the Indians' Boys squad, finishing second with a time of 18:44. Overall, the Indians took home fourth place in the Banks County meet.

## Jessi's Gift 5k run and walk



Jessi Patrick

more children facing challenging circumstances.

This first annual 5k race, 2 mile walk and fun run will be held Saturday, October 22, 2011 at the Clay County Recreational Park on Myers Chapel Road in Hayesville, NC. Proceeds go to benefit Kingdom Kids. Pre-registration is \$15, \$20 on race day. \$10 student pre-registration, \$15 student on race day. The Fun Run is free - donations accepted. T-shirts guaranteed to all 5k runners or walkers who preregister by October 1. The 5k and 2 mile walk have an 8 AM start time. The Fun Run will start at 9:15 AM. Register at [www.supportkingdomkids.com](http://www.supportkingdomkids.com) or call 770-403-7066.

By doing this run Jessi's wish is being fulfilled. On one of her short stays home from the hospital she had found out her wish of a shopping trip to the mall was granted by Kingdom Kids. What a blessing to find Jessi in our office writing down names of the children she wanted to buy Christmas gifts for that she had met at the hospital. The list was quite long which really would have left little for Jessi to spend on herself. That's just the kind of child she was. So with this 5k run her gifts will continue.

100% of money raised goes towards the children. No one is paid at Kingdom Kids. People can go to [www.supportkingdomkids.com](http://www.supportkingdomkids.com) to read about Jessi and all the many children that benefit from this great charitable organization.

NT(Sep28,M1)SH

## NASCAR 2011

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### Stewart is smoking

Tony Stewart got his second consecutive Sprint Cup win Sunday at New Hampshire Speedway after leader, Clint Bowyer, ran out of fuel with two laps to go in the 300-lap race.

Stewart, who had remained close to Bowyer was able to duck under Bowyer's gasless car to take the checkered flag for the second consecutive week.

"We felt like this would be a good weekend," said Stewart. "We've had a lot of problems, but this win takes a lot of weight off my shoulders."

"Clint had a good car and I hate to win a race this way, but being able to play the fuel-mileage game is part of the sport."

Brad Keselowski finished second and moved up three positions in the Chase.

"We made some good adjustments on the car after about 110 laps, and I knew from then on we had a good car," said Keselowski.

Greg Biffle finished fourth and Jeff Gordon, who led the most laps was fifth.

"They told me I needed to save fuel," said Gordon. "We're not getting the fuel mileage we should. That's why I had to pit under green. I'm happy with where we are in the Chase, but we're not gaining on the leaders."

Brian Vickers, Matt Kenseth, David Ragan, Carl Edwards and Juan Montoya were the remaining top-10 finishers.

Jimmie Johnson and Kyle Busch got into some rough, close racing late in the race. For three laps Johnson tried to pass Busch underneath, but he was unable to make the pass. Finally, there was contact between the two cars and Johnson almost spun out, losing six positions.

Busch finished 11th, while Johnson was 18th.

Kurt Busch's No. 22 Dodge did not pass pre-race inspection the first time through Sunday morning, and NASCAR did not release the car until 10 minutes before the engines were fired.

Although Busch appeared upset, the team didn't appear panicked as the car sat in the inspection bay with Penske Racing Competition Director Travis Geisler and Busch crew chief Steve Addington looking on.

"NASCAR wasn't 100 percent happy with what they saw on one of their gauges that kind of checks where the rear end is in the car, so we had to do a little work on it. ... It's a 'go' or 'no-go' type of gauge and it didn't go," Geisler said.

"We needed to make sure that it went. It wasn't like there was any gray area that NASCAR was saying maybe we were or weren't legal. We weren't right yet."

There is not expected to be any penalties from NA-



Tony Stewart (R) is congratulated by his teammate Ryan Newman.

SCAR. Busch finished 22th. Top-12 Chase leaders with 8 to go: 1. Stewart-2094, 2. Harvick-2087, 3. Keselowski-2083, 4. Edwards-2080, 5. J. Gordon-2071, 6. Kyle Busch-2068, 7. Kenseth-2068, 8. Earnhardt-2068, 9. Kurt Busch-2066, 10. Johnson-2065, 11. Newman-2060, 12. Hamlin-2028

### KYLE BUSCH WHIPS OTHER DRIVERS IN TRUCK WIN

Kyle Busch started from the pole and dominated Saturday's Truck Series race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, in which only six trucks finished on the lead lap.

Busch, who led 165 of 175 laps, crossed the finish line 3.816 seconds ahead of runner-up Austin Dillon to post his sixth win in 14 starts this season and the 30th victory of his career. Kevin Harvick finished third, followed by Ron Hornaday Jr. and Johnny Sauter.

Busch led the first 130 laps and didn't surrender the top spot until he came to pit road for tires and fuel on Lap 131. That handed the lead to Dillon, who didn't pit until Lap 135.

By the time pit stops cycled through, Busch had opened his advantage over Dillon to nearly six seconds. Harvick was running third at that point, more than 12 seconds back.

Though Dillon closed the gap over the final 30 laps, Busch was able to cruise to the win, breaking a string of five straight Chevrolet victories in the series.

"I wish we could have come out a little closer to him off pit road," Dillon said. "I lost a little time getting onto pit road, and that hurt us. But we came out leading the points with six (races) to go. We'll focus on that, and we're happy with this finish."

Matt Crafton, James Buescher, Todd Bodine, Timothy Peters, and Miguel Paludo were the remaining top-10 finishers.

Top-10 leaders after 18 of 24: 1. A. Dillon-661, 2. Buescher-659, 3. Sauter-654, 4. Peters-636, 5. Hornaday-614, 6. Crafton-610, 7. Coulter-603, 8. Whitt-595, 9. Kligerman-593,

### 10. Bodine-593 EARNHARDT PUTTING IT ALL OUT THERE

"There's no excuses now," said Dale Earnhardt Jr. after his move to Hendrick Motorsports in 2008.

His first three seasons at Hendrick has been a struggle. He went through a pair of crew chiefs (including his cousin, Tony Eury Jr.), recorded just one victory in his first 108 starts, and qualified for just one Chase for the Championship.

He has not produced the kind of results that the millions of Earnhardt fans have hoped for.

Things appeared to be on the upswing for him, but a flat right front tire in Sunday's New Hampshire race relegated him to a 17th place finish.

His fuel-strategy-aided, third-place finish two week's ago in the opener of the 10-race Chase for the championship perked up the spirits of a lot of those fans, though it has yet to make believers out of a lot of observers.

Earnhardt himself is feeling a lot better about the situation these days.

"I think we made a pretty serious impact last week, and we just kind of need to keep that momentum going," Earnhardt said.

A win is what he needs. He has not won since the 2008 race at Michigan, his first season with Hendrick.

His best career finish was third in 2003.

"These races are always real competitive and the racing always is kind of aggressive so you just kind of hope you can put together a full day, having the car run well and track position is real important. It's difficult to pass here, but that's no real difference than any other place," he continued.

"I think we are in a good spot," he continued. "I think there are 11 other guys with nothing to lose either. They have the same attitude."

"It's time we put it all out there and see what happens."

Two races into the Chase and Earnhardt is 8th, 26 points off the lead.

**Weekend Racing:** It's on to Dover's Monster Mile for the Nationwide and Cup teams, while the Truck Series

heads to Kentucky Speedway.

Sat., Oct. 1, Nationwide ONEMAIN 200, race 29 of 34; Start: 3:30 pm; TV: ESPN2.

Sat., Oct. 1, Camping World Trucks Kentucky 225, race 19 of 24; Start: 8 pm; TV: SPEED.

Sun., Oct. 2, Sprint Cup AAA 400, race 29 of 36; Start: 2 pm; TV: ESPN.

All times are Eastern.

### Racing Trivia Question:

Where is Paul Menard's hometown?

**Last Week's Question:** How many Cup championships does Jeff Gordon have?

**Answer:** Four.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at [hodges@race500.com](mailto:hodges@race500.com). NT(Sep28,C2)JC

### Appalachian Duplicate Bridge Club news

On Monday, September 19, twelve and one half tables played a Mitchell movement at All Saints Lutheran Church in Blairsville, GA with the following results: First, North-South, Susan Palmich and Frank Holland; second, Joan and Joan Lane; third, Gwen Weaver and Jim Bell; fourth, Jim and Nancy Malte; fifth, Kathy Yost and Sue Smith; and sixth, Jean Pittman and Barbara Mitchell.

First, East-West, Marilyn Bulkley and Carey Randall; second, Anita Lippman and Dan Cornett; third, Carolyn Neighbors and Marge Schroeder; fourth, Fran Egan and Irene Schoetker; and fifth, Lorraine Klug and Mary Doran.

On Thursday, September 22, eight full tables played a Mitchell movement. First, East-West, Ray Berry and Joe Lane; second, Mary Stoll and Mary Hale; and third, Carolyn Neighbors and Marge Schroeder.

First, North-South, Gwen Weaver and Jim Bell; second, Susan Palmich and Debbie Foster; and third, Betty Long and Irene Schoetker.

The club meets every Monday and Thursday at All Saints and would welcome any interested bridge players to join them. They begin play at 1:00. If you need a partner or more information about the games, call Myrna at 828-389-8065. NT(Sep28,Z8)CA

### Any and all addictions

A new open 12 Step Recovery Program to help suffering people regardless of the particular addiction or addictions. We meet Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Fellowship of the Hills Church, Pinebrook Drive and 129 S, Blairsville, GA. For information email: [recoveryjeff@gmail.com](mailto:recoveryjeff@gmail.com), or call 706-835-1855. N(Sep28,Z6)CA