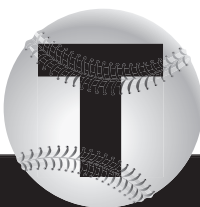


Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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

TCMS Indians close out season with another win

The Towns County Middle School Indians closed out their football season last week against the Lakeview Academy Lions at Jock Hornor Field.

The visiting Indians took care of business once again knocking off the Lions, this time 40-30.

The previous meeting in Hiwassee had the Indians dominating in all phases of the game in a one sided 28-0 shut-out.

However, unlike the previous meeting, the Lions showed heart and came back in the second half primarily against the Indians' reserves.

Towns County inflicted their damage early and often in the first half. Ryan Green put the Indians on the scoreboard first, breaking loose on a 14-yard run to put Towns on top 6-0.

Following the ensuing kickoff, the Lions took over on their own 18-yard line. They didn't hold the football very long as they fumbled and Cruise Shook scooped it up and returned it all the way back for the 18-yard score.

Green converted the two-point try to give the Indians a 14-0 lead.

After a three-and-out by Lakeview, Green got the ball again and scored on a 37-yard touchdown run.

Tyler McDonald converted the two-point try and put the Indians up 22-0.

On the next Lakeview drive, McDonald picked off a Lions' pass and returned it for a defensive touchdown for the Indians. That score gave Towns a commanding 28-0 lead.

The game was beginning to take a trip down memory lane, somewhat reminiscent of the prior matchup between the two teams. That is until the Lions' Cooper Ambrose took the ensuing kickoff the distance narrowing the Indians' lead to 28-6 with 49 seconds left in the first quarter.

As if to take offense to the lost shutout, the Indians resumed their domination of the Lions in the second quarter. Towns extended its lead to 40-6 by halftime.

With the game appearing to be a lock win, and out of reach, Indians' Head Coach Brett Keller began emptying the bench in the second half.

The Lions didn't just fold and soon marched back into the game.

Lions' running back Cooper Ambrose led the comeback finding the end zone at the 4:27 mark in the third closing the gap 40-14. Ambrose found the end zone two more times drawing the Lions to within 10 points at 40-30.

As the Lions were drawing closer, Coach Keller looked to his bench to return some of his starters to the field to preserve the victory by running out the clock. The Indians closed out the season with the 40-30 victory.

The win vaulted the Indians' final season record to 3-1-1 in an exceptional year.



Ryan Green scores one of his three touchdowns on the day against Lakeview Academy.



Alan Broussard scores a touchdown against Lakeview Academy.



Cruise Shook cruises into the end zone against Lakeview Academy.



Tyler McDonald finishes off an interception with a touchdown run.

Termites continue to roll toward perfection; win 39-0

The invincible Towns County Termites took care of business again on Saturday, downing another victim last week, the Chestatee War Eagles.

The mighty Termites scored early and often, racking up touchdowns after touchdown, earning a final score of 39-0 in the win over the War Eagles.

A familiar face led the way for the Indians to victory, quarterback Kyle Oakes.

The gritty Termite signal caller rushed for 150 yards and scored four touchdowns en route to another impressive offensive effort.

The Termites' running back sensation Colin Crowder added an additional 150-plus rushing yards and two scores in the winning effort for Towns County over the hapless War Eagles' team.

Two faces the War Eagles were glad to see head home: defenders Evan Mills and Logan Daniel. The Dynamic Duo led the Termites' defensive charge, each recording seven tackles on defense. The Termites' Devin Beck was awarded the game ball for his considerable gridiron efforts on the day, Towns County Youth Football Coordinator Jimmy Smith said.

The win gives the Termites a 6-0 mark, a perfect season to date and a bull's eye toward earning an eventual season championship.

In Blairsville, the 10-year old Indians took care of business and defeated the Pickens County Dragons by a score of 18-6 at Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium.

Smith says his 9-year old Indians have earned a well deserved break prior to the up-



The Towns County Termites took care of business again with a 39-0 win.



10 year old Indians hold the Pickens County Dragons at bay.



10 year old Indians drive for another score.

coming league playoffs.

Smith also added that he hopes to see a significant home crowd come out in support of the youthful Indians when action resumes Saturday, Oct. 16 at Frank McClure Stadium in Hiwassee.

The games begin at 9 a.m. sharp, Smith said. Be there or be square, Smith challenged locals as he urged for a huge local turnout to the games.



10 year old Indians head for a score.

NASCAR 2010

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Stewart gets California win

Tony Stewart is definitely back in the Chase. Stewart jumped out front on a green/white/checker restart, and won Sunday's California Cup race, ahead of Clint Bowyer and Jimmie Johnson. It was Stewart's 30th career Cup victory, but his first at the Fontana track.

"I knew I was going to have my hands full with him (Jimmie Johnson) on that last restart," said Stewart. "I wasn't sure we were good enough to win, but we did it."

"I know we can still win this thing (the Chase), but we need some help. It's still a long way, but if we can keep winning, it'll be much easier."

He moved up five spots and is now 107 points back of Johnson, the leader. Clint Bowyer passed Jimmie Johnson on the final lap, then held on to finish second.

"I guess I'm happy with the finish, I just wish we could have won," said Bowyer. "I'm frustrated, because I wanted to redeem my team, and show our win two week's ago was not a fluke. I guess we'll have to wait until the next race."

Bowyer remains last in the 12-man chase field, 247 points out. Johnson challenged for the lead in the final laps of the race, but had to settle for third.

"Our car just didn't have anything on the bottom side of the track," said Johnson. "I thought we had a great performance. We had a top-3 and we kept our momentum going."

Kasey Kahne, Ryan Newman, Mark Martin, Kevin Harvick, Denny Hamlin, Jeff Gordon, and David Reutimann were the remaining top-10 finishers. Kyle Busch, winner of Saturday's Nationwide race lost an engine and finished 35th. He dropped from seventh to ninth in points.

"There was a loud pop coming out of turn-2 when I had it wide open," said Busch. "I don't know what happened. The engine just broke."

Chase Leaders with six to go: 1. Johnson-5673, 2. Hamlin-5637, 3. Harvick-5619, 4. J. Gordon-5558, 5. Stewart-5566, 6. Kurt Busch-5533, 7. Edwards-5511, 8. Burton-5496, 9. Kyle Busch-5486, 10. Biffle-5458, 11. Kenseth-5432, 12. Bowyer-5426

KYLE BUSCH GETS 12TH NATIONWIDE WIN

Kyle Busch needs to buy his pit crew a steak dinner, because they deserve the credit for his win in Saturday's Nationwide Series race.

Strong on short runs but no match for Kevin Harvick on longer ones, Busch rallied from a pit-road speeding penalty to beat NASCAR Nationwide points leader Brad Keselowski

to the finish line by 1.034 seconds.

"The pit stops were what got us there," Busch said. "Just being able to have the guys give us a good pit stop on that last time and get out front when it mattered most and kind of set sail on the restarts."

"Harvick had a really, really good car on long runs. He showed that today—he probably had the best car. We could keep up with him for about eight or 10 laps, but after that, he started getting away from us."

The victory was Busch's 12th of the year, leaving him six behind series leader Mark Martin in career wins.

To Kevin Harvick, on the other hand, there was little doubt that his pit crew lost it.

"The guys in the shop did a great job in transitioning to some new setup packages and doing the things they need to do to make them fast—and those are the guys I feel the worst for," Harvick said. "We've got guys that just roll up on the weekend and just flat-out aren't doing a very good job on pit road."

Harvick ran third, despite leading a race-high 86 laps. Carl Edwards, second in the series standings, came home fourth and trails Keselowski by 384 points with five races left. Joey Logano finished fifth.

Danica Patrick saw a promising run spoiled when contact from James Buescher turned her No. 7 Chevrolet into the wall on Lap 141 of 150 to cause the sixth and final caution. Patrick was running 17th at the time, hoping for her first lead-lap finish in her eighth NASCAR Nationwide start, but the wreck relegated her to a 30th-place result.

Top-10 Nationwide leaders after 30 of 35: 1. Keselowski-4764, 2. Edwards-4380, 3. Kyle Busch-4279, 4. Allgaier-3938, 5. Menard-3866, 6. Harvick-3763, 7. Logano-3392, 8. Bayne-3391, 9. S. Wallace-3351, 10. Leffler-3315

Top-10 Camping World Truck Series leaders after 20 of 25: 1. Bodine-3196, 2. Almirola-2934, 3. Sauter-2896, 4. Dillon-2808, 5. Peters-2773, 6. Crafton-2773, 7. Hornaday-2687, 8. Skinner-2549, 9. Starr-2504, 10. Lofton-2379

WHERE'S THE EXCITEMENT

NASCAR and ESPN are constantly talking about what it will take to regain the number of television viewers that have left the sport.

There have been many statements made by both parties about race starting times, the Chase, the Car of Tomorrow, and several other factors, that have caused the sport to lose viewers.

If they were to ask me,



I'd tell them it's the lack of excitement during the races.

I make my living writing about NASCAR, but yesterday I became painfully aware of how much NASCAR racing has lost its lustre.

I enjoy watching college football. Last Saturday night there were two games on at the same time, LSU against Florida, and Auburn versus Kentucky. Both games went right down to the wire. The outcome of neither game was decided until the last eight seconds.

Watching these four teams play kept me on edge. They were so packed with action, that I constantly switched channels to catch as much of the action of each as possible.

Both had thrilling, exciting finishes. They grabbed my emotions. Why?

Here were groups of young men putting forth individual effort. Each trying to give his best.

NASCAR racing on the other hand is about a set of polished drivers, piloting a mechanical machine around a set course, with a backup of 40-50 other people, and a multi-million dollar budget.

Big-time racing used to be about individual effort, but that went out the window when it succumbed to Corporate America's greed.

I will continue to faithfully write about NASCAR, but until it can reach me emotionally, it can never be number one.

Weekend Racing: Race number five in this year's Chase for the Sprint Cup championship will be held at Charlotte. Fri., Oct. 15, Nationwide Series Dollar General 300, race 31 of 35; Starting 7:30 pm ET; TV: ESPN2.

Sat., Oct. 16 Sprint Cup Bank of America 500, race 31 of 36; Starting time: 7:30 pm ET; TV: ABC.

Racing Trivia Question: How many Cup wins did Earnhardt Sr. have?

Last Week's Question: How many Cup championships did Dale Earnhardt Sr. win? Answer: Seven; 1980, '86, '87, '90, '91, '93, '94.

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

Local Racing Action

By: Carl Vanzura

Drivers honored at season final at Tri-County



Bobby Panter (left) was the points champion in Late Model Sportsman driving Kenny Garrett's car.



Young Harris driver Tony Ledford took the second place trophy in the GM Performance Late Model division.



Hiwassee driver Kevin Bradshaw took third place in the GM Performance title chase.



Ricky "Fat Rat" Smith wrapped up the year with a win in the Street Stock class and ended up third in the points.

Youth basketball registration at Rec Department

The Towns County Recreation Department is having youth Basketball registration through Saturday, October 23, 2010. You may register your child at the Towns County Recreation Department. Our hours of operation are Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. til 9 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. til 7 p.m. Fee for the program will be \$45.

Age divisions will be 10 and under divisions (8,9 & 10 year olds) 12 & under divisions (11 & 12 year olds), and 14 and under divisions (13 & 14 year olds). This is for both male and female.

For more information please contact the Towns County Recreation Department at (706) 896-2600. T10Oct13-20.F1JSH

Mountain High Hikers Hiking Club

Mountain High Hikers schedules two hikes each Tuesday, occasional specialty hikes, and regular trail maintaining trips - all in the beautiful mountains of Georgia and North Carolina. Check the website www.mountainhighhikers.org for schedule and meeting locations. N10Oct13,21JCA

Color Copies 25¢
West Printing Co.
706-745-6343