

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Golf: Indians third at area; begin prepping for State Tourney on May 20

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Indians golf team traveled to Commerce for the second week in a row Monday, April 29, to compete in the 8-A Area Tournament, and despite not playing at their best, the Indians took a Third Place finish to qualify for state.

After the Indians dropped their first two golf matches of the season, they started to find their stride and were able to win the next 12 in a row to close out the regular season.

Six days prior to the area tourney, Towns County defeated Commerce and Lake Oconee at the Double Oaks Golf Course in Commerce.

"We all played really well Tuesday, beating Commerce on their home course and Lake Oconee, who has one of the top golfers in our region," said senior Will Travis. "I know we all felt really good heading into area, and we really felt that we could win the tournament."

Added Coach Brian Hunnicutt, "The team felt very confident that they could win area, having just beat Commerce and Lake Oconee in a match at Double Oaks."

Monday during the match, the Indians really struggled and didn't really get things going until

they were on the back nine. Fortunately, they were able to advance by a small margin of three strokes with a Third Place finish, qualifying them for the upcoming state tournament.

Senior Kyler Garrett was the only Indian golfer to shoot in the 70s, posting his best score of the year with a 78, which was six strokes above par.

Seniors Will Travis, Danny Reagan and Caleb Ledford were able to turn their games around on the back nine, closing the tournament with a strong finish.

Sophomore Nick Sisco continued his excellent play by posting his career-best round.

"As a coach, I knew there would be days that would be coming when several of our golfers were going to have bad days, forcing them to grind out a score," said Hunnicutt. "Unfortunately for the boys, that day was Monday during area."

For an hour or so, the Indians had to wait for the other teams to finish and hand in their score cards. There was a major sense of relief and reprieve when Towns County realized that they had done enough to reach state again.

For the fifth straight year, the Towns County Boys Varsity Golf Team will be heading to the Georgia High School Association Public Single-A State Golf Tournament on Monday, May 20.

"What has made this team so great is the consistency that they have shown during the season," said Hunnicutt. "If one player was having a rough day, the other four golfers would pick him up and score well."

Hunnicutt gave the team two days off after the area tournament, and they picked things back up last Thursday in preparation for state.

The boys have a tough task ahead of them, as Gordon Lee has won the single-A state championship three years in a row.

Last year, the Indians finished in Third Place, 59 shots off the lead, and Schley County came in second.

"I am so proud of the boys for fighting and caring enough to qualify for state again," said Hunnicutt. "I believe that we could do well in state, perhaps equaling or bettering our Third Place finish in state from last year."

The Indians will have two weeks to prepare for the two days and 36 holes of golf at the Southern Landings Golf Course in Warner Robins on Monday, May 20, and Tuesday, May 21.

Parents and players, along with Coach Hunnicutt, will leave out early Sunday morning. For a practice round, the boys will play a father-son round of golf Sunday afternoon.



Towns County Middle School Baseball winning season



This team has had an amazing season with a winning record of 13-3. They impressively outscored their opponents 123 runs to 32 run overall this season. The Middle School Baseball Team is coached by Chris Vardo and assisted by Alan Rogers and Ezekiel Gribble. Front row L-R: Eli Phillips, Kade McConnell, Bryson Woody, Owen Nolan, Cale Kirby, Matthew Chastain, Layne Rouse. Back Row: Assistant Coach Ezekiel Gribble, Connor Chastain, Tanner Cunningham, Drew Sofield, Caleb Berrong, Zane Floyd, Colton Garrett, Mason Yeomans and Coach Chris Vardo. (Towns County Herald)

NASCAR 2019

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Bell Gets Third Xfinity Win

DOVER, DE - Christopher Bell, who finished second to Cole Custer in both stages of the race came out strong in the second half to win his second straight race at Dover, and the third win of this season.

"Over the last couple of weeks, we've had really fast race cars but just weren't able to capitalize on it," Bell said. "This one is really out to my pit crew. They did a great job to get me out first to control the restarts. I knew once we got to the front, we were going to be tough to beat."

In addition to the win, Bell also earned \$100,000 as the highest finishing Xfinity Dash 4 Cash driver, out-dueling Tyler Reddick, Chase Briscoe, and Gray Gaulding.

Bell led 44 of the race's 200 laps around the one-mile concrete oval.

Justin Allgaier was only able to lead one lap, but finished second. "We had a good car, but not the car we needed," said Allgaier. "We could run with the leaders, but couldn't do anything with them. This has always been a tough track for us."

Tyler Reddick, Cole Custer, and Chase Briscoe rounded out the top-5.

Custer led a race-high 155 laps but fell back in the late stages of the race and was unable to regain the lead. "It's really frustrating when you lead that many laps," Custer said. "You just can't give up your track position here. Everybody wants to win here at Dover, that's why it's so frustrating."

"It's about the hardest track to pass at that we go to. We just couldn't get it all back. We were so good and feel like we didn't take advantage of a great car today. It's good we had so much speed to compete with those guys, but we need to figure out a way of beating them every weekend."

Austin Cindric, Brandon Jones, John Nemechek, Zane Smith, and Michael Annett, rounded out the top-10.

Top-10 leaders after 10 of 33: 1. Reddick-462, 2. Bell-439, 3. Custer-391, 4. Cindric-381, 5. Allgaier-348, 6. Briscoe-335, 7. Nemechek-325, 8.



Christopher Bell Has Three Xfinity Wins Sieg-315, 9. Gragson-304, 10. Annett-297.

SAUTER GETS THIRD DOVER TRUCK WIN

When Johnny Sauter took the checkered flag in Friday's Truck Series race at Dover, it was his third-straight victory at the one-mile track.

Brett Moffitt, Harrison Burton, Grant Enfinger, Matt Crafton, Ben Rhodes, Austin Hill, Derek Kraus, Tyler Ankrum, and Ross Chastain were the remaining top-10 finishers.

Top-10 leaders after 6 of 23: 1. Enfinger-241, 2. Sauter-237, 3. Friesen-230, 4. Moffitt-227, 5. Rhodes-218, 6. Crafton-204, 7. H. Burton-193, 8. Hill-191, 9. Gilliland-171, 10. Creed-160.

BONDO COSTS NO. 3 TEAM POINTS

Austin Dillon's No. 3 Cup Series team was fined \$25,000 and the team's car chief, Gregory Ebert, suspended for the Dover race. The team was assessed penalties of 10 driver points and 10 owner points, respectively, as a result of Bondo on the rear deck lid of the No. 3 car at Talladega.

NASCAR officials confiscated the deck lid between practice sessions Friday. Crew chief Danny Stockman acknowledged in a SiriusXM NASCAR Radio interview that the team didn't receive a rear spoiler template until Friday and it didn't fit properly on the car, so Bondo was used in an attempt to fit the template. NASCAR does not allow the use of Bondo on car bodies.

LOGANO EATS BAR-BECUE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Joey Logano drove his No. 22 Ford up to the White House last week.

Logano and his 2018 team were honored by President Donald Trump, who called the championship run "a heart-pounding, high-octane NASCAR action finish."

"It was an honor to be able to go there and be able to see the inner workings of our country," Logano said. "I was so impressed by a lot of things."

"It was a really neat moment to be standing on the stage with the President. Try-

ing to make a speech with him looking over your shoulder was a little nerve-wracking. It was maybe one of the coolest moments to walk up and see your car in front of the White House. I had never even seen the White House in person, then you see your race car parked in front of it. That's a really cool picture.

"We had some barbecue. It felt like it was fitting and it was really good. I mean, Chick-fil-A is real food, too. But I'm a fan of really good food, too."

Logano found winning a championship comes with perks at the White House.

"We got the guy playing the piano to play 'Free Bird' in the White House," Logano continued. "Let me tell you something, when NASCAR gets in town, 'Free Bird' is played all the time, even in the White House."

Racing Joke: James and his wife had to appear before a judge in Divorce Court.

The judge turned to James and said, "I have reviewed this case very carefully and I've decided to give your wife \$800 a week."

"That's very fair, your honor," he replied. "And every now and then I'll try to send her a few bucks myself."

Weekend Racing: The Trucks and Cup Series are at the 1.5-mile Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kansas. The Xfinity Series has the week off. It is a long-standing tradition with NASCAR not to race on Mother's Day, so there will be no racing on Sunday, May 12.

Fri, May 10; Truck Series race 7 of 23; Starting time: 8:30 PM ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Sat, May 11; Cup Series race 12 of 36; Starting time: 7:30 PM ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Racing Trivia Question: Where will the last race of the 2019 season be held?

Last Week's Question: Who is the owner of the ARCA Racing Series? Answer: NASCAR bought the series in 2018.

Gerald Hodges is a syndicated NASCAR writer and author. His books may be viewed and ordered online at Amazon.com. You may contact him by e-mail at: hodges@race500.com.

MUSA Soccer registration

The Mountain United Soccer Association Soccer Club is holding tryouts on June 1-2 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Elan Fields and June 8-9 from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Elan Fields.

MUSA will also feature an adult soccer league with games being held on Saturday evenings from May 18-July 27. Available leagues are men and women 5-on-5 recreation leagues. Registration is \$150 per team. They will also host a 7-on-7 competitive mens league with a \$200 registration fee per team. For additional information, visit www.musasoccer.org.

TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT
FOOTBALL, CHEERLEADING & FLAG FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL
REGISTRATION: APRIL 1ST - JUNE 14TH - \$90
LATE REGISTRATION: JUNE 15TH - JUNE 22ND - \$105

Co-Ed FLAG FOOTBALL
REGISTRATION: APRIL 1ST - JUNE 14TH - \$60
LATE REGISTRATION: JUNE 15TH - JUNE 22ND - \$75

CHEERLEADING
REGISTRATION: APRIL 1ST - JUNE 14TH - \$90
LATE REGISTRATION: JUNE 15TH - JUNE 22ND - \$105

THE TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR INAUGURAL FOOTBALL SEASON WITH THE MOUNTAIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE, AND ALSO OUR VERY FIRST SEASON OF FLAG FOOTBALL. PRACTICE WILL BEGIN THE SECOND WEEK OF JULY. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN COACHING, PLEASE FILL OUT A COACHING APPLICATION AT THE TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT & COMPLETE A MANDATORY BACKGROUND CHECK.

DIVISIONS:
8U: AGES 7-8 MAY 1ST, 20 10 THROUGH APRIL 30TH, 20 12.
10U: AGES 9- 10 MAY 1ST, 2008 THROUGH APRIL 30TH, 20 10.
12U: AGES 11- 12 MAY 1ST, 2006 THROUGH APRIL 30TH, 2008.

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.TOWNSCOUNTYREC.COM
OR
REGISTER IN PERSON AT THE TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT MATTHEW YOUNGBLOOD OR TYLER GARRETT AT (706) 896-2600.

TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT
BASKETBALL CAMP

REGISTRATION: APRIL 15TH-JUNE 9TH
CAMP DATES: JUNE 11TH, 12TH, 13TH
SESSION I: 9:00AM- 12:00PM GRADES 1-5
SESSION II: 1:00PM-4:00PM GRADES 6- 12
FEES: \$75 FOR 3 DAYS. \$5 DISCOUNT FOR MULTIPLE CHILD REGISTRATION.

THE TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ANNUAL BASKETBALL CAMP! CAMP IS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, GRADES 1- 12. CAMP WILL BE FOCUSED ON DEVELOPING BASKETBALL SKILLS, LEARNING DEVELOPMENTAL DRILLS, AND LEARNING FUNDAMENTALS FROM COLLEGIATE COACHES AND ATHLETES.

COLLEGE ASSISTANT MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH, DAVID FEINSTEIN WILL BE THE HEAD COACH OF THIS CAMP. COACH FEINSTEIN WILL BE ASSISTED BY PAST & PRESENT COLLEGIATE PLAYERS.

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.TOWNSCOUNTYREC.COM
OR
REGISTER IN PERSON AT THE TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE WILL BE PROVIDING SHIRTS FOR ALL CAMPERS WHO REGISTER BY MAY 3^{1ST}. SPACE IS LIMITED!!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT DAVID FEINSTEIN (603) 40 1-573 1 OR TYLER GARRETT AT (706) 85 1-99 19.