

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Coach Jason Roquemore gets Indians Football underway with summer workouts

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Indians Football, under new Head Coach Jason Roquemore, started offseason summer workouts on Monday, June 3.

Roquemore is coming to Towns County after a seven-year stint as head coach at Johnson High School in Gainesville.

After the Towns County Board of Education hired Roquemore in March, he held a special meeting as the new football coach to meet with many of his football players those returning, incoming freshmen, and other students — to discuss his vision and goals for the team.

There has been some concern about student interest in the program, but now that summer workouts are here, Coach Roquemore has been pleased to see more than 20 players turn out.

"I feel very confident that our numbers are going to continue to grow," said Roquemore. "It's been good, and I feel very encouraged."

The football team is meeting Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. through the month of June for summer workouts.

"We are bringing them in and putting them through a dynamic stretch, and then we will go through our workout," said Roquemore. "After we lift, we come together and share what we call the 'contagious thought of the day,' and we talk about that for a little bit."

"Then, we get them on the board for a little chalk talk and transition up to the practice field reviewing what we talked about from the chalk talk sessions."

Offseason training will pick up after June, and during the month of July, the Indians will meet four days a week.

The Towns County Football Booster Club and Coach Roquemore hosted a fundraiser bass fishing tournament on Wednesday, June 12, and the turnout was fantastic, with over 30 boats entering the event.

Thursday, July 25, will mark the beginning of camp for the Indians, and they will practice for five days with helmets before they can go full pads.

The Georgia High School Association prohibits full contact until Aug. 1, so the night before, the team will host its first-ever "Midnight Madness."

Starting at midnight on Aug. 1, the Indians will scrimmage in full pads on their



Coach Jason Roquemore is thrilled about the upcoming season.

brand-new \$1 million turf field under the lights, and the public is invited to attend.

After losing 15 seniors from the 2018 season, the Indians are going to look very different under Coach Roquemore.

They are moving to a 3-4 look on the defensive side of the ball, which is a change from the 6-2 scheme from last year.

With several secondary skill players returning, Roquemore said he feels this is the best package for the defensive side of the ball.

"Offensively, we're going to throw the football," he said. "I feel like we have some kids on the perimeter that are going to be tough in that space."

The offense has a new signal-caller under center sophomore Kyle Oakes, who was the backup to senior and three-year starter Trent Bradshaw.

Oakes has experience at the quarterback position, and with a year of tutelage from Bradshaw, he said he feels confident commanding the huddle.

"I think at the quarterback position we are progressing, and I think what we are asking him to do fits well with his skill set," said Roquemore. "He is very comfortable with everything we are throwing at him, and I'm very pleased with everything I've seen from him so far."

On Friday, Aug. 16, the Indians will travel to Lumpkin County for a pre-season scrimmage at 7:30 p.m. before they

host their first regular season game.

The Boys in Blue start their season against cross-state rivals from North Carolina when the Hayesville Yellowjackets travel to Towns County to face the Indians in Frank McClure Memorial Stadium.

Towns County's football team has won three in a row against the Yellowjackets under former coach John Cornett.

Following their season opener at home, the Indians will travel away for their next two games, facing Gilmer County on Friday, Aug. 30, and Union County on Friday, Sept. 6.

3V3 Soccer Tournament



3V3 Soccer Tournament! When: June 28 - 30, 2019. Where: Georgia Mountain Fair Grounds (Towns County), 1311 Music Hall Rd., Hiawasse, GA. Cost: \$25 per player (3 player min, 5 player max - per team)

Ages: U6, U8, U10, U12, U15 and Adult. Register online: playpass.com/go/a9lp. More information email: Townscountysoccer@gmail.com. Find us on Facebook - Towns County Soccer Booster Club. T(Jun19)G1SH

Chatuge Shores Ladies win Match Play at Butternut



Members from Chatuge Shores went over to Butternut Creek Thursday, June 13th to play a Match Play tournament. The ladies from Chatuge wanted to get that trophy back and they made it happen. Score 6-2! The trophy will be on display at Chatuge now for one year until the 2020 Match Play is held. We had great weather and all the ladies had a wonderful time. Top row 1-r: Karen Whittaker, Claudia Rinaldo, Bonnie Shore. Bottom row: Kathy Stewart, Loretta Hughes, Mary Reece, Glenda Geddings, Not pictured: Barbara Boswell. T(Jun19)F3JSH

NASCAR 2019

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Bell Gets Fourth Win

NEWTON, IA - Christopher Bell held off Cole Custer for his fourth Xfinity Series win of the season. He led 186-laps of the 250-lap race as well as winning both stages of the race.

Even though he managed to keep Custer behind him for most of the race, both drivers raced each other hard. Once after a late race restart, Custer beat Bell out of the pits and it took several laps before Bell was able to regain the lead.

"It's pretty cool to win a race like this," said Bell. "This is one of my favorite tracks. We always seem to have a fast car here. But we definitely had our work cut out for us today. The team deserves a lot of credit. If they hadn't made the right calls, we wouldn't be here (Victory Lane) today."

On the race's last restart, Bell moved up on Custer, almost forcing him into the outside wall, but both drivers were able to continue.

"I didn't think anything about it," said Custer. "We raced each other hard. He raced me hard, and I tried to race him just as hard. I think the difference was, he had a little faster car."

Justin Allgaier was third, followed by Harrison Burton, Zane Smith, Noah Gragson, Chase Briscoe, Jonh Nemechek, Michael Annett, and Austin Indric.

Top-10 leaders after 14 of 33: 1. Reddick-649, 2. Bell-598, 3. Custer-563, 4. Allgaier-527, 5. Cindric-522, 6. Briscoe-470, 7. Nemechek-463, 8. Gragson-461, 9. Annett-439, 10. Haley-424.

MOFFITT DECLARED WINNER OF TRUCK RACE

Brett Moffitt was declared the winner of the Iowa Truck Series race after Ross Chastain failed post-race inspection and was officially disqualified from the race.

NASCAR officials discovered Chastain's truck was too low in the front during post-race technical inspection. Chastain will not receive credit for the victory and will be scored as earning last-place points for the race. He will lose the points earned from the victory and the seven playoff bonus points.

According to NASCAR statistical archives, the last time a premier series driver was disqualified occurred in 1973, when Buddy Baker was demoted to last place in the National 500 at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Results of Saturday's Iowa Truck Series race: 2. Ben Rhodes, 3. Harrison Burton, 4. Grant Enfinger, 5. Stewart Friesen, 6. Sheldon Creed, 7. Matt Crafton, 8. Chandler Smith, 9. Raphael Lessard, 10. Todd Gilliland.

Top-10 leaders after 10 of 23: 1. Enfinger-429, 2. Crafton-382, 3. Friesen-380, 4. Moffitt-378, 5. Rhodes-375, 6. H. Burton-336, 7. Hill-334, 8. Sauter-326, 9. Gilliland-294, 10. Creed-293.

The NASCAR Cup Series had an off week.

FRUSTRATION IS PART OF THE GAME

Clint Bowyer has been

pretty frustrated this season. He was involved in a wreck during the Michigan race on lap 131 that put him out. It was his third DNF of the season. It seems like Bowyer has been in the wrong places at the right times.

Trying to keep clear of the No. 20 of Erik Jones, who had gotten loose in front of him, Bowyer said he got loose because of Austin Dillon charging underneath him. Bowyer's car then got into the left rear of Jones' Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota Camry, and got way out of shape leading to his accident.

"It was a pretty frustrating day," Bowyer said. "Pretty frustrating out there."

What made Bowyer so upset and forcing himself to hold back? The way the race played out, with the aero package for Michigan that had drivers noticeably closer together, the draft playing a significant role in the action.

"It's not racing," said Bowyer. "I have never been penalized for trying to make a pass in my whole life, since I was four years old. You get a run on somebody, and you can make a complete pass; and by the time you get to the next corner you've been passed by four people. It's really, really frustrating."

The Stewart-Haas Racing driver started the day fifth on the grid and was looking for his second straight win at Michigan. But he did not score points in either Stage 1 or Stage 2.

Asked if the driver can do anything to make the difference up Bowyer said, "It's all situational, and all comes down to what call you make and when you make it; how your track position plays out for stage points, and how your luck plays out from there."

Three weeks ago, he and Ryan Newman had a confrontation. Bowyer showed his frustration by pounding his fists on Newman's racing helmet.

Frustration. It's all part of the racing game.

WATCH OUT FOR HAILIE DEEGAN

Hailie Deegan is the 17-year-old female driver from Temecula, Calif., who has created attention in NASCAR's lower divisions by winning two series races this season and three of 19 races since joining the series last year. She calls herself "Not your typical 17 year old girl".

Deegan is not just competing against men; she is quite literally knocking them out of the way to win. She won a 155-lap race last week in Erie, Colorado, by nudging aside her teammate, Derek Kraus, and taking the lead with a lap to go.

Her tactics were considered to be "controversial" because drivers are supposed to win races "cleanly," not by shoving others out of the way and into a potentially dangerous spin. But she got to keep the trophy, and she was not particularly apologetic.

"That's racing," Deegan said afterward. "We were all going for the kill. I got the win, and that's all that matters."

Deegan, who is still five weeks from her 18th birthday, is still very far away from NA-



Bell Gets Fourth Win

SCAR's big leagues. But she is winning races and, of just as much importance, building a fan following. Hailie Deegan baseball caps and T-shirts have become hot sellers.

The idea of moving Deegan ahead is tempting because NASCAR, whose young male drivers sound like they have been programmed, could really use some sizzle. Deegan already qualifies as a sensation, even while driving at the lower levels.

She is attractive, enthusiastic and quotable, a marketer's dream. And she also wins races, which is just as important to the purists who thought of Patrick's time in NASCAR as a gimmick.

Deegan might not take a seat in a Cup car for at least three more years, and NASCAR will probably look much different then. But the time has come to keep an eye on her.

Racing Joke: Brad is distraught because he fears his wife is having an affair, so he goes to a gun shop and buys a handgun.

The next day he comes home to find her in bed with a tall blonde headed stranger.

He pulls out the gun and holds it to his own head.

His wife jumps out of bed, begging and pleading with him not to shoot himself.

Hysterically, Brad responds to the wife, "Shut up... you're next!"

Weekend Racing: The Cup Series will be at Sonoma, California for the first road course race of the year. The Trucks are at Gateway Motorsports Park in Madison, Illinois. The Xfinity teams have an off week.

Sat, June 22; Truck Series race 11 of 23; Starting time: 8:30 PM ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Sun, June 23; Cup Series race 16 of 36; Starting time: 3 PM ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Racing Trivia Question: Who has the most Cup Series wins at Sonoma?

Last Week's Question: Who did Greg Biffle drive for before he left the Cup Series in 2016? Answer: He drove for Roush Fenway Racing.

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.

5-Star Basketball Camp

5-Star Basketball Camp with Director: Ray Porredon and Asst. Coach: Lowell Hamilton. Date: July 22nd, 23rd, & 24th. Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Ages: 8-17.

Location: Towns County Recreation Department. Cost: \$75. Call: (706) 304-8402 to register.



Trout stocking sites week of June 10-14, 2019

Fannin: Rock Creek and Toccoa River
Lumpkin: Etowah River and Nimbwill Creek
Murray: Holly Creek
Union: Cooper Creek

Note: Information is subject to change. Please call the hatchery at 706-838-4723 for questions. Stay up-to-date with stocking and events through Facebook www.facebook.com/chattahoocheeforestnfh. The hatchery also provides trout for the state. Please contact Georgia DNR for information on sites stocked by the state. N(Jun19)Z16CA