

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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

Swain takes three-of-four vs Indians' youth

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Youth Indians had a hard day on Saturday, as the Swain County Maroon Devils took three out of four games in North Carolina.

Swain County carries a strong football tradition in the Smokey Mountain Conference, and is loud and proud about it. "They've got state title championships all over the scoreboard and down on the banks," said Youth Football Director Jimmy Smith. "They've got a big billboard sign that's got all the state championships. I said, oh boy, we're in football heaven down here."

Pee Wee Indians were the only team from Towns County to walk away with a win, 22-12, effectively increasing their season record to 4-1.

"They struggled in the first half," said Director Smith. "They had four fumbles, but they got them all back except one."

Head Coach Shane Haney was really proud of how his Termites performed. After a rocky start, the young men bounced back and had a good game.

Cruz Kitchens scored two touchdowns, Aiden Burrell scored one, and Jameson Dawson had an extra point.

Cooper Floyd had an extra point, two fumble recoveries and three sacks, and he rushed for 80 yards, proving that he had what it took to take the Devils to task Saturday.

"Lane Haney, he was everywhere," said Director Smith. "He played defense the best I've seen him play all year. That kid was all over the field."

Aiden Reynolds exhibited stacks of star power as the most improved player on the team.

"Reynolds did good on offense and defense," said Director Smith.

And Jonah Vargas gained

special recognition after the game for showing remarkable kindness to those Devils.

"We give out a sportsmanship award, and he won it this week because every time there was a player down, he ran over there and helped pick the other team up," said Director Smith.

The Termites suffered a loss Saturday, dropping their record to 2-3 on the year.

Looking good on offense were scoring duo Brett Young, who scored both of the touchdowns, and Jensen Goble, who made both of the extra points.

"We just got outcoached," said Head Coach Joseph Goble. "We're going to have a good week of practice and be ready for Murphy coming in town."

Director Smith was impressed with Swain County's Termite team, and gives credit where credit is due.

"They did double reverses, they did passes – it was unbelievable," said Director Smith. "They were the best team I've seen yet all around. I'm talking from the whole season, Swain County has got the best team out there, except for the Pee Wees."

The Indian Mites lost 36-6, ending their undefeated record for the season, so the stakes were high going into the game.

"It was a very tough ballgame," said Director Smith. "We went in undefeated and they were, too. Everything went their way and nothing went our way."

Refs at Saturday's matchup were especially tough on the Indians, and our little guys were penalized 30 yards in 10 minutes on three separate sideline warnings.

"I believe we got the worst ref in the whole Smokey Mountain Conference on our side Saturday," said Director Smith. "I called the president of the league about it and told him what he did and how bad he was. And we had a kid injured.

He hit out of bounds – I'm talking in the coach's box – and the kid hit him so hard he knocked him into the fence."

The injured Indian went to the hospital with a possible concussion. And what did the Smokey Mountain Conference referee do? He just stood there looking on and didn't throw a flag.

Thankfully, the young Indian was okay.

"We've got to have a good week of practice and forget about that game," said Mites Head Coach Patrick Oakes. "It's over and done with, and we've got to look forward to playing Murphy."

Towns County Midgets lost 40-0, but the odds were stacked against them from the onset.

Swain County's Midget team had a 6-foot-2-inch 12-year-old.

"I bet he weighed probably 280 pounds," said Director Smith. "That's what we played down there yesterday. They had two or three like that, but he was the biggest kid."

Head Coach Rodney Thomas didn't let the loss get him down.

"Jim, we're going to get one," he tells me that every week," said Director Smith. "I believe he's going to get one before it's all over. Maybe it's this weekend."

North Carolina's Murphy Bulldogs are heading to town this weekend, and Preacher Shep Calhoun is all set to be there with the opening prayer. High School softball player Angel Moss will reprise her role singing the national anthem to start each of the games.

"I think we'll do good against Murphy," said Smith. "We beat them in a scrimmage game, so maybe we can beat them again. Murphy usually brings a lot of people, so I'm hoping they do. Of course, I hope people come out and support us again this week."

Tri-County Junior Golfers enjoying 12th year



The Tri-County Junior Golf Association is currently holding their Fall Tournament League. Thursday, September 4, 2014 – 75 junior golfers competed at Brasstown Valley Resort. Many thanks to Young Harris College for sponsoring last week's event. This local

area junior golf league is in their 12th year. We are pleased to have local PGA professional, Matt Liss, head up this organization and hope it continues to grow and provide the children in our area the opportunity to experience the wonderful game of golf.

The Fall Tournament League continues through the end of September. If anyone is interested in joining the league for next Spring's league play, please contact Matt at Chatuge Shores Golf Course in Hayesville, NC. NT(Sep17,F1)SH

Bowling scores

Monday Night Ladies: Amber Gilbert 201, Nell Rice 190. Monday Night Men: Dewey Allen 246, Kevin Mohan 214, 245, Mike Newsome 202, Keith Rhodes 204, John Stevens 235, Ray Everett 222, Jeb Plott 194, 256, 277, 727 Series, DeJay DeJoseph 223, Jay Burrell 203, 209, Chris Ellinwood 203, 203, Taz Matetzschk 257, Dave Davis 275, 268, BJ Gilbert 204, Mickey Whatley 207, Richard Tanner 212, Joe Teague 211, 213, Derrick Rice 228, 257, Rick Bracken 204, Larry Cannan 202, Mike Davis 219, Gary Brown 248, Bill Cox 223, Steve Whittenburg 200, Bob Bischoff 233, Russ Southcott 205, 212, Hazel Farmer Senior League: Ken Thigpen 217, Janet Burrell 205, Cliff Hall 209, Dewey Allen 206, Bart Rogers 212, 221, Mo Rogers 231, Ron Gaucher 211. Thursday Night Fun Mixed: Ken Clark 209, Daniel Brown 217, Jeb Plott 206, 248, 278, 732 Series, John Moore 211, Zach Moore 213, 260, 213, Tim Moore 201, 225, 217, Kirk Bass 235, Russ Southcott 267, 224, 204, Dewey Allen 236, 232, Mike Davis 211, 208, Bob Landis 226, Chuck Reeves 216, 206, Tony Lynch 223, Ray Everett 233, 234, Timothy Fields 216, Jaythan Burrell 220, 207, Jay Burrell 238, Jordan Moore 210, Pete Craig 200.

4-H Shooting Sports Teams and Friends of NRA banquet

Union County 4-H Shooting Sports Teams are working with Friends of NRA to hold a banquet at the Pat Haralson Civic Center on September 27, 2014 at 6 p.m. This banquet helps to raise money for grants given by Friends of NRA to organizations like the 4H teams and church shooting sports organizations.

We will have a great dinner catered by Steve's Steakhouse, a live auction, silent auction, and many games of chance. We like to call it dinner and a show!

For more information you can call Jammie Murphy at the Union County Extension/4H office 706-439-6030 or Brad Hutson at 706-835-6484. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door for \$30. An (8) person table can be purchased at a discounted price of \$25 per ticket (\$200 per table).

Please come out and help support the Friends of NRA as well as the local 4-H Shooting Sports Teams Archery, BB, and Shotgun! NT(Sep17,Z10)CA



Lady Indians take Prince Avenue to the wire

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Lady Indians lost 1-0 to Prince Avenue in a nail biter of a game that went extra innings Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Lowell Nicholson Field.

"This was an exciting game to watch," said Head Coach Brandon Rowland. "These are the kind of games that get me excited to be softball coach."

Lady Indian hits were supplied by Tori Morgan and Zandra Churchill, and Alyssa Pyle reached base on a walk.

"What was impressive was the pitching dual by both pitchers," said Coach Rowland.

Emily Ledford struck 11 batters out and walked six, with some of the walks being intentional due to the sudden death situation.

Prince Avenue produced 13 strikeouts and a walk. "In the top of the ninth, Prince Avenue laid down two amazing bunts to move the sudden death runner over to third," said Coach Rowland. "The runner ended up stealing home on a wild pitch."

So, 1-0, the Lady Indians had a chance to win the game if they could only score two runs, or could extend it to force another inning with one.

"The bottom of the ninth couldn't have been set up any better for the Lady Indians," said Coach Rowland. "Since Alyssa Pyle was the last out in the eighth inning, she was our



Emily Ledford fanned 11 vs Prince Avenue. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

runner allowed on second base per the sudden death rules – Alyssa is by far the fastest base runner on the team."

Prince Avenue had the top of Towns County's lineup to face, and with a runner on second and no outs, the Lady Indians had a real shot at victory.

"Through a tough at bat, Tori Morgan ended up striking out," said Coach Rowland. "Emily Ledford laid down a beautiful sacrifice bunt to move Alyssa over to third. Zandra Churchill, our freshman third baseman, came up and hit a rocket shot right at the second baseman, who fielded it cleanly for out number three."

The Lady Indians are in the middle of facing a series of away games against George Walton, Hebron Christian, Lakeview, and Rabun County. Their next home game will be against Athens Christian on Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 4:45 p.m.

"I was very proud of our Lady Indians for their effort against the team that is arguably the best in Single-A," said Coach Rowland. "We had a near perfect defense, only making one error early and one wild pitch late in the game. Offense is still looking up. We were making contact, we just hit it right at the opposing players."

Keselowski wins chase opener

JOLIET, Ill.—The first 250 laps of Sunday's 267-lap Sprint Cup race was about as boring as it gets.

But after a restart on lap 251, Brad Keselowski brought the Chicago race fans to their feet.

Kevin Harvick and Kyle Larson were switching positions for first.

Larson was on the high side. Harvick was running low.

Like gangbusters, Keselowski sailed right between the two leaders, and said, "bye-bye" to the rest of the field."

There was one more caution after Danica Patrick slapped the wall, but Keselowski had the speed, and for the last few laps, the only question was, who would be runner-up.

There was a terrific battle for second, third, and fourth positions between Larson, Jeff Gordon, and Harvick.

At the end it was Gordon, Larson, and Joey Logano.

"I'm not sure how we pulled this off," said Keselowski. "I don't know how any of this happened, except we had one hell of a fast race car. It was awesome and doesn't get any better than this."

After the race, Gordon walked over to Larson and gave him some advice.

"Man, the way those two guys were going at it, I thought they were going to wreck in front of me," said Gordon. "I put everything I had into this race, so to come in second isn't so bad."

The third-place finish was Larson's best in the Cup Series. "I didn't need that last caution," said Larson. "We had a good car and I think we had a chance until we got bunched up on the last restart. I scraped the wall, and after that it was hard to keep up."

Joey Logano was able to pass Harvick for fourth, while Harvick, who led the most laps (79) had to settle for fifth.

"The 42 car was better than us at the end," said Harvick. "For whatever reason, my car developed a tightness near the end of the race and I had to go in a defensive mode."

Denny Hamlin was sixth, while Kyle Busch, Kurt Busch, Jamie McMurray, and Matt Kenseth were the remaining top-10 finishers.

Top-10 Chase leaders after 1 of 10: 1. Keselowski-2059, 2. Gordon-2052, 3. Logano-2049, 4. Harvick-2047, 5. Earnhardt-2042, 6. Johnson-2041, 7. Kyle Busch-2041, 8. Hamlin-2041, 9. Kurt Busch-2039, 10. Kahne-2034.

"HAPPY" HARVICK TAKES NATIONWIDE RACE
Kevin Harvick led twice for 42 laps on the way to victory in Saturday's Nationwide Race at Chicagoland Speedway.

Kyle Larson finished sec-

ond, and then it was Kyle Busch, Ryan Blaney, Trevor Bayne, Elliott Sadler, Ty Dillon, Regan Smith, Brian Scott, and Chase Elliott.

Top-10 leaders after 26 of 33: 1. Elliott-951, 2. Smith-933, 3. T. Dillon-911, 4. Sadler-900, 5. Scott-895, 6. Bayne-871, 7. C. Buescher-780, 8. Gaughan-751, 9. Reed-706, 10. J. Buescher-697.

"ROWDY" KYLE BUSCH IS CHICAGO TRUCK WINNER

Kyle Busch won his 41st Truck Series race Saturday at Chicagoland.

The remaining top-10 finishers were: Matt Crafton, Austin Dillon, Tyler Reddick, Jeb Burton, Darrell Wallace Jr. Ben Kennedy, Joey Coulter, Joe Nemechek, and Bryan Silas.

Top-10 leaders after 15 of 22: 1. Crafton-560, 2. Sauter-555, 3. Blaney-544, 4. Wallace Jr.-525, 5. Quiroga-501, 6. Coulter-492, 7. Kennedy-478, 8. Peters-475, 9. Hornaday-460, 10. Burton-459.

AMBROSE LEAVING NASCAR

Marcos Ambrose, driver of the No. 9 Richard Petty Motorsports Ford in the Sprint Cup Series will leave NASCAR at the end of this season and return to his native Australia, to compete in the V8 Supercar Series for Roger Penske.

"Marcos will always be a part of our extended racing family," said Richard Petty, co-owner of RPM. "He came over to the United States with his family and dedicated his time here to giving it the best he had each week. I couldn't ask anything more from Marcos and his commitment on and off of the track to our race team and our partners. Away from the track, he's a family person first. That's something I respect and we'll miss Marcos, Sonja and their children."

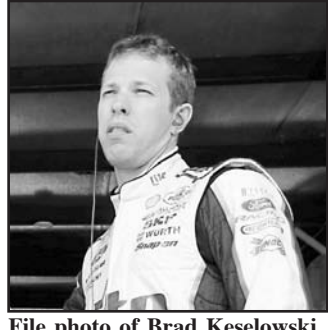
Ambrose has six NASCAR wins on the Watkins Glen road course.

"It has been fantastic," said Marcos. "I never thought I would achieve what I have at the Sprint Cup level. I have survived here for years and I have had some wins but not enough and I feel like I was up against it early on from my background. I came from a country that doesn't have any asphalt oval racing at all and so I feel like I have achieved a lot and am really satisfied."

"There has been a lot of conjecture through the years but I just want to get my kids home to enjoy the Australian lifestyle, and be able to make good choices when they grow up. I feel like the time is right for me to stop in the U.S., and personally I think it is a great time to move back home to Australia with my family."

WHAT THE CHASE CONSISTS OF

There are four rounds, with the first three consisting of three races each:



File photo of Brad Keselowski, winner of Chicago Cup race

First round: Chicagoland, New Hampshire, Dover; Second round: Kansas, Charlotte, Talladega; Third round: Martinsville, Texas, Phoenix; Championship: Homestead.

Four drivers will be eliminated in each round. Race winners (as long as they are still part of the Chase) automatically advance, and the remainder of the spots are based on points scored in the three Chase races. If drivers are tied in points, ties are broken by best finish in that specific round. After the first round, the 12 remaining drivers have their points reset to 3,000.

After the second round, the eight remaining drivers have their points reset to 4,000 and after the third round; the four remaining drivers have their points reset to 5,000.

Drivers do not carry over any bonus points for wins from round to round. All remaining drivers start the second, third and championship round on equal footing.

The driver who finishes best among the four finalists at Homestead is the champion. There are no bonus points for those drivers based on a lap led or leading the most laps.

Those drivers who are eliminated in the first three rounds have their points adjusted by taking their total points accumulated in Chase races and adding to their point total when they started the Chase. That way, a driver who is knocked out in the first round of the Chase can finish as high as fifth in the final standings.

Weekend Racing: The Cup and Truck teams will be at New Hampshire Speedway, while the Nationwide teams are at Kentucky Speedway.

Sat., Sept. 20; Truck Series, race 16 of 22; Starting time: 12:30 pm ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Sat., Sept. 20; Nationwide Series, race 27 of 33; Starting time: 7 pm ET; TV: ESPNNEWS.

Sun., Sept. 21; Sprint Cup, race 28 of 36; Starting time: 1 pm ET; TV: ESPN.

Racing Trivia Question: Who has won the most Sprint Cup races this season?

Last Week's Question: What year did Chicagoland Speedway open? **Answer:** The first race was held in 2001.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at: www.hodges@race500.com. NT(Sep17,C1)ac