

Towns County Sports

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TCMS Lady Indians take 2 of 3 at Middle School Championships



Madison Landress goes readies for a free throw against Union. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

By James Reese
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Clarkeville — The defending Middle School Champion Towns County Lady Indians came up seven points short of another title on Saturday in Clarkeville.

The Lady Indians ran into a tough Rabun County Lady Wildcats team in the championship round and went home with a tough 36-30 defeat.

“Even though we lost to Rabun County it's still a victory to me,” Coach Lana Parker said. “Only losing to that type of a quality team is still a victory to me. I'm just elated.”

Coach Parker said this year's squad was special.

“My girls really came out and performed,” Coach Parker

said. “I'm as proud of them as any team. The majority of the teams we play have big enough programs to support seventh and eighth grade teams.

“We've played eighth grade teams with the majority of our team comprised of seventh graders,” she said. “We're in a different division this year we're in the North Georgia League. This is the second year we've competed in the championship. We went in as a third seed.”

The Lady Indians, the third seed in the tournament, squared off with Lumpkin County in their first match up on Thursday. Led by 14 points from Brooke Smith and 12 points from Savannah Dyer, the Lady Indians beat Lumpkin by 19 points, 49-30.



Savannah Dyer goes for the rebound against Rabun in the championship game. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

Kristen Henson, Emory Patton, Jocelyn Byers, Madison Landress, Madison Stroud and Alyson Nelson combined for 23 points in the winning effort.

Jessica Baker led Lumpkin with 15 points.

On Friday, the Lady Indians won by double digits again with a 41-31 victory over the No. 2 seed Union County Lady Panthers. Brooke Smith led the way with 16 points, followed by Madison Landress with 11 points, Savannah Dyer tallied 8 points and Jocelyn Byers finished with 6 points.

Layne Colwell led the way for Union County with 11

points.

Jocelyn Byers scored 10 of her 12 points from the charity stripe in the championship loss to Rabun. Savannah Dyer also finished with 12 points, followed by 4 points from Brooke Smith and a deuce from Madison Landress.

Bailey Dillard led the way for Rabun with 11 points.

Coach Parker said she couldn't be more proud of her Lady Indians.

“We faced the No. 1 seed and fell short with a 36-30 loss,” she said. “I'm proud of the girls; it was a very hard fought game.”

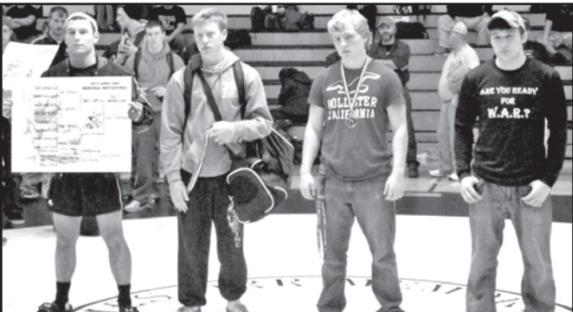


Brooke Smith makes the steal against Lumpkin. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Coach Lana Parker gives instructions to her Lady Indians. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

Indians finish fifth in Black Knight Classic



Tyler Hoffman took first place at 160 pounds in the Black Knight Classic.

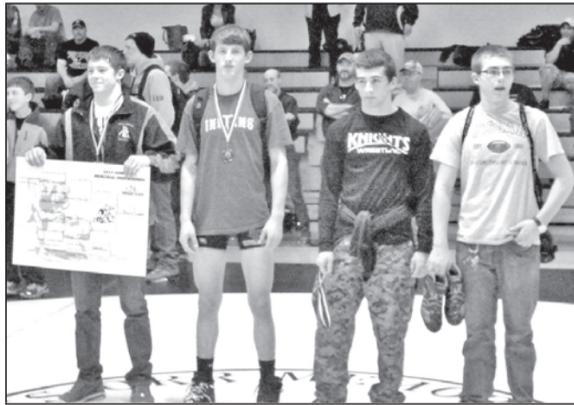
By James Reese
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Robbinsville, NC — The Towns County Indians grapplers finished fifth in the Black Knight Classic in Robbinsville, NC on Saturday.

Individually, junior Tyler Hoffman took first place in the

160-pound weight class. Senior Tim Collier collected a silver medal at 138 pounds; senior Zach Stroud earned a bronze at 152 pound. Freshman Aaron Collier finished in 4th in the 108-pound weight division and Wesley Bloodworth also finished fourth at 220 pounds.

“We finished fifth as a



Tim Collier with Silver in Robbinsville.

team out of the 14 teams that were there to compete,” Coach Jeff Stowers said. “We wrestled really well against some tough competition.”

On Friday, the Indians defeated Rabun County 37-33 in

Duals competition.

“What can you say about the kids, man, they wrestled their tails off this weekend,” Coach Stowers said. “They've really made a difference.”

The Indians also are glad



Tyler Hoffman took first place at 160 pounds in the Black Knight Classic.

to see a healthy Tim Collier back on the mats.

“He's been banged up for a while. We're getting him back into wrestling shape; he looked great over the weekend,” Coach Stowers said.

Collier finished his junior year at the Gwinnett Arena as the fifth best wrestler in the 135-pound weight class of the Class A State Wrestling Championships.

He's looking for gold in 2012.

NASCAR 2012

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Legends inducted into Hall Of Fame

“Legends” is the best way to describe NASCAR Hall of Fame's third class of inductees, who were enshrined this past weekend at the HOF in Charlotte.

Topping the list as one of the sport's biggest performers was Cale Yarborough.

When the name, “Cale” comes up in NASCAR racing circles, there's never any doubt to who it's being referred to. It's Cale Yarborough, an acknowledged legend in the world of stock car racing. Year after year from his first victory in 1965 to his last in 1985, capacity crowds came to see the Timmonsville, S.C. native race because of his fast pedal-to-the-floor, hard-charging, driving style.

Yarborough has stood in victory lane 83 times, set on the pole 68 times and is the only driver to have won three consecutive Winston Cup Driving Championships. In spite of his impressive record, one incident has gone down in history as the most talked about in his 31-year career as a driver.

Most racing fans recall Cale from the 1979 Daytona 500—a race that was won by Richard Petty.

On the last lap, Donnie Allison was leading Yarborough as they went down the backstretch. Yarborough attempted to get by Allison on the inside, but Allison dropped down and closed him off. Both cars banged against each other several times before they spun into the infield.

Richard Petty went on to take the checkered flag, while Donnie's brother, Bobby finished the race, then roared back around the track to help Donnie. Helmets were off, and fists were flying as television cameras beamed the fracas to a world-wide audience of millions.

“I had planned my move and was in a perfect position to shoot past underneath,” said Yarborough. “But he kept coming down and cutting me off each time I tried to pass. Finally we both just lost control and ended up in the grass. But it looked worse on films than what really happened. It was more of a scuffle than anything else.

“Heck, I've always been



The 1979 Daytona 500 fight involving Cale Yarborough, and Donnie and Bobby Allison. Courtesy of Multimedia

good friends with Bobby and Donnie, and Red Farmer. As a matter of fact, they've made me an honorary member of the Alabama Gang. But I never could stand to lose. I raced to win and if anybody got between me and the checkered flag I was going after him. You see, being friends off the track is a whole lot different than when you're side-by-side at 200 mph with them on the track.”

Now 72, Yarborough flew an airplane without benefit of lessons, but landing was another story. He wrestled an alligator and survived being struck by lightning.

At 5-foot-7 inches and 130 pounds, he was a ferocious prep fullback and linebacker at Timmonsville (S.C.) High School and likely could have been a collegiate football star. He worked out by wrestling bales of tobacco in his daddy's barn and credited that labor with making him one of the era's most fit competitors. And in his spare time, Yarborough drove a school bus.

Oh, and Yarborough was ejected from his first race, the 1957 Southern 500 at Darlington Raceway, because NASCAR officials found out he'd lied about his age on his license application. The 18-year-old, who said he was 21, qualified 44th. He hid on the car's floorboards and took the wheel as owner Bobby Weatherly exited while inspectors were looking

elsewhere.

Yarborough actually started the race — wearing a helmet and goggles, he got “lost” in the pre-race crush — but received a quick black flag when it was apparent the driver of the No. 30 car was not Weatherly.

From those beginnings, William Caleb Yarborough became the first to win three consecutive NASCAR premier series championships (1976-78) and three times finished second in the standings. During a career that began in 1957 and concluded after the 1988 season, Yarborough won 83 races — sixth on the all-time list.

The remainder of this year's inductees included, Dale Inman — an eight-time champion crew chief for Darrell Waltrip and Cale Yarborough, a pair of three-time NASCAR premier series champions; Darrell Waltrip and Glen Wood, who won a combined 167 races, and the late Richie Evans — a nine-time NASCAR Modified champion, the first to be inducted from outside NASCAR's premier division.

Inman, Richard Petty's cousin, is generally credited with inventing the modern role of crew chief. He won seven championships with Petty Enterprises and an eighth with Billy Hagan and driver Terry Labonte in 1984. Randleman County, N.C.'s Inman, 75, who retired from the sport in 1998, won 193 times. The list of cur-

rent NASCAR Sprint Cup crew chiefs learning at Inman's side is a lengthy one.

Like Ned Jarrett, a member of the second class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame, Waltrip is both champion driver and television broadcaster. Waltrip won championships in 1981-82 and 1985 driving for NASCAR Hall of Famer Junior Johnson. The Owensboro, Ky., native won 84 times in 809 starts ranking fourth on the all-time NASCAR Sprint Cup victory list with Bobby Allison.

“I was telling [wife] Stevie earlier this week that I hoped I wouldn't get emotional tonight, but she reminded me “Honey, you always get emotional about the things you are passionate about,” Waltrip said. “This night, these men, and the people in this room, they're what inspire me.”

Wood, a four-time NASCAR premier series winner, left the driver's seat to own the fabled No. 21 Wood Brothers Ford team. With his four brothers, who include NASCAR Hall of Fame nominee and crew chief Leonard Wood, the organization counts 98 victories, including its fifth Daytona 500 win in 2011 with 20-year-old Trevor Bayne. Those who drove for the 86-year-old Wood's Stuart, Va.-based team included fellow inductee Yarborough, NASCAR Hall of Famer David Pearson, A.J. Foyt and road racer Dan Gurney.

Ken Kolodner in Concert at The Folk School

The John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown will present a free concert with hammered dulcimer and fiddle virtuoso Ken Kolodner at 7 p.m., Thursday, January 26 in the Keith House Community Room. Admission is free and open to the public. Donations are welcome.

Ken Kolodner has toured extensively, performing at performing arts centers and major festivals in nearly every state in the continental US as well as Canada and Europe. He has been featured in nationally broadcast concerts and programs on NPR, German National Radio, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Ken was the first American to be featured at the International Hackbrett Festival in Germany. His 1999 appearance as the featured soloist with a combined chorus and

“This is not just about me being inducted in the Hall of Fame,” said Wood. “It's also about the Wood Brothers. And it's about NASCAR. And I'm proud to have been a NASCAR driver and car owner for the past 60 years, and I'm proud of this great honor.”

Evans, nicknamed the “Rapid Roman” by virtue of racing out of Rome, N.Y., won nine championships over a 13-year span — including eight in a row — driving modified stock cars, primarily a race car fashioned from pre-World War II coupes and sedans powered by high horsepower engines.

Racing Trivia Question: What year was the first Daytona 500 held?

Last Week's Question: Who won the 1949 NASCAR championship, which was the first for the fledgling organization? **Answer:** Red Byron.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at hodges@race500.com. NT(Jan25,K)jac

Kennel Club monthly meeting

Hiwassee River Valley Kennel Club meetings are held at 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Brother's Restaurant on Hwy 64 in Murphy, NC. We invite all those interested in pure bred dogs and canine activities to attend. Call President Kit Miracle at 706-492-5253 or Peggy Moorman at 828-835-1082 for details. NT(Jan25,Z)CA

Appalachian Duplicate Bridge Club news

On Monday, January 16, ten full tables played a Unit Championship game at All Saints Lutheran Church in Blairsville, GA. The Mitchell movement was used in today's play with the following results: First, North-South, Jim Bell and Gwen Weaver; second, Susan Palmich and Debbie Foster; third, Joe and Joan Lane; and fourth, Dee Short and Dorothy Smith.

First, East-West, Ray Berry and Harry Reynolds; second, Joyce Geiger and Pat Mosteller; third, Mike Knowles and Peter Cohn; fourth, Linda Killingsworth and Karol Sulim-irski; and fifth, Anita Lippman and Dan Cornett.

On Thursday, January 19, eight full tables were in play. Again, the Mitchell movement was used. First, North-South, with a huge game, Joan and Joe Lane; second, Karen Miller and Shirley Scrivner; and third, Marilyn Demers and Sarah Caldwell.

First, East-West, Joyce Geiger and Mike Knowles; second Betty Long and Fran Egan; third, Martha Brewer and Joyce Tyson; and fourth, Chris Thompson and Myrna Ponkauskas.

The club meets every Monday and Thursday at 1 p.m. and would welcome any interested bridge players to join them. For more information on the games or to arrange for a partner, call Myrna at 828-389-8065.



Ken Kolodner

chamber orchestra from the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra was broadcast in an Emmy-nominated CBS-TV Christmas special. Widely known for his expressive and improvisational style, Ken is highly sought

after as a teacher of the hammered dulcimer having taught at countless festivals and music camps throughout the U.S. Among Ken's eight recordings, Ken's first solo release of Celtic music in 1997, Walking Stones, hit the top of the World Music charts and was a top seller for BMG in their Classical/World Music category. Ken's 1999 recording A Winter Solstice with Helicon was the first release for Dorian Recordings (out of over 300 titles) to win a coveted Indie for Best Seasonal Recording.

Upcoming concert performers at the Folk School include Bob and Amy Buckingham (Friday, Feb. 3) and Lee Knight (Monday, Feb. 6). For further information call the Folk School at 828-837-2775 or 1-800-365-5724 (1-800-FOLK-SCH). NT(Jan25,E)CA