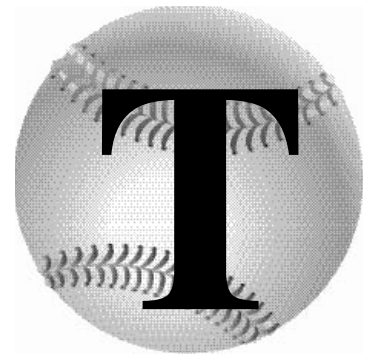


Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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www.townscountyherald.net

Hiawassee, Georgia

TCMS Indians Soccer



Head Coach Dan Rawlins' Towns County Middle School Indians took on the South Habersham Middle School Rebels coached by Donnie Bennett last week in Hiawassee. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Mountain Lions outslug GMC in softball

Young Harris scored six runs in the fourth inning en route to a 9-5 victory over Georgia Military College in the first game of a doubleheader Tuesday in Young Harris.

With the score tied 2-2, the Mountain Lions (13-13 overall, 4-3 GJCAA) put six more runs on the scoreboard before an out was recorded in the bottom of the fourth. Amber Blackmon started the inning with a single and Sam Woolf followed with a double to put runners on second and third bases. Amanda McEheleny, Alexa Rush and Kayla Jones then drew three straight walks before Jess Swancey was hit by a pitch. Tara Mullinax followed with another base on balls before Brittany Allen drove in the fifth and sixth runs of the inning with a two-run double that made the score 8-2 and put the game out of reach.

Allen went 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles and three runs batted in for Young Harris, while Woolf went 2-for-4 with a double and a run. Jones drove in a pair of runs.

Rikki Powers earned the victory. She allowed five runs on six hits in a complete-game effort.

Kasey Durden took the loss for Georgia Military. She allowed four runs on four hits in three innings.

The Mountain Lions took the nightcap as well, outlasting GMC 4-3.

Brittany Allen drove in the game-winning run with two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning to give Young Harris College the 4-3 victory

over GMC.

Allen came to the plate with Jones standing on third base and Jamey Chapman on second. She deposited Sarah Ray's 1-1 pitch into right-centerfield to score Jones and send the Mountain Lions into a celebration at home plate.

Young Harris (14-3, 5-3) put a run on the board in the first inning, when Chapman scored from third on Allen's groundball out to second base.

Callie Holloway gave Young Harris a two-run advantage in the fifth when she belted a leadoff home run, her first of the season, over the left field wall.

Georgia Military's Kelly Linberger answered with a solo home run of her own in the top of the sixth to cut the Bulldogs' deficit in half and pull to within 2-1.

Another GMC run would cross in the sixth when Sarah Ray reached on a bunt single, but when Allen's throw to first sailed wide, Kayla Cooper dashed all the way home from

first base on the play to tie the score 2-2.

The Mountain Lions regained the lead in the bottom of the sixth when McEheleny delivered an RBI double into the gap in left-centerfield that drove in Emily Wilson from second base.

Georgia Military was one out away from defeat in the top of the seventh, but Jenna Smith's ground ball sneaked by a diving Victoria Sink and through the middle to score Katie Maddox from third.

Sink (9-5) earned the victory with a complete-game effort. She allowed three runs (two earned) on seven hits and one walk while striking out seven batters.

The Mountain Lions picked up 10 hits in the game, with Chapman, Mullinax and McEheleny getting two apiece. Allen's game-winning RBI was her second of the game.

Ray took the loss for GMC. She allowed one run on three hits in two-thirds of an inning.

Mountain Lions fall to Snead State, ABAC in Women's Tennis

Snead State won four of six singles matches to come from behind and defeat Young Harris 5-4 in a non-conference women's tennis match in Hiawassee at Towns County High School on Friday.

Young Harris led the match 2-1 after taking the top two doubles matches. Kinsley Black and Brianna Brinkley teamed up to defeat Anna Davidson and Leah Knight 8-3 in the No. 1 position, while Sarah Deese and Holly Smith defeated Katie Kilgore and

Jennifer Black 9-7 in the second position.

Snead State picked up one doubles point when Melinda Scott and Kaitlyn Bell defeated Michelle Allen and Mary Beth Maxwell 8-4.

The first two singles matches to be completed both went Young Harris' way, giving the Mountain Lions a 4-1 lead. Black defeated Davidson 6-2, 6-0 in the match between the teams' No. 1 players, and Deese won her match in the third slot against Black 6-1, 6-1. However, the next four matches all fell in Snead State's favor, giving SSCC the victory.

Young Harris is scheduled to return to action April 7 at Gordon College.

Doubles:
1. Black/Brinkley (YHC) def. Davidson/Knight (SSCC) 8-3
2. Deese/Smith (YHC) def. Kilgore/Black (SSCC) 9-7
3. Scott/Bell (SSCC) def. Allen/Maxwell (YHC) 8-4

Singles:
1. Kinsley Black (YHC) def. Anna Davidson (SSCC) 6-2, 6-0
2. Leah Knight (SSCC) def. Brianna Brinkley (YHC) 3-6, 6-3, 7-5
3. Sarah Deese (YHC) def. Jennifer Black (SSCC) 6-1, 6-1
4. Katie Kilgore (SSCC) def. Holly Smith (YHC) 6-3, 6-1
5. Melinda Scott (SSCC) def. Michelle Allen (YHC) 6-2, 6-3
6. Kaitlyn Bell (SSCC) def. Mary Beth Maxwell (YHC) 6-3, 6-2

On Wednesday in Tifton, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College defeated the Mountain Lions 9-0 in a Georgia Junior College Athletic Association match.

ABAC, ranked 14th nationally by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, won all six singles matches in straight sets. YHC's Sarah Deese put up the biggest challenge, dropping the first set in her No. 3 singles match against Keri Huett 7-5, before Huett ended the match with a 6-3 second set win.

Doubles:
1. Miranda/Huett (ABAC) def. Black/Brinkley (YHC) 8-2
2. Smith/Gamboa (ABAC) def. Deese/Smith (YHC) 8-6
3. Myers/Pope (ABAC) def. Allen/Maxwell (YHC) 8-2

Singles:
1. Alejandra Gamboa (ABAC) def. Kinsley Black (YHC) 6-2, 6-2
2. Beatriz Miranda (ABAC) def. Brianna Brinkley (YHC) 6-1, 6-1
3. Keri Huett (ABAC) def. Sarah Deese (YHC) 7-5, 6-3
4. Jahynda Pope (ABAC) def. Smith (YHC) 6-4, 6-1
5. Marley Myers (ABAC) def. Michelle Allen (YHC) 6-4, 6-1
6. Lauran Smith (ABAC) def. Mary Beth Maxwell (YHC) 6-2, 6-3

Mountain Lions earn Saturday split with Gordon College



Members of the Young Harris College Mountain Lions' baseball team catch a breather between innings of their Saturday doubleheader with Gordon College. The Mountain Lions earned a split during the twinbill. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Will Callaway drove in three runs as Young Harris College won the final game of its three-game Georgia Junior College Athletic Association series against Gordon College 12-8 in Young Harris on Saturday. The Mountain Lions led 9-2 before watching its lead dwindle to one 9-8 when Gordon put six runs on the board in the top of the fourth inning. But the Mountain Lions would score on a wild pitch and a balk in the bottom of the inning to pad its lead. The Mountain Lions put another run on the scoreboard in the sixth to put the game away.

Daniel Marsh drove in two runs, and Marsh, Callaway and Ethan Herron all went 2-for-3 in the game. Andy Almonte led Gordon at the plate with two hits and Kelly Williams drove in a game-high four runs, which all came on a grand slam in the six-run fourth.

Mitchell Knox (6-2) earned the victory with 3.2 innings of relief. He allowed two runs on four hits and one walk. Knox struck out four batters.

Young Harris starter Ben Watson allowed six runs (five earned) on four hits and two walks in 3.1 innings. He fanned four Highlanders.

Gordon starter Josh Stevenson took the loss after allowing five runs in just two-thirds of an inning.

In the first game of Saturday's doubleheader, Jim Moreland drove in a game-high four runs



Young Harris College's Brandon Curson lines a double last week in action against Gordon College. The Mountain Lions earned a split in the doubleheader. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

to lead an explosive Gordon offense as the Highlanders won the first game of a GJCAA series 19-3 against the Mountain Lions.

The game was stopped after eight innings due to the GJCAA's 10-run rule. The Highlanders scored eight runs in the top of the eighth to put the rule into effect. It was one of three multi-run innings for Gordon, which scored five times in the third and four runs in the seventh.

Gordon had 18 hits in the game and took advantage of six YHC errors. Eight Gordon runs were unearned.

Moreland was one of five Gordon players with at least two runs batted in. Dustin Dalken drove in three and Aaron Dobbs, Kelly Williams and Marcus Ziegler each drove in two.

Herron and Matt Lowery each had two hits and an RBI for YHC. Callaway also drove in a

run for the Mountain Lions. Chris Holloway's school record hitting streak was snapped when he went 0-for-4. Holloway hit safely in 33 consecutive games before the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

Gordon starter Bryant Kerns earned the win with six solid innings. He allowed three runs (one earned) on seven hits. He walked three and struck out four. YHC's Adam Camara (3-2) took the loss. Camara allowed five runs (four earned) in 2.1 innings.

Tuesday's scheduled baseball game between Catawba Valley Community College and the Mountain Lions has been postponed and will be made up as part of a doubleheader Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Young Harris College enters the contest at Zell B. Miller Field with 27-9 overall record.

Local Racing Action

By: Carl Vanzura

Jacob Grizzle moves up to second in the Southern Regional Racing Series



Blairsville's Jacob Grizzle in a photo from one of many wins has moved into second place in the points in the touring S.R.R.S. Series.

Blairsville's Jacob Grizzle is running in the touring Southern Regional Racing Series and finds himself in second place after Saturday night's race at North Georgia Speedway. The series runs at tracks in Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina and Alabama close to 30 times in the 2010 season. Jacob has 600 points, only 25 behind leader Eric Hickerson and 60 points ahead of legendary driver Ronnie Johnson. His next race is this Saturday at Thunder Hill Raceway in Summerville, TN.

Another local, Ray Cook won the S.R.R.S \$3000 to win feature at North Georgia Speedway in what is already a great year for him in this very young season. Ray is running the Lucas Oil Series full time in 2010.

Defending Southern All Stars East champion Casey Roberts won the Southern All Stars \$5,000 to win race Saturday at Lavonia Speedway over a field of 28 cars. Teenager Ethan Hunter fresh off a win at

Toccoa last week ran a strong second place. Blairsville's Jonathan Davenport, the current S.A.S. points leader finished sixth. Young Harris driver Randy Nichols was credited with a 20th place finish.

At Cleveland Speedway, Rick Roger lead 27 of the 30 lap feature when he had a flat tire as Riley Hickman inherited the lead for the win. Rex Ritchey returned to racing after several years lay off to take the win at Boyds Speedway. Bubba Russell was the big winner at Westminster Speedway Friday night. Toccoa and Hartwell were idle this week. Toccoa has a \$5,000 to win Southern All Stars race this Saturday night. Tri-County Race Track will hold their first practice this Saturday when the pit gate opens at noon with practice starting at 2 p.m. Due to insurance regulations, only the pits will be open this week. Concession stand will be open and the race car parts trailer will be available. NTA/Pr7, CI/nc

Blairsville School of Dance wins in Saluda

The BSod Force clogging teams at Blairsville School of Dance recently returned from a successful weekend at the Winter Clogging Invitational. On March 14, 24 dancers from Blairsville, Murphy, Hayesville and Morganton traveled to Saluda, NC to compete in the National Clogging and Hoedown Council qualifying event.

Blairsville School of Dance brought the PeeWee, Junior, Senior, Young Adult and Adult teams to the regional competition. The PeeWee team competed in the Artistic Expression category and place first and placed third in the Line category. The Junior group placed first in Traditional Line and second in Hoedown in their age division, and then won Grand Champion in the Traditional Line category, beating out 15 other groups for the coveted award. The Senior team also placed first in the Exhibition and Small Team categories in their age division, and then also won the Grand Champion trophies for those categories. At the end of the day, all the Grand Champion teams danced off, and the BSod Jr. Force won Overall Grand Champion Team of the Day for their Traditional Line routine. The groups qualified 9 routines for the NCHC Nationals, which is held Labor Day weekend at the Opryland Resort in Nashville, TN.

In addition, Hannah-Grace Casey placed third in solos, and Raven Heyer, Caitlyn Ledesma and Kenan Olson placed second in solos in their age divisions. In short duos, Kenan Olson and Hailey Cheves placed third in their first



Jr. Force: Standing: Caitlyn Ledesma, Raven Heyer, Kaitlyn Odum, Cayla Ledesma Seated: Kenan Olson and Nathan Mauney

time competing in this category and Cayla and Caitlyn Ledesma placed second. Soloist Nathan Mauney placed first in his age division and went on to win Overall Amateur Male Grand Champion.

On April 24, all five of the competition clogging teams will travel to Brevard, NC to compete at Clogfest, where they will attempt to qualify 9 routines for the Clogging

Champions of America national event next January. In addition to their regular routines, all the groups will be premiering their new Artistic Expression routine, "Carnivale."

Blairsville School of Dance is located at 90 Blue Ridge Street, and is in the Merchant's Walk Plaza. For more information, call (706) 835-1415 or visit www.blairsvilleschoolofdance.com.

YHC Golf at Lookout Mountain

Young Harris College's Eric Hodgson shot 79 on the first 18 holes of the Spring Reeder Cup, hosted by Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, as the Mountain Lions sat in third place heading into Tuesday's final round.

Tournament results were not available at press time.

Hodgson was in eighth place after the first round, and was one stroke ahead of his teammate, Beau Gammage, who sat all alone in ninth place. YHC's Evan Jordan was tied for 12th at 82, while Matt Peeler and Matt Llewallen were tied for 18th at 86.

Young Harris shot 327 as a

team in the first round, and was in third place in the five-team event at press time. Huntingdon was running away with the tournament lead after shooting 296, 28 shots ahead of second-place LaGrange, which shot 324 on Monday. Covenant fired a 335 and Maryville shot 344.

The top three, and four of the top five, individual scores belonged to Huntingdon players. Jay Unis shot 73, and held a one-stroke lead over teammates J.P. Kirchner and Mack Duke, as well as LaGrange's Adam Garrett at press time. Huntingdon's Cody Causey was fifth, two strokes behind the leader.