

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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

Indians, Panthers show why each community is extraordinary



The Towns County Olympians.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson



The softball toss was competitive.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson



The Annual Towns Union Special Olympics was well attended last week.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
libby.tcherald@windstream.net

What thoughts go through your mind when you hear the word 'special'?

Thursday morning Towns and Union Counties truly redefined the word 'special' for all of us as the Towns County School System hosted the Towns/Union County Spring Special Olympics. This was a very exciting time for these young people as they competed in a variety of track and field events including relays, walking events, softball and koosh ball, soccer, and standing long jump.

There were almost 50 athletes representing the two

school systems.

The Towns County High School Chorus opened the ceremonies with a chilling performance of 'The National Anthem.'

The unique aspect of Special Olympics is that there is no pressure to win; no fear of losing; because all these young athletes are already winners and they all walk away with a medal.

They were there and ready to compete to the absolute best of their ability, and that they did. Dana Russell was there with her son who is in the first grade.

This is his first competition in the Spring Special Olympics. He did compete in the Fall Special Olympics in Union County last November.

"Everybody gets a medal," Dana Russell said. "They (teachers and paraprofessionals) look for areas of strength that they know kids will be suc-



A race to the wire in during the Special Olympics last week.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson

cessful at and they help them build on those strengths. They are very encouraging and supportive of the kids; it's so well organized."

You could sense the excitement of the athletes, but the enthusiasm and pride mirrored on the faces of the parents, teachers, paraprofessionals, and

volunteers was irrepresible!

The Towns/Union Special Olympics Committee is made up of the following people who dedicated a great deal of time and effort in making sure that everything went off smoothly and without a glitch: Amy Rosser, Chair Person; Erin Schuette, Towns County Special Education Teacher; Michelle Pylrik, Towns County Special Education Director; Kristy Chapman, Union County Special Education Director; Bobby Kelly, Union County Assistant Special Education Director; and Becky Tracy, Parent Mentor for the Union County School Sys-

Indian basketball camp

Girls and boys entering grades 1-8 for the 2012-2013 school year are invited to attend. Indian Basketball Camp is divided into two sessions. Session I is for grades 1-5 and Session II is for grades 6-8. Indian Basketball Camp is designed to develop basketball skills, as well as promote enthusiasm and pride for future Indian basketball players.

Cost: \$60 for 3 days, \$50 each for 2 or more from same family. Date: May 29, 30, 31, 2012. Session I (Grades 2-5) 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Session II (Grades 6-8) 12:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

Registration deadline: May 18, 2012.

Camp focus areas will be: Basketball agility and quickness, drills, shooting techniques and ball handling, basic offensive moves, basic defensive position, team game play. T(May16,G1)SH

Youth cheerleading registration

We are very excited for another season of cheerleading. Registration will be held June 2, 2012, at the Towns County Recreation Center from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. We recommend that your daughter wear a bathing suit to aid in the fitting process (however, there are locker rooms available to try on uniforms). The fee for participation this year is \$80. The fee includes the uniform, bow, bloomers, team socks, and liner. We will have optional information available for purchasing cheer shoes, which will be required if your daughter is interested in participating in competition. If you are unable to attend the above fitting, please contact one of the directors below within one

week of the above fitting and arrange another day for fitting. We will not take anyone after one week. Lastly, this summer we are hosting a cheerleading camp, being directed by the Universal Cheerleading Association. This two and a half day camp is open to all elementary schools girls (even if you aren't registering for the cheerleading season). It is being held July 10-12. The cost is \$87. Camp registration will take place on June 2 as well. At that time, parents will sign participation waivers and we will hand out the camp schedule.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Markham 706-897-1337 or Lisa Walls 706-994-0215. T(May16,F3)SH

VFW Golf League news

We had a good showing of 5 foursomes. Had 3 teams come in with a score of 66. Checking the score for the #1 handicap hole, the team of Bill Kiser; J. T. Garrett; Gene Hill and Chuck Woodworth had a birdie while the other teams pored the hole.

We would like to invite other golfers to come join us in playing on Thursday mornings at 9 AM, especially some ladies. T(May16,F2)SH



A medal is won by Towns County.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson

tem; and Gina Sullivan, Union County High School Secretary of Special Education.

The following statistics were provided by Amy Rosser, Chair Person of the Special Olympics, regarding the medals taken home by the athletes: Towns County Olympians took home at total of 35 Gold Medals; 20 Silver Medals; and 10 Bronze Medals. Union County Olympians took home a total of 6 Gold Medals; 11 Silver Medals; and 8 Bronze Medals. Names of the participants were withheld due to 'confidential-

Summer Baseball Camps at YHC

2 Camp Weeks: June 18-22 & July 23-27. Three different camps each week for ages ranging from 5-18. For more information visit us on the web: TheRockSports.com or call 706-897-2363. NT(May16,C2)ac

Increased numbers have Coach Langford smiling



Coach Langford talks fundamentals during Spring Practice last week.

Photo by James Reese

By James Reese
Towns County Herald
tcherald@windstream.net

There's strength in numbers. And Towns County Indians' Head Football Coach Kyle Langford likes what he sees in the early days of Spring Football Practice.

Forty-five players have arrived for the 2012 Spring ritual.

Langford is obviously pleased by the increased numbers of players.

Coach Langford and staff continued their quest to improve their football program last week on the practice field. The 45 players are competing for playing time this fall.

As temperatures rise, preparation and competition became increasingly intense as the Indians suited up for contact drills.

Coach Langford and staff are looking to fill a few key positions departed due to graduation. The Indians coaching staff



Coach Thomas Boyd goes over a play with the offense during Spring Practice.

Photo by James Reese

will better recognize player potential in the upcoming Annual Blue-White game.

"The Happy Hog will be catering for us," Coach Langford said. "We thought that would make for a nice Friday evening when getting off work, come out and have barbeque with the family."

"We've got two games going," he said. "We've got the middle school starting around 4:30 p.m. The high school should get started somewhere close to 6 p.m. There will be

several hours of football to see. We encourage people to come out take pictures if they want and have a great time.

"The weather is going to be beautiful," he said. "I can't think of a better thing to do."

Anyone interested in purchasing tickets needs to go see Nathan Noblet at Noblet's Gun Shop.

"We want everyone to have one if they want one," Coach Langford said. "The barbeque will be included with the price of the ticket."



Coach Chris Vardo and Coach Darryl McClure keep it loose during equipment handouts.

Photo by James Reese



Quarterback Jackson Noblet gets an attaboy in practice last week.

Photo by James Reese

Following the Blue-White game, the Indians will look ahead to July 25th or better known as the start of summer practice.

The Indians will travel to Dawsonville Aug. 17th to scrimmage the Dawson County Tigers. The Indians also will

look to exact some revenge from last year's season opening defeat at the hands of the Hayesville Yellow Jackets.

The Indians kickoff the 2012 football season on Aug. 24th on the road against the Yellow Jackets.



Indians Head Coach Kyle Langford is encouraged by the increased numbers this Spring.

Photo by James Reese



Defensive Coordinator Brett Keller makes a point during defensive drills.

Photo by James Reese