

# Towns County Sports

Town's County's Leader In Sports



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## Lady Indians working hard to go to basketball camp

Towns County Lady Indians are hard workers and their work ethic was on display Saturday at the Towns County High School parking lot.

The players donned summer-time clothes and went to work washing cars to raise money for the team's participation in summer basketball camps.

The team hopes to raise enough money to attend at least four or five camps this offseason.

Coach Jim Melton, who helped the players during the annual car wash experience, was confident that the day would yield the necessary funds to help pay for basketball camps.

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors each took part in the experience as they washed any vehicle regardless of make and model. Each player had a drying towel, a sponge and some elbow grease as they washed



Lady Indians Head Basketball Coach Jim Melton shows Eryn Cochran the finer points of washing a vehicle during Saturday's annual Car Wash and Hamburger and Hot Dog plate specials. The Lady Indians are raising money to go to basketball camps this summer. Photo/Charles Duncan

away the day by scrubbing down automobiles.

Family and friends of the Lady Indians also took part in the annual Hamburger and Hot Dog Plate sale. The plates consisted of hot dogs or hamburg-

ers, fresh veggies, baked beans and a dessert treat.

Folks were lining up to take advantage of the food plate deals.

Coach Melton said the event was an overall success.

## Three former Lady Indians to play basketball at YHC

The news is starting to spread and the electricity of the Young Harris College Mountain Lions first basketball game on Nov. 15 against North Georgia College and State University is upon us.

The news? Three former Towns County Lady Indians will play for Head Coach Brenda Paul in the return this fall of Women's Basketball at Young Harris College.

Folks already knew that incoming freshman Melissa Conrad would suit up for the Mountain Lions. Now, she'll be joined on the court by former Lady Indian teammates Ellie Parton and Nikki Winn.

The news came last week during Towns County's Senior Honors Day that three Lady Indians would play for YHC's renewed Women's Basketball program. The Towns County Herald confirmed this week the names of the other two players, Winn, a high-scoring offensive weapon and Parton, an excellent shooter with big time scoring potential for the Mountain Lions.

Team Winn and Parton with incoming freshman Con-



Melissa Conrad drives the lane for two points against Wesleyan during the Class A Sweet 16 basketball matchup between the two teams. Conrad will join forces with former Lady Indians Ellie Parton and Nikki Winn as the Young Harris College Mountain Lions will kick-off their basketball season on Nov. 15 against North Georgia College and State University. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

rad and the Mountain Lions have instant offense and aggressive defense, the style of play coached by Jim Melton at Towns County High School.

Winn scored almost 1,900 points in her career as a Lady Indian.

Parton, one of the Mountain Lions' best Cross Country runners as a freshman, will bring her outstanding shooting

abilities to the Young Harris hardwood in the fall.

The trio is battle-tested having played in more playoff situations than most players on a fledgling basketball program. The three also bring instant local appeal to the Mountain Lions' basketball program.

The Mountain Lions' home games should be a hot local ticket.

## Towns County Dodgeball champions



May 22nd the baseball team sponsored its first annual dodge-ball tournament, pitting current students, alumni, and faculty against each other in fierce competition. The championship match went down

to the wire with the students edging out the faculty team. I would like to acknowledge the championship team. Team members: Alan Turpin, Bradley Swanson, Taylor Denton, Brett Bradshaw, Paydon

Shook, Aaron Bradshaw, D.J. Rogers, Logan Fambrough. We would also like to acknowledge Smoke Rings BBQ as the event sponsor. The picture was taken by Elaina Turpin. (TJm2,SH) SH

## Fit For Life Fitness Center June schedule

**Tuesday, June 1:**  
8:30 a.m. Fit Fannies - Jackie  
9 a.m. Fit Ball - Jackie  
4 p.m. Cardio-Tone - Jackie  
5 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
6 p.m. Zumba - Jackie  
**Wed., June 2:**  
9 a.m. Tone - Emily  
10 a.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
4 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
5 p.m. Pilates - Marcile  
**Thursday, June 3:**  
4 p.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
5 p.m. - Zumba - Jackie  
6 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
7 p.m. Zumba Gold - Jackie  
**Friday, June 4:**  
8:30 a.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
9 a.m. Zumba - Jackie  
10 a.m. Zumba Gold - Jackie  
**Saturday, June 5:**  
9 a.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
**Monday, June 7:**  
10 a.m. Seniorcise - Colleen  
4 p.m. Zumba - Sandy  
5 p.m. Fit Fannies - Sandy  
6 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
7 p.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
**Tuesday, June 8:**  
8:30 a.m. Fit Fannies - Jackie  
9 a.m. Fit Ball - Jackie  
4 p.m. Cardio-Tone - Jackie  
5 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
6 p.m. Zumba - Jackie  
**Wed., June 9:**  
9 a.m. Tone - Emily  
10 a.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
4 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
5 p.m. Pilates - Marcile

**Thursday, June 10:**  
4 p.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
5 p.m. Zumba - Jackie  
6 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
7 p.m. Zumba Gold - Jackie  
**Friday, June 11:**  
8:30 a.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
9 a.m. Zumba - Jackie  
10 a.m. Seniorcise - Jackie  
**Saturday, June 12:**  
9 a.m. Zumba - Sandy  
**Monday, June 14:**  
10 a.m. Seniorcise - Colleen  
4 p.m. Zumba - Sandy  
5 p.m. Fit Fannies - Sandy  
6 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
7 p.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
**Tuesday, June 15:**  
8:30 a.m. Fit Fannies - Jackie  
9 a.m. Fit Ball - Jackie  
4 p.m. Cardio-Tone - Jackie  
5 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
6 p.m. Zumba - Sandy  
**Wed., June 16:**  
9 a.m. Tone - Emily  
10 a.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
4 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
5 p.m. Pilates - Marcile  
**Thursday, June 17:**  
4 p.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
5 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
**Friday, June 18:**  
8:30 a.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
9 a.m. Zumba - Jackie  
10 a.m. Zumba Gold - Jackie  
**Saturday, June 19:**  
9 a.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
**Monday, June 21:**  
10 a.m. Seniorcise - Colleen  
4 p.m. Zumba - Sandy  
5 p.m. Fit Fannies - Sandy

6 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
7 p.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
**Tuesday, June 22:**  
8:30 a.m. Fit Fannies - Jackie  
9 a.m. Fit Ball - Jackie  
4 p.m. Cardio-Tone - Jackie  
5 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
6 p.m. Zumba - Jackie  
**Wed., June 23:**  
9 a.m. Tone - Emily  
10 a.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
4 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
5 p.m. Pilates - Marcile  
**Thursday June 24:**  
4 p.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
5 p.m. Zumba - Jackie  
6 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
7 p.m. Zumba Gold - Jackie  
**Friday, June 25:**  
8:30 a.m. Abs & More - Jackie  
9 a.m. Zumba - Jackie  
10 a.m. Seniorcise - Jackie  
**Saturday, June 26:**  
9 a.m. Cardio tone - Jackie  
**Monday, June 28:**  
10 a.m. Seniorcise - Colleen  
4 p.m. Zumba - Sandy  
5 p.m. Fit Fannies - Sandy  
6 p.m. Fit Ball - Marcile  
7 p.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
**Tuesday, June 29:**  
8:30 a.m. Fit Fannies - Jackie  
9 a.m. Fit Ball - Jackie  
4 p.m. Cardio-Tone - Jackie  
5 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
6 p.m. Zumba - Jackie  
**Wed., June 30:**  
9 a.m. Tone - Emily  
10 a.m. Zumba Gold - Emily  
4 p.m. Ab Attack - Stephanie  
5 p.m. Pilates - Marcile

## NASCAR 2010

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### KURT BUSCH TAKES COCA-COLA 600

After 600 miles of racing in the Sprint Cup Coca-Cola 600, Kurt Busch led Jamie McMurray to the finish line by 0.49-seconds, the longest race of the season.

"I needed that last caution," said Busch. "Unbelievable to have a car stick as good as this one did tonight. The car was good in the daytime and good at night. I was really scared there for awhile, because it was just that good."

He had previously won the Charlotte All-Star race one week earlier.

Busch had the dominant car and led the most laps, but lost the lead to Jamie McMurray with 42 laps to go in the 400-lap race.

Marcus Ambrose brought out the race's last caution on lap 372, after hitting the inside wall. Most of the leaders pitted for two right side tires, and Kurt Busch's team got him out of the pits ahead of McMurray.

When green flag racing resumed on lap 378, Busch immediately went to the front. McMurray followed, but was unable to overtake Busch's No. 2.

"We had a good car, and if that last caution hadn't come out we might have won it," said McMurray. "He beat us out of the pits and we didn't have enough laps to catch him."

The remaining top-10 finishers were: Kyle Busch, Mark Martin, David Reutimann, Jeff Gordon, Clint Bowyer, Paul Menard, Ryan Newman, and Matt Kenseth.

Jimmie Johnson hit the wall twice. The last time came on lap 273. His team attempted repairs on his car, but he was unable to maintain an acceptable speed on the track, and NASCAR parked him. He finished 37th and dropped to seventh in points.

"We were just racing hard," said Johnson. "We had some handling problems. It was real loose at times, and just came around on me."

Dale Earnhardt Jr. led five laps, but finished 22nd.

Top-12 Chase contenders after 13 of 36: 1. Harvick-1898, 2. Kyle Busch-1869,

3. Kenseth-1781, 4. J. Gordon-1760, 5. Hamlin-1732, 6. Kurt Busch-1726, 7. Johnson-1694, 8. Burton-1657, 9. Biffle-1648, 10. Martin-1635, 11. Edwards-1602, 12. Newman-1547

### KYLE BUSCH RALLIES FOR WIN

Kyle Busch rallied from two laps down to win Saturday night's Nationwide Series race at Charlotte.

"It wasn't very dominant there in the beginning," said Busch. "We started out really, really tight. Just felt like I was over-pushing the right-front tire and wasn't sure what I was feeling. And down the front straightaway a couple times it felt weird so I just wanted to be on the safe side and bring it down. Fortunately there was nothing wrong with it but we then got a speeding penalty for exiting too fast because I was paying attention to the cars going trying to figure out where I was going to fall in line instead watching my pit road speed so my fault there."

"The guys battled back hard and Jason [Ratcliff, crew chief] made some good race calls to get the car handling a lot better. They did a great job on pit road. We came in fourth or fifth one time and came out first and that was a pivotal stop there and I think I led the rest of the way."

Brad Keselowski finished second, followed by Joey Logano, Justin Allgaier, Ryan Newman, Kevin Harvick, Jason Leffler, Reed Soresonson, Carl Edwards, and Clint Bowyer.

Top-10 points leaders after 12 of 35: 1. Keselowski-1946, 2. Kyle Busch-1945, 3. Harvick-1852, 4. Edwards-1689, 5. Allgaier-1681, 6. Menard-1513, 7. Logano-1398, 8. Biffle-1368, 9. Leffler-1350, 10. Raines-1249

### DALE JR IS DOWN

While Dale Earnhardt Jr. is still NASCAR's most popular driver and very marketable, his performance is spiraling downward.

Nothing seemed to make a difference during last week's practice at Charlotte. Jr.'s fastest lap time barely cracked the



top-20. Once the session was over, Jr. quickly exited his car, said nothing to his crew or crew chief.

Once outside the garage stall, Jr. practically sprinted to his hauler, not even taking the time to remove his helmet.

Behavior like this isn't too uncommon at the track on occasion. What's uncommon is when you see this type of behavior, or similar types, week after week by the same driver.

Aside from the first half of the 2008 season, Earnhardt Jr. has failed to live up to the towering expectations placed before him when he chose to drive for Hendrick. The crew chief swap has only improved the situation slightly.

"The team all gets behind (crew chief) Lance (McGrew) and gets behind me. We're just working really hard. We aren't leaving any stones unturned to find where the competitiveness has gone," Earnhardt Jr. said Thursday at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Most observers can sense that he is miserable because of his recent results. He wants to be optimistic. However, he understands that he and the team must recognize their weaknesses in order to progress.

"As we continue to get outpaced by our teammates, we have been getting more honest about where we feel our weaknesses are and what we need to work on," he continued. "I definitely am not satisfied with running poorly, and I don't think any driver in the garage is, and I'm no different than those other guys."

Just two weeks ago Jr. brought his car to the attention of his crew during the race, insisting there was a problem.

This mysterious problem, even though Jr. insisted on complaining for the duration of the race, was never discovered and Jr. posted another dismal finish.

It is indeed disheartening to see Dale Jr. becoming the attention of media as always, but now for all the wrong reasons.

Maybe it really is all about expectations and we expect so much more from Dale Jr. because he is an Earnhardt.

Time will show how his future plays out. In the meantime, I hope he manages to work himself out of the hole he's in, because he's one frustrated young man.

**Weekend Racing:** The different series, three different venues. The Camping World Trucks are at Ft. Worth, TX. The Nationwide Series is at Nashville, TN, while the Cup teams are at Pocono, PA.

Fri., June 4, Camping World Truck Series, race 8 of 25, Starting time: 8:30 pm ET; TV: Speed.

Sat., June 5, Nationwide Series, race 13 of 35, Starting time: 7:30 pm ET; TV: ESPN2.

Sun., June 6, Cup Series Pocono 500, race 14 of 36, Starting time: 1 pm ET; TV: TNT.

**Racing Trivia Question:** How many Cup championships did former Cup driver Dale Jarrett win?

**Last Week's Question:** What year did Mark Martin win his first Cup race? **Answer:** He earned his first Cup victory in 1989 at Rockingham in his 113th start.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at: hodgesnews@earthlink.net. NT(Jm2,C3)nc

### GWRRA meetings

Chapter J of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) meets on the fourth Saturday of each month (excluding December) at Daniels Steakhouse, Hiwassee, GA. Fellowship and food at 11 AM with the meeting commencing at noon. We welcome riders of all brands of motorcycles and welcome participants of other GWRRA chapters. For further information, please contact Chapter Director Peg Jones 678-464-7340. NT(Jm2,G1)gg

### FPL retirees meet

Florida Power and Light retirees meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Hole In The Wall Restaurant on the square at 9 AM. NT(Jm2,G1)gg

## Local Racing Action

By: Carl Vanzura



The crowd loved the 4-wide parade lap before the Southeastern Late Model race at Tri-County.

### Hayesville's Charlie Parker takes big race at Tri-County

Hayesville driver Charlie Parker continued a Parker tradition at Tri-County Race Track that started years ago when his father was a regular feature winner. Tiger driver Wesley English set fast time of 14.087 with Parker on the outside pole with a 14.152. At the drop of the green, Parker blasted through turn one, a car length ahead of English, last week's winner Bobby Panter and Jamie Oliver. Oliver scraped the back-stretch wall on lap four, putting him out for the night.

The 35-lap \$1,200 to win feature saw Parker, English, Panter, Parker Herring and Rodney Peters in the hunt for the victory. Rounding out the field were Danny Ledford, Kip Cochran, Jonathan Cope, David Conner, Bubba Russell, Mickey Carpenter, Jason Payne, Kenny Collins, Daniel Wilson, Jamie Oliver, Preston Crisp and Mack English.

Murphy driver Jacob Anderson broke Copperhill's Jason Deal's three race win streak when he went under the checkered flag in front of Deal, Josh Morrow, Tony Ledford and Kevin Bradshaw.

Brasstown driver Greg Sudderth made it two in a row in the Cornwell Tools Modified Street feature as he finished inches in front of Brad Thomas. Rounding out the top five were Justin Thomas, Sammy Berron and Charles Devine.

Josh Roberts beat Ricky Smith and Jeff Mashburn in the Street Stock feature. In the Mini Stock, Marty Clark finished first in front of Shan-

non Jones, Lynn Burchfield, Jeremy Stanley and Harold Garrett.

Racing returns to Tri-County Friday night with go karts and Saturday with stocks featuring for the first time, Young Guns open for 12 to 17 year-olds in the stock 4 cylinder class.

Ray Cook, "The Tarheel Tiger" won the \$30,000 purse Saturday night at Lucas Oil Speedway in Wheatland, MO from his 11th place starting position. The 100-lap win makes his second in the 18 year history of the Show Me 100. The World of Outlaws event at West Virginia Motor Speedway saw Jonathan Davenport take 15th place after setting on the pole with the fastest time of the 27 cars entered. Steve Shaver won the race.

Closer to home, Blairsville's Jacob Grizzle managed to hold on to the points lead in the Southern Regional Racing Series championship chase with a 15th place at Thunderhill Speedway Saturday night. Billy Ogle Jr. raced to victory Friday night at Boyds Speedway in the Volunteer Racing Series. On Saturday the VRS traveled to North Georgia Speedway where Ronnie Johnson took the win. Mike Hill won at Cleveland Speedway and the Randall Twiggs prepared car of Johnny Stachain finished fifth. At Toccoa Speedway, Benji Cole was the winner with Young Harris driver Randy Nichols taking a strong fourth place finish. Brent Dixon won at Lavonia Speedway. Dixie Speedway fell to rain and Hartwell Speedway and Lanier Speedway were off this week. TJ(Jm2,G2)SH