

Towns County Sports

Town's County's Leader In Sports



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Swanson takes his game to a new level

Ethan Burch
Towns County Herald
ethan.tcherald@windstream.net

There is a saying that all great athletes are made in the offseason.

If that's the case, Bradley Swanson is set for a stellar senior campaign for the Towns County Indians.

Swanson, a rising senior, has been partaking in offseason workouts with AAU Murphy, N.C.-based Carolina Ballers. He's also been chosen as a member of the team, and has played an integral part of the team's success.

"AAU is a different game," Swanson said. "There is a lot more pushing the ball and scoring off the fast break. There is a lot of good competition."

Swanson is just one of many talented players in the Towns County basketball ranks that have turned to AAU basketball participation in order to gain a competitive edge, and for good reason. Players such as Gabby Arencibia, Lindsay Patton, and Swanson himself have been able to improve their games tremendously in

order to benefit their teams greatly during the high school basketball season.

Swanson is a humble individual, hardworking and ready to do what it takes to get better on the hardwood. He's willing to go the extra mile for his coach if and when it's asked of him.

Indians' Head Coach Ken Hamilton said Swanson's work ethic will pay dividends in the regular season and beyond. Swanson's offseason work routine has not only got the Indians' fans buzzing, but his hard work has also excited his teammates and coaches.

"His work in the offseason has helped his offensive game tremendously," Hamilton said. "He has encountered tough competition in AAU, which in return has helped our team to improve its up-tempo offense."

Encouraging words such as this has Towns County coaches, players and fans looking forward to the upcoming season which will not only feature the upcoming senior class including Swanson, but also Hamilton's first year as head coach. The team is not holding



summer workouts and plans to attend summer camps at Clemson University and Piedmont College later this month. The Indians' players are now excited and ready to take their games to the next level for the upcoming basketball season.

I played on the same high school basketball team as Bradley Swanson for three seasons, and in that time I had the chance to be around him both on and off the court. In this experience, I realized just how humble of a guy he is. He is a player that plays hard at all times and will perform any task that a fellow player or coach asks of him. Ethan Burch

Annual Terry Rogers Basketball Camp



Towns County Indians' Head Coach Jim Melton talks it over with his team during last week's Annual Terry Rogers Basketball Camp in Blairsville. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



The Lady Indians and Lady Cougars of Copper Basin fight it out underneath the basket during last week's Annual Terry Rogers Basketball Camp in Blairsville. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



The Lady Indians were too much on the boards for the Lady Cougars of Copper Basin last week in Blairsville. Strong inside play from Jordan Moss, Ali Bleckley, Gabby Arencibia and Makayla Underwood made the Lady Indians a formidable force during the Annual Terry Rogers Basketball Camp in Blairsville. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Fundraiser for Peacock Playhouse

3rd time's a charm

The Lilith Lidseen Performing Arts Association (LLPAA), Inc., is pleased and proud to host its third fundraising benefit to support the Peacock Playhouse on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at the Playhouse from 6 - 9:30 p.m. There will be hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and entertainment in the theater and after the performances, desserts and coffee served under the stars in a big tent. Tickets are available for \$45. Contact Barbara Brewton, an LLPAA board member, who is this year's Gala Chair, at 706-896-8529, or call the office at 828-389-2787, for reservations and more information.

One new addition to

the Gala is the participation of local North Carolina and Georgia restaurants that are providing great dishes for the buffet. The following restaurants are supporting the Playhouse with food: Brother's and Enrico's of Young Harris, Chevelle's, The Copper Door, and Subway of Hayesville and The Ridges and Portofino's of Hiawassee as of this writing.

Performing for the evening's program are the Brass-town Dance Academy's Fusion Dancers; Cornbread Ted and the Butter Beans; David Brose, Martin Sachs and Anne Merkel; Suzy Christensen accompanied by pianist Carol Smucker and Hailey Saraney, who appeared at the first Gala in October, 2008. "Sure

Thing," a one-act play by David Ives, will be performed with the Peacock's Licklog Players. Harry Baughn, a businessman, Hayesville Councilman and actor, will MC the festivities.

The Lilith Lidseen Performing Arts Association is a private, not for profit, 501c3, formed in 2007, that purchased the Playhouse in January, 2009. Its mission is to purchase, restore, maintain and expand the Peacock Playhouse and provide a permanent venue for The Licklog Players. For more information about the LLPAA see the website at www.peacockplayhouse.org or call 828-389-2787. NT(Jun16,A2)SH

Appalachian Duplicate Bridge Club news

On Monday, June 7, eleven full tables played a Mitchell movement at All Saints Lutheran Church with the following results: First, East-West, Fran Egan and Irene Schoetker; second, Lorraine Klug and Mary Dorman; third, Ned Cahill and Jackie Hollis; and a tie for fourth/fifth among Gretchen Bryant and Charlotte Bunnell and Barry Pressman and Karol Sulimirski.

North-South, first, Joyce Geiger and Pat Mosteller; second, Jim Bell and Gwen Weaver; third, Dorothy Smith and Kitty Tomkinson; a tie for fourth/fifth/sixth among Mary Stoll and Myrna Ponkauskas, Susan Palmich and Mary Talbert, and Jean Pittman and Barbara Mitchell; and seventh, Betty Long and Mary Ander-

son. On Thursday, June 10, eight full tables were in play. Again, the Mitchell movement was used.

First, North-South, Joan and Joe Lane; second, Mary Stoll and Myrna Ponkauskas; and third, Dee Short and Susan Palmich.

East-West, first, Carolyn Neighbors and Marge Schroeder; second, Betty Long and Irene Schoetker; third, Jackie Hollis and Mary Anderson; and fourth, Fran Egan and Martha Brewer.

It was nice to have B.J. Kleindenst back with us for the summer. We play every Monday and Thursday at All Saints Lutheran Church in Blairsville, GA and would welcome any interested bridge players to join us. For partners or information, please call Dorothy Smith at 706-745-1532. NT(Jun16,C2)sc



FASHION TIP of the week
By Sarah Bavero

To stay cool this summer and still look professional for work, wear cotton and jersey fabrics in loose fitting styles. Avoid flip-flops and tank-tops but opt instead for dressy sandals and light colors. Don't forget to take care of your feet; funky looking toes are a no-no!

Send your fashion questions to: sarahbavero@gmail.com.

Sarah Bavero has a degree in fashion design. NT(Jun16,Y3)SH

History, Culture and Excitement at 2010 Georgia Mountain Fair



Don't miss the "peak" family event of the year. From July 21 through July 31, the charming town of Hiawassee will be filled with excitement and nostalgia during the 60th annual Georgia Mountain Fair, held at the historic Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds. With first class musical performances, fun carnival rides and a glimpse into North Georgia's rich history and culture, there is truly something for every member of the family. For a complete list of scheduled activities, free admission days, free carnival ride days and musical performance times, visit www.GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com.

From world-class country and gospel performances to good old rock 'n' roll shows, the Georgia Mountain Fair will host several renowned musical acts in the 2,900-seat Anderson Music Hall throughout its 11 days of festivities. Performers include legends, Roy Clark, Joe Stampley, Brenda Lee, The

Bellamy Brothers, Ray Price, Gene Watson, Jim Ed Brown and Helen Cornelius, gospel singers The McKameys, The Inspirations and the Primitives. The venue will also serve as the site of the 2010 Miss Georgia Mountain Fair pageant and the annual Clogger's Convention. A complete schedule of performance dates and times can be found at www.GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com.

Also, during the Fair attendees can step back in time as they watch educational demonstrations such as black-smithing, soap-making, moon shining and hominy-making in the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' Pioneer Village. Visitors can tour restored authentic and antique buildings including a one-room schoolhouse, a general store, a blacksmith shop, a repair shop and an "old mountain home," moved to the fairgrounds to preserve the area's rich history. While visitors experience North Georgia's past first-hand, they will also

listen to tales of life as it once was from local experts. Art lovers will also enjoy strolling through the juried arts and crafts show, set up throughout the Pioneer Village each day of the fair. The show features talented artisans from around the country.

For the kids and the inner-child in everyone, the Georgia Mountain Fair also boasts exciting carnival rides and Pony Rides. New to the 2010 festival, we welcome Rockin' A Ranch Petting Zoo including a Donkey, Mule, Cattle, Sheep, Goats, pigs, Llama's, Camel, Porcupines, and more. Also, the annual Georgia Mountain Fair parade, featuring antique cars, horses and buggies, colorful floats and area marching bands, will be held on Saturday, July 24 at 11 a.m. and is always a family favorite.

The Georgia Mountain Fair has been a landmark event for the North Georgia community for the past 60 years, and in the Exhibit Hall visitors are able to look back at the fair's history. There, they will see the pictures of many musical legends, including Conway Twitty, Patty Loveless and Alan Jackson, who have performed at the fair and interesting memorabilia from past events. Attendees can also purchase jams and other unique homemade goods in the hall. The Exhibit Hall is also the home to a large selection of antique farm equipment, and during the fair,

locals will share stories of how the equipment was once used and how vital the equipment was to farm life. New this year, the Exhibit Hall welcomes a classic Ertl Toy Collectible Display featuring die cast cars, trucks, airplanes, etc... After touring the hall, attendees can venture over to the Hiawassee Garden Club Building where they will see the acclaimed flower show.

No fair would be complete without the smells of hot funnel cakes, sweet cotton candy and hamburgers cooking on the grill. The Georgia Mountain Fair offers all of these food selections in addition to barbeque, smoked trout and many other festival favorites. The food booths are run by local civic organizations and serve as a fundraising tool for non-profit groups in Towns County.

Event tickets for the Georgia Mountain Fair are \$9 with \$2 parking, and children under 10 are admitted for free (musical performances are included in ticket price). No pets allowed.

Festival hours are weekdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds camping and RV sites will also be available for overnight accommodations.

Camping reservations can be made by calling (706) 896-4191.



The Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds are the home to several popular events throughout the year including the Georgia Mountain Fair, the Rhododendron Garden, the Georgia Mountain Fall Festival including the Georgia's Official State Fiddler's Convention and many Superstar Concerts throughout the season. The Fairgrounds are located along the shores of beautiful Lake Chatuge in the north Georgia mountain community of Hiawassee and offer 189 beautiful camp and RV sites, most with lake views. For more information on the property and campsites as well as a complete listing of events, visit www.GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com.