



Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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TCMS Lady Indians coming together as a team as season closes

By Sandy Morgan
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As the 2010 Middle School softball season comes to a close, Head Coach Jeff Stowers says one thing is certain.

"This team has a lot of talent and I have enjoyed working with them," Coach Stowers said.

The Lady Indians are on a tear, winning two in a row against the likes of Athens Christian and Commerce.

For their age, the season's first wins against seasoned regional competition means as much to the players as it does to their coach.

"I am real proud of the work they are doing; they have come along way since try-outs," Stowers said. "Although we had not won any games until today, the girls have showed a very competitive spirit in every game. I hope the win against Athens Christian will boost the girls' confidence and carry over."

In the Athens Christian matchup, the Lady Indians played their best game of the season.

In the first inning TCMS started the game off with every batter driving the ball toward the outfield green leading to a 10-0 start.

After all, a day of encouragement seemed to be all they need as a team to bring home the win.

Athens Christian just simply couldn't catch a break against the Lady Indians.

Emily Ledford led off for the Lady Indians with a walk to first base. Soon, back-to-back-to-back this followed off the bats of Brooke Smith, Carly Gilfilian, and Tori Morgan. Morgan Bradley followed with a triple that gave the Lady Indians much needed confidence to finish out what they came to accomplish.

Kacie Luton led off the top of the second and was able to drive home two runs on a home run. While Allyson Nelson was protecting home plate Kristen Henson was able to steal her way to third base. Madison Landress followed with an RBI single that was able to bring Henson home. Another infield hit, this one by Courtney Stephens, led to yet another run. Henson drove home another run with an RBI



Emily Ledford fires away against Commerce last week



Brooke Smith lines one of her three hits against Commerce last week

hit that brought Stephens home for a final score of 14-2 Lady Indians.

Tori Morgan pitched her heart out, tossing 56 pitches, striking out two.

The Lady Indians pounded out 13 hits in the win.

After a loss against the Commerce Lady Tigers earlier in the season, the Lady Indians were given a second chance to avenge that defeat. The Lady Indians gave the Tigers a run for their money. Ledford led off for the Lady Indians with a strong hit to short but the Lady Tigers turned that into a quick first out. Brooke Smith followed with a single to right field. Then Carly Gilfilian and Kacie Luton followed with back-to-back walks. Tori Morgan plated Smith with a single for the first run of the game.

In the second inning, Jocelyn Byers was hit by a pitch. Coach Stowers then put Alyssa Pyle in as a courtesy runner and she was able to steal her way to third base very quickly. A single by Madison Landress brought Pyle home for a 2-0 lead.

The Lady Tigers re-

sponded by taking a 6-2 lead.

In the third inning, singles by Morgan Bradley, Kristen Henson, Jocelyn Byers, Emily Ledford and a walk for Madison Landress tied the game at 6-6.

An inning later, Gilfilian and Morgan had back-to-back singles to center field. Bradley advanced both runners with a sacrifice. Luton and Henson added RBI singles to bring home the final two runs of the game. Final score: Lady Indians 8, Commerce 6.

Ledford was stellar on the mound, tossing 77 pitches and striking out three.

The Lady Indians pounded out 11 hits, including a 3-for-4 effort by Smith.

A special thank you goes out to Coach Stowers and Assistant Coach Lana Parker from their players for taking time from their families to help the middle school softball program grow.

The last game of the season was scheduled to be played on Tuesday against Lumpkin County at the Lady Indians' field.

Indians seek first win of 2010 against Hayesville Yellow Jackets

By James Reese
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With the Hayesville Yellow Jackets waiting in the wings, the Towns County Indians are a banged up football team.

Freshman quarterback Jackson Noblet suffered a shoulder injury on his throwing arm and Head Football Coach Kyle Langford is still awaiting word on two other notable starters, lineman Luke Parker and middle linebacker Joseph Foster.

"Jackson is day-to-day right now as we speak," Coach Langford said. "At this point, I don't think Luke Parker is going to be ready to go and we're still waiting word on our middle linebacker."

Parker and Foster were injured in the loss to Cherokee.

"We're definitely a banged up bunch right now," he said.

Noblet was injured in the second quarter of last week's contest with Copper Basin.

"He's got an injury to his shoulder and we're sort of playing it day-by-day right now," Coach Langford said. "There will be some rehab involved; we just don't know the extent of the injury or when he'll be back with us. As soon as we can, we'll get him back in there working. We're just playing it by ear right now."

The Indians travel to North Carolina on Friday to take on the Yellow Jackets, a team still smarting from a 48-12 loss to the Indians in 2009.

"They're well coached, they're a good team," he said. "That's evident in the Rabun County game."

The Yellow Jackets are 1-3 with a 19-15 win over Rabun County early this season. They lost last week to Madison High School out of Marshall, NC by a score of 59-14.

"We're really going to have to be prepared and be united in our effort this week," he said. "We're all going to have to stay together as players, as coaches and as fans and



Coach Kyle Langford believes the Friday night matchup with Hayesville will be one to remember

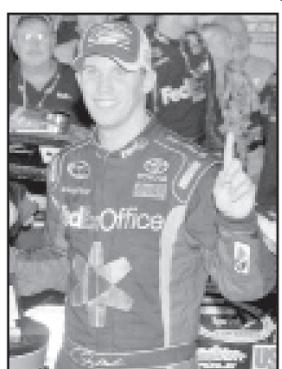
Photo by James Reese

go out there together and hit this thing one more time on Friday night."

The Hayesville-Towns County rivalry is more than evident. The Indians are still smarting from a 34-32 loss two years ago in Hayesville. It was a game that many still believe that the Indians should have won.

NASCAR 2010

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter



Denny Hamlin, winner of Richmond Cup race

HAMLIN WINS AT HOME TRACK

RICHMOND, VA -- Denny Hamlin won again at Richmond, which he calls his "home track".

"It's good," he said. "I definitely feel like we spent the last two weeks trying to gauge where we are going to be and we brought what we had in the shop and said we are going to try to start our Chase early and that way, when we got to Loudon, NH, we would be in the swing of our momentum, not trying to falsely start it and I feel like we have done that."

"We could have had two wins in a row going into the Chase, but last week is in the past and right now I just feel really confident in the team."

The Virginia native from Chesterfield fought off numerous challenges from Jimmy Johnson, Clint Bowyer and Kyle Busch to win the last event before NASCAR's 10-race version of a playoff begins next Sunday at New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

The victory was Hamlin's second at his home-state track and his series-leading sixth of the season, which gives him the top seed for the playoff races.

Kyle Busch tried hard to get around his teammate in the closing laps, but could never make the pass, and had to settle for the number two spot.

"I felt like the 11 (Hamlin) was just a step ahead of us

tonight and they deserved to win," said Busch. "They gave us our air pressure that we started running about mid race, and we really started clicking off and going forward. It was good."

"We can't be disappointed in a second tonight. We wanted to win, and we fought hard with Denny, but racing teammates clean like that, and you know, not laying a bumper at all, just making sure that the Gibbs cars had a good, solid night, so that we have everything on our side heading into the Chase here next weekend."

Johnson finished third and will start the Chase as the number two driver in points.

"We had a solid race, ran in a safe spot behind the lead battle," said Johnson. "Just a solid night. On pit road, on the track, through practice, qualifying, I mean, everything throughout the weekend was nice for us. Could have used a little bit more speed at the end, but if we are running in the Top 3, week-in and week-out, opportunities will come."

"That was really the first goal we had for the 48 team after some of the tough luck and poor races that we had through the summer months. We are doing the right thing."

Rounding out the top-10 finishers Saturday night were Joey Logano, Marcos Ambrose, Clint Bowyer, Juan Pablo Montoya, A J Allmendinger, Kevin Harvick, and Carl Edwards.

Jeff Gordon finished 12th and will start eighth in the Chase.

"We have a shot and we had a great regular season, and I know we are missing the bonus points but I still think we have an awesome team that can do an awful lot in these last ten races," said Gordon.

"Being up in the points, you know, like we have been allowed us to think ahead a little bit more and put a good game plan together. I feel like we have been doing that. So hopefully that all shows when

we get to New Hampshire and get this Chase started. But yeah, I'm looking forward to getting it all started and seeing what we can do."

Dale Earnhardt Jr. never ran with the leaders. He finished six laps down, in 34th place, and is 19th in points.

The 12 drivers who qualified for the playoffs had their points reset after Richmond. Each of the 12 drivers get 5,000 points plus 10 bonus points for each win this season. Hamlin's six wins put him atop the list with 5060 points.

Jimmie Johnson, who finished third Saturday night, is seeded second with five wins, for 5050 points. Kyle Busch, runner-up Saturday night, will be seeded fourth. Regular-season points leader Kevin Harvick, who was ninth Saturday night, will be seeded third.

2010 Chase Drivers: 1. Hamlin-5060, 2. Johnson-5050, 3. Harvick-5030, 4. Kyle Busch-5030, 5. Kurt Busch-5020, 6. Stewart-5010, 7. Biffle-5010, 8. J. Gordon-5000, 9. Edwards-5000, 10. Burton-5000, 11. Kenseth-5000, 12. Bowyer-5000

Weekend Racing: The Sprint Cup cars and Camping World Trucks travel to Loudon, New Hampshire. It will be the first race on the 10-race Chase for the Cup teams. The Nationwide teams do not race again until Sept. 25.

Sat., Sept. 18, Camping World Trucks New Hampshire 200, race 19 of 25: Starting time: 2:30 p.m. ET; TV: Speed.

Sun., Sept. 19, Sprint Cup Sylvania 300, race 27 of 36: Starting time: 1 p.m. ET; TV: ESPN.

Racing Trivia Question: Which Cup team will Kevin Harvick drive for next season?

Last Week's Question: Where is Elliott Sadler's hometown?

You may contact the Racing Reporter at: hodgesnews@earthlink.net

Archery season opened September 11

Deer season is the most popular time of the year for Georgia hunters, and this year archers get first draw beginning Sat., Sept. 11. Last year, 107,792 archery hunters harvested more than 54,000 deer.

Staterwide archery season runs through Oct. 8, but special regulations apply to archery-only counties and extended archery season areas.

Hunters should refer to the 2010-2011 Georgia Hunting Seasons and Regulations guide available at www.gohuntgeor-

gia.com, at retail license agents or any Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division office.

Georgia is considered a top destination in the country for non-resident hunters and continues to draw tens of thousands of hunters from across the country each year. The state's quality deer herd and the close to one million available acres of public hunting land serve as the main appeal.

Georgia offers more than 90 state-operated wildlife

management areas.

Many of these public lands offer specialty hunts, including primitive weapons hunts, adult/child hunts and ladies-only hunts. Dates and locations for these hunts are available in the 2010-2011 Georgia Hunting Seasons and Regulations guide, and WMA maps are available at www.gohuntgeorgia.com.

Hunters are allowed a season bag limit of ten antlerless deer and two antlered deer (one of the two antlered deer must have a minimum of four points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers).

To pursue deer in Georgia, hunters must have a valid hunting license, big game license and a current deer harvest record. If hunting on a WMA, a WMA license also is required.

For more information on deer hunting seasons and regulations, visit www.gohuntgeorgia.com.

Local Racing Action

By: Carl Vanzura

Rain halts action at bad fast Tri-County

Action at Tri-County Race Track was just getting interesting as 14 Southeastern Late Model Sportsman drivers were in process of qualifying for the 35-lap \$1,200 to win Aarons Sales and Leasing feature when rain blew in and refused to leave.

Track promoter Steve Morris fought the elements all day and when it quit raining around 3 p.m., he went out and got the third mile clay oval in great shape for the night's event. The track got in hot laps for the five classes and managed to run two heats in the Cornwell Tools Modified Street class and nine of the powerful SLMS drivers passed under the checkered flag on the clock in qualifying.

Southeastern Sportsman

Series President Randy McCoy and Steve Morris rescheduled the event with rain checks and arm bands honored at that time.

Still scheduled for Sunday September 26th is the annual demolition derby where the cars race for 30 laps, then the last car running is the winner. On that day, the track will present trophies and awards to the points leaders.

Rain hit most of the area tracks this week as Cleveland Speedway, North Georgia Speedway, Dixie Speedway and Toccoa all fell to the liquid sunshine. Billy Moyer win the World 100 at Tony Stewart's Eldora Speedway, Scott Bloomquist was second. One hundred and thirty four cars entered the event.

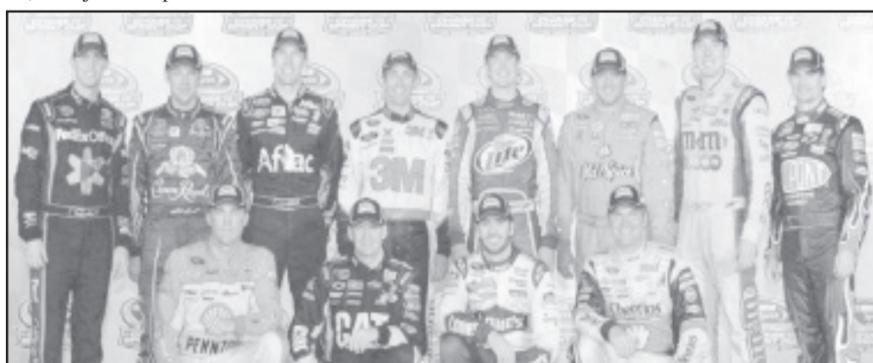


The Southeastern Sportsman Serie will return to Tri-County for a rain make up.

Castaway Critters Pet of the Week



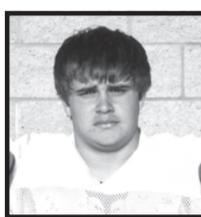
Beauty is a gorgeous little female kitten that is available for adoption at the shelter. She has a wonderful personality, she loves people, being held and is a very gentle little soul. She has been spayed and is current with her vaccinations. If you are interested in providing Beauty a loving home, call June at 706-379-2169. Please visit our website with many more cats and dogs that are waiting for their chance to be a member of a family. Our website is castaway-critters.org where you can view pets, learn about donating, volunteering and upcoming events. Please spay or neuter your pets to prevent more homeless animals!



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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Each Player of the Week will receive a FREE Pizza from Big Al's Pizza of Hiwassee!



Nic Rhoades
Offensive #65



Brandon Henderson
Defensive #7