



Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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

Indians go 0-2 versus Rabun, Union counties

By James Reese
Towns County Herald
tcherald@windstream.net

The Towns County Middle School Indians are young and learning.

However, they weren't too excited about back-to-back defeats last week, first by the Rabun County Wildcats, followed by a loss to the Union County Panthers.

"We've got a lot of sixth graders," Head Coach Frank Johnson said. "If you put a bunch of sixth graders up against eighth graders, they get kind of wide-eyed to the entire experience."

On Monday, the Indians hung tough against Rabun County, but fell behind 8-4 at the end of the first quarter.

Still suffering the effects of the deer-in-the-headlights look, the Indians trailed 23-4 at the end of the first half following a 15-0 second quarter run by the Wildcats.

Rabun continued to pour it on in the third quarter, outscoring the Indians 13-2 en route to a 36-6 lead heading into the final quarter of play.

In the fourth quarter, the Indians battled back and outscored the Wildcats 13-10 but it wasn't enough as they lost their second game of the season 46-19.

Eighth grader Trace Moss paced the Indians with 12 points, followed by eighth grader Cruz Shook with 3 points.

The next day, the Indians squared off against the Union County Panthers hoping to shake the ills of youth. It started off with promise as the Indians stayed with the Panthers in the

first quarter, trailing only 7-4.

However, the Panthers went on a 15-2 second quarter run to take a 22-6 halftime lead.

The third quarter didn't get much better as the Panthers continued their offensive assault with an 11-2 third quarter run to take a 33-8 lead heading into the final quarter.

The Panthers continued to pour it on in the fourth quarter with a 12-4 run to finish off the Indians 45-12, handing Towns County its third consecutive loss on the young season.

"These kids are in the midst of a learning process," Coach Johnson said. "If they can keep their heads up and swallow this tough pill of learning, we ought to have some size next year and some shooters. Things should be looking up."

Trace Moss led the Indians with 8 points, followed by 2 points each from Adam Barrett and Cruz Shook.

Coach Johnson praised Barrett, a sixth grader. "He's a big kid and he's not afraid to get right in the middle of things and get some rebounds and score a point or two," Coach Johnson said. "He's played every minute of every game. If he wants to be, he's going to be something special."

"He can score on the inside or he can step out and shoot," Coach Johnson said. "He's got a chance to be something special."

The Indians return to action on Thursday against White County following the Lady Indians-Lady Warriors 4:15 p.m. matchup.



Cruz Shook drives the lane against the Wildcats. Photo by James Reese.



Adam Barrett takes a jumper against Rabun County last week. Photo by James Reese.



Trace Moss pushes the ball against Rabun last week. Photo by James Reese.

Local hiker to present program on hiking in France

Bert Kunze will present a fascinating photo series and an informative talk about wilderness hiking in Corsica, France, at the Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church in Young Harris, Georgia. Bert's presentation will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 7, in the church's social hall. This talk is sponsored by the Mountain High Hikers, and will be part of their holiday membership meeting. The public is welcome to participate. The Corsica slide show will invite the viewers into a "real wilderness", some level 3 climbing and some antique towns (Calvi and Bastia).

Bert Kunze was born in 1938 and grew up in Starnberg (Bavaria) on the foothills of the Alps. For many years he organized mountaineering, skiing, climbing and hiking trips into the Bavarian, Swiss, Austrian, Italian, Yugoslavian and French Alps.

In 2000, at age 62, Bert (Trail name "Bert the Bavarian") through-hiked the entire 2,200 mile long Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine. Then, in 2005 at age 67, he through-hiked California's 240 mile long John Muir Trail, considered the highest altitude trail in the contiguous U.S.

He was also a year round weekend volunteer with the Bavarian Mountain Rescue (Bergwacht). In 1961 he graduated from the Polytechnical Academy of Munich and started working for Siemens in Munich. Siemens transferred him to the U.S. in 1979. He retired to Hiawassee where he built his own home. He has been Hike coordinator for the local Mountain High Hikers and was honored twice by the U.S. Forest Service with Lifetime Achievement Awards for his work as a trail volunteer. He is also a certified Wilderness First Responder.

Toys for Tots sponsored by the US Marine Corps Reserve

Sponsored locally by Unicoi Detachment of the Marine Corps League. Unicoi Detachment has been the sponsor of Toys for Tots in this area since 1993. We try to help as many families in need as is possible.



Collection boxes have been placed in the following business locations. Dollar General, Ivy Log; Dollar General, Lance Connector; Dollar General, Hwy. 515; Radio Shack, Bi-Lo, Cadence Bank, C&S Bank, Bank of Blairsville, Union Realty, Galaxy Bowling, Ingles, The Griddle Cafe & Deli, Rite-Aid, CVS, United Community Bank, First Baptist Church, Walmart, North Georgia News and Lucky R Auction. Please donate only new, unwrapped toys.

in touch soon. Please do not remove toys from collection boxes. N(Dec1,27)CA

For more information please call Shirley Redd at 706-374-6910. After all of the toy donations have been picked up and sorted, Shirley will tell you when and where to pick items for your children. The list is already long so get

136 pounds lost in Weight Loss Challenge



Participants in the weight loss challenge at The New You included front: Diana Carroll, Deborah Murrell, Barbara Barnes, Chasity Cochran, Carol Donaldson. Back: Independent Herbalife Distributor Andy Kell, Bonnie Blackmer, Trudy Smith, Marsha Tardif, Judy Blackmer, and Independent Herbalife Distributor and Owner of The New You Nanon Wiles.

A 12 week weight loss challenge facilitated by Independent Herbalife Distributors Andy Kell and Nanon Wiles resulted in 136 lbs. lost by 10 participants! Winning cash prizes for losing the largest percentages of weight were Bonnie Blackmer and Trudy Smith and for losing the most inches were Judy Blackmer and Deborah Murrell. The weight loss challenge consisted of weekly meetings where information on proper nutrition was discussed and weekly weigh-ins. Although participation in a particular eating plan was not required, Bonnie, Trudy, and Judy all used the Herbalife weight loss products and worked out at The New You.



Shown from left are Independent Herbalife Distributor Andy Kell, winners with the most percentage of weight loss Bonnie Blackmer and Trudy Smith, and Independent Herbalife Distributor and owner of The New You Nanon Wiles.

In her testimonial at the conclusion, participant Marsha Tardif stated, "I lost 37 lbs in the 12 weeks and it was so easy with the Herbalife shakes and exercise. The support was wonderful. I'm looking forward to another

weight loss challenge." Bonnie Blackmer wrote, "I loved everything about the weight loss challenge. The meetings really helped keep me in line. I lost 27 lbs. during the challenge, but have lost a total of 65 lbs. using Herbalife and working out at The New You. Judy Blackmer stated, "I lost 33.8 lbs. during the challenge. I thought I knew everything about weight loss but I learned

something new and useful every week."

A 5 week weight loss challenge starts at The New You on November 30 and another 12 week challenge will begin in January. Please join these motivated ladies in a weight loss challenge so you can start on your path to improved health, weight loss, and exercise. For more information, please call (706) 781-0979. N(Dec1,29)CA

NASCAR 2010

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter



Dale Earnhardt Jr. will have new crew chief



Ann-Margret in 1968 at Danang, Vietnam. courtesy of Ann-Margret.com

SHAKEUP AT HENDRICK MOTORSPORTS

On the morning after Jimmie Johnson won his fifth Sprint Cup championship, Hendrick Motorsports announced that three Hendrick teams, all except Johnson's would have different crew chiefs.

Jeff Gordon will move from the team led by crew chief Steve Letarte to the team led by crew chief Alan Gustafson; Mark Martin will move from Gustafson's team to that of crew chief Lance McGrew; and Dale Earnhardt Jr. will move to Letarte's team.

"It's not one of those things that you can vote in," Rick Hendrick said. "It's one of those things that you have to pull the trigger and go do it."

"It's probably one of the most radical moves I've made in my years in racing to do this many at one time. When you know the guys - these crew chiefs and drivers, I know well - I felt like the strong personalities, and knowing the motors, chassis and the bodies are all the same, it's got to be the chemistry inside the team."

The crew chiefs will keep the cars they have worked with; they will just be repainted and renumbered. The pit crews, for now, will stay with the crew chiefs they were working with at the end of the season.

Steve Letarte said he did not question Rick Hendrick's decision to move him from working with four-time Cup champion Jeff Gordon to Earnhardt Jr., who has struggled the last three seasons at Hendrick under crew chiefs Tony Eury Jr. and Lance McGrew.

"I have 100 percent faith in Mr. Hendrick and the decision he makes," Letarte said. "I was excited for the opportunity. I was humbled. It's a task that he has given me that is not a small task, it's not an insignificant task."

While Hendrick Motorsports was reorganizing their four teams, the down and almost out Richard Petty Motorsports announced they were downsizing from a four-team operation to two teams in 2011.

Team co-owner Richard Petty issued a statement on the organization's Sprint Cup plans. "Richard Petty Motorsports has completed its restructuring process and is now in the process of moving forward. RPM will shift from running four cars to two in the Cup Series and that is never an easy process for the people involved. Currently, we are concentrating on building two solid programs with AJ Allmendinger behind the wheel of the No. 43 entry and Marcos Ambrose in the No. 9 Ford. We are very fortunate to have an extremely loyal family of partners and are looking forward to the future."

BASKETBALL INDIVIDUAL SCORING

HIWASSEE DAM

- Lady Indians (Grade)
- Gabby Arencibia (11) 25
- Makayla Underwood (9) 10
- Dadrian Blythe (10) 8
- Kindle Moss (11) 7
- Eryn Cochran (9) 7
- Jordan Moss (12) 4
- Ben Pong (11) 4
- Davilyn Blythe (10) 4
- Crystal Bishop (12) 2
- Ali Bлекley (11) 2

- Indians (Grade)
- Bradley Swanson (12) 26
- DJ Rogers (12) 7
- Brett Bradshaw (12) 5
- Corbin Gidshill (12) 5
- Ryan Tallent (10) 4

- Indian JV's (Grade)
- Grant Arencibia (8) 8
- Austin Wood (10) 5
- Brett Barrett (9) 5
- Aaron Dodson (9) 4
- Luke Parker (10) 3
- Slade Davenport (9) 2
- Dallas Manus (8) 2

Cup drivers banned from Nationwide Championship

Nationwide Series teams expect that NASCAR will allow Sprint Cup drivers to compete in as many Nationwide races as they want next year, but that they will not earn points toward the series championship. NASCAR has not announced the change, but Nationwide owners believe that when a driver applies for his NASCAR license prior to the season, the driver must declare whether he is racing for points in Cup, Nationwide or the Truck Series.

"I don't think the Cup guys are going to be getting points at all if they're running the Nationwide Series," team owner Rusty Wallace said last week. "Once they get their license, they're going to have to commit, do you want your points in the Nationwide Series, do you want your points in the Truck Series or do you want your points in the Cup Series? That's just a guess."

NASCAR Chairman Brian France said an announcement would be made in January about the exact changes. The last five years have seen full-time Cup drivers win the Nationwide title, Kevin Harvick, Clint Bowyer, Carl Edwards, Kyle Busch and Brad Keselowski. Only two races last year were not won by Cup regulars, Justin Allgaier at Bristol and Boris Said at Montreal.

Keselowski and Edwards say they are committed to run full schedules next year, not just to their sponsors but to the crews that work on the cars.

A real American Patriot

This past week, a tidbit of news in our local newspaper caught my eye.

Ann-Margret was being honored as Grand Marshal of the Veteran's Day Parade in Mobile, AL.

I was not directly involved in the Vietnam War, but I was in the Navy and news about her visits to troops reached me onboard ship in the middle of the ocean.

She helped offset the negative war news, which was brought about in part, by Jane Fonda, who openly supported the Viet Cong.

Ann-Margret traveled to Vietnam with the United Service Organization, better known as the USO, and entertained troops on stage, along with Bob Hope and other Hollywood stars.

"I am genuinely humbled to be chosen to receive the Patriot of the Year award in such distinguished company," she told the group gathered at a luncheon after the parade. "I've always had a deep appreciation for what our military does."

"I can never put into words what it was like looking out from a makeshift stage and seeing so many faces. I remember the applause and the laughter and then we would go home. But those men would have to face another day. You know each of you hold a very special place in my heart. And you represent the America I love and cherish."

"Freedom does not come cheap and I am grateful for all those who have served their country."

America could use a lot more entertainers like Ann-Margret.

NOTE: The Sprint Cup Awards Banquet, which is being held in Las Vegas, will be shown Friday, December 3, 2010 on SPEED from 9-12 p.m./ET.

Racing Trivia Question. Which former driver was known as "The Intimidator"? Last Week's Question: Richard Petty has 200 Cup wins, the most of any driver. Which driver has the second most number of wins? Answer: David Pearson with 105. You may contact the Racing Reporter at : hodges@race500.com