

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Softball: Lady Indians enter final week of regular season at 8-8



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Umbrellas were the must-have accessory as Towns County High School Homecoming participants braved the elements for the 2020-21 festivities on Friday night at Frank McClure Stadium. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

NASCAR 2020

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

The "Other" Busch Wins At Vegas

LAS VEGAS, NV - Kurt Busch put on a winning performance to take Sunday's Cup Series race at Vegas. Even though he was on older tires than many of the drivers behind him, he was able to hold them off on two late restarts that sent the race into overtime.

"This is what you dream of, winning at your home track," said Busch. "I'm in awe. We had a good car, but you need luck also, and we had both of them tonight."

"I pulled out some old drag racing skills on the restarts and the car did the rest."

During the last two restarts, Busch got a good jump on the second-place driver, Matt DiBenedetto, and the rest of the field. Each time he was able to distance himself from the others.

Busch's win guarantees him a slot in the next round of playoffs.

DiBenedetto, who finished second was able to stay close to Busch, but did not have the speed needed to make a pass.

"He got me on the restarts," said DiBenedetto. "But I was giving it all I had. We had a great car, and I'm proud of all our guys."

Denny Hamlin finished third. He and many of the other drivers pitted for fresh tires on lap 250 of the 267-lap race. Another caution came on lap 260, forcing the race into an overtime green-white-checkered finish.

"First, we had a plan," said Hamlin, winner of Stage 1. "The car was good and we felt like new tires would help us move up faster. That last caution wasn't to our advantage, but we're still proud of our finish."

Martin Truex Jr. was fourth followed by Alex Bowman, Kyle Busch, Ryan Blaney, Erik Jones, Chris Buescher, and Kevin Harvick.

Chase Elliott won Stage 2. Joey Logano finished 14th. He lost a lap after Kyle Busch slid into the side of his car. Logano had to pit in order for his crew to pull some damaged sheet metal away from his tires.

Austin Dillon had a fast car, but two problems relegated him to a 32nd place finish. First, he had to come down pit road a second time because a member of his team allowed a tire to roll outside the pit box. Then, during lap 230, his car overheated and he had to pit again for water.

The 12 Playoff drivers: 1. Harvick-3104, 2. Hamlin-3101, 3. Keselowski-3059, 4. Truex-3058, 5. Logano-3054, 6. Elliott-3053, 7. Bowman-3052, 8. Kyle Busch-3043, 9. Kurt Busch-3041, 10. Bowyer-3032, 11. Almirola-3025, 12. A. Dillon-3020.

BRISCOE COVERS THE FIELD AT VEGAS

Chase Briscoe dominated Saturday's Xfinity Series race Saturday night at Las Vegas, winning the first two stages before gaining the win. He led four times for a race-high 164 laps en route to his series-leading eighth win of the season. No other driver led more than 15 laps in the 200-lap race. Briscoe's margin of victory over second-place Noah Gragson was 1.370 seconds and would have been more if not for a caution 12 laps short of the finish



Kurt Busch wins at Vegas that set up a nine-lap sprint to the checkered flag.

The new team is good news for Wallace, but bad news for Ty Dillon, current driver of Germain's No. 13 car. With the sale of Germain's charter to Michael Jordan, Dillon is out of a ride. There is no guarantee he'll find another one in time for next season.

"Stressful," Dillon said. "I feel like I'm starting to enter a point of my career where this is my fourth year and starting to get an understanding of where I feel I am as a driver. I feel like I'm very capable and proven to myself in moments that I know I can beat these guys given the right opportunity. For me, I feel like I'm just starting to get into the beginning of the prime years of my career."

"With nothing certain yet, it's very tough. It's very stressful. I believe in myself as a race car driver. I feel like I can win races and win championships. I'm very aware of what it takes financially for a team to do that, the resources that it takes and the attitude of the driver it takes as well. I believe I'm capable of that and I'm just waiting for the right opportunity. Hopefully, that door will open and I'll be able to step in and continue the growth of my career. I think my best racing is yet to come and I'm hopeful to get to see that soon."

Chip Ganassi Racing announced that Ross Chastain will pilot the organization's No. 42 entry in the Cup Series beginning with the 2021 season. Chastain, a CGR development driver since 2018, is currently competing full-time in the Xfinity Series.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: The following is an excerpt from a murder trial when the defense attorney was questioning the county coroner.

Attorney: Before you signed the death certificate, had you taken the pulse?

Coroner: No.

Attorney: Did you check for breathing?

Coroner: No.

Attorney: So, when you signed the death certificate, you weren't sure the man was dead, were you?

Coroner: Well, let me put it this way. The man's brain was sitting in a jar on my desk. But I guess it's possible he could still be out there practicing law somewhere.

Weekend Racing: NASCAR teams travel to the 2.66-mile Talladega Superspeedway in Alabama for three races.

Sat., Oct. 3; Truck Series race; Start time: 1 PM ET; TV: Fox Sports 1.

Sat., Oct. 3; Xfinity Series race; Start time: 4:30 PM ET; TV: NBCSN.

Sun., Oct. 4; Cup Series race; Start time: 2 PM ET; TV: NBC.

Racing Trivia Question: Which Cup Series team does Ricky Stenhouse Jr. driver for?

Last Week's Question: Who won the inaugural Cup Series race at Las Vegas? Answer: Mark Martin won the inaugural Las Vegas 400 in 1998.

Gerald Hodges is a syndicated NASCAR writer and author. His books may be viewed and ordered online at Amazon.com. You may contact him by e-mail at: hodges@race500.com.

Register now for Rec Department Youth Basketball

Towns County Recreation Department Basketball Registration: August 1st - October 11th - \$60. Late Registration: October 12th - October 25th - \$75.

The Towns County Recreation Department would like to invite you to participate in our annual Basketball season with GRPA. There will be evaluations held the second week of October. If you are interested in coaching, please fill out a coaching application at the Towns County Recreation Department & complete a MANDATORY background check ONLY after you have been selected as a coach.

Divisions: 6u Co-Ed: Ages 5-6 Born September 2nd,



2013 to September 1st, 2015. 8u: Ages 7-8 Born September 2nd, 2011 to September 1st, 2013. 10u: Ages 9-10 Born September 2nd, 2009 to September 1st, 2011. 12u: Ages 11-12 Born September 2nd, 2007 to September 1st, 2009.

Please register online at www.TownsCountyRec.com or register in person at the

Towns County Recreation Department.

Towns County Recreation Department will be providing jerseys and shorts that players will be able to keep at the end of the season.

If you have any questions please contact Matthew Youngblood or Tyler Garrett at (706) 896-2600 or by email at TCRecreation2600@gmail.com.

In the event basketball is cancelled before the season begins, FULL refunds will be issued. Partial refunds will be available at Towns County Recreation Department staff's discretion if season is cancelled after uniforms are ordered. TSep30.F15H

CHARITY FOR CHILDREN

POKER RUN

All Wheels Welcome

October 3, 2020

\$20 per Driver | \$5 per Rider

Registration 11 AM @ Ronnies in Andrews, NC

Early Registration at Club 66

(Young Harris/Warne State Line 706-379-3774)

Club 66 is a 501c-3 non-profit

WALLACE TO DRIVE FOR NEW TEAM IN 2021

Bubba Wallace announced last week that he will be driving for a new Cup Series team next year.

The team's majority owner will be former NBA star Michael Jordan. Denny Hamlin will own a minority share and continue to drive the No. 11 Toyota Camry for Joe Gibbs Racing.

"Starting a race team has been something that Michael and I have talked about while playing golf together over the years, but the timing or circumstances were never really right," said Hamlin. "It just makes sense now to lay the foundation for my racing career after I'm done driving and also help an up-and-coming driver like Bubba take his career to a higher level. Plus, Michael and Bubba can be a powerful voice together, not only in our sport, but also well beyond it."

With the completed purchase of a NASCAR team charter from Germain Racing, Jordan becomes the first black majority owner of a full-time race team in NASCAR's Cup Series since Wendell Scott owned and raced his own car from the 1960s into the early 1970s.

The name, car number, manufacturer, sponsors and other details for the new team have not been announced.