

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Middle School Football: Bethlehem Christian Academy 36, Towns County 16



The TCMS Indians fell to Bethlehem Christian on Oct. 6. After three games Towns County is sporting a 1-2 record with one final game remaining this Thursday at Lakeview Academy. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

Mountain Harbour Ladies Golfers battle the fog

Fifteen of our members enjoyed an interesting first day of October at Chatuge Shores the fog was like soup on the way over to the course, and a very foggy beginning was met with beautiful clear and sunny skies by the time we rounded the 3rd hole.

Special thanks to Glenda Geddings for the heads up on the conditions of the greens. They were coming back following maintenance 10 days prior, but definitely required the 2-putt ruling. Additionally, we found out as we were playing that hole #4 is actually a par 5 on the Chatuge Shores score card and not the par four that Golf Genius assigned to us. And #9 was actually temporarily turned into a par 3. The game of the day was retooled to accommodate

our rusty skills to a 1 net best ball on the front nine, and 2 net best balls on the back nine, which was just fine! Most of us had not played in over two weeks due to the heavy rains our area experienced on our league day. However, what our playing ability lacked was made up by the sheer beauty of our surroundings!

Congratulations to our winners!

1st place with a score of 91 and \$5 each to Ann Chotiner, Connie Dockery, Alison Taylor and Martha Quijano.

2nd place with a score of 92 and \$4 each goes to Pat Westbrook, Carol Millward, Linda Robinson, and Jean Sullivan. This group was HOT with Pat Westbrook getting a birdie on par 4 #9 net eagle! And also, kudos to Carol Mill-

ward for her chip in bogey net par on the par 3 #7! Sole winner of the chip-in loot totaling \$7.50. Those winnings just might by a little birdy juice for her!

3rd place with a 97 and \$3 each in their little pockets went to Linda Davenport, Martha Zimmer, Beckie Suverkrup and Gloria White.

Since most of the gals departed for home immediately after their rounds, they may pick-up their winnings at our Closing Luncheon and Awards event on Thursday October 8th. Those winners not attending may stop by General Manager, Curtis Phillip's office at their convenience to pick up these winnings and more from the annual affair!

Your faithful pilot,
Beckie Suverkrup

Mountain Harbour Ladies mark the end of the season

Thursday, October 8th, 2020 was the date of the 9th Annual Mountain Harbour Ladies Golf Association Luncheon and Awards event at Mountain Harbour Golf Club on the veranda. 21 of the 39 members attended this year's event which was catered by Paris and Company, in Young Harris, GA. Members were treated to not only a chamber of commerce day, but began with a mimosa toast celebrating the season, appetizers, a beautiful salad buffet of grilled chicken on romaine and mixed greens in a Fall Harvest type salad with toasted spiced pecans and goat cheese crumbles, house made ranch and balsamic dressing, croissants and pumpkin tres' leche'.

Following lunch, acknowledgements and awards were given to general manager, Curtis Phillips, MHLGA website manager Karen Mussoline, Beth Dixon in the pro shop and Jim Catron bag drop attendant.

"Special" awards were given in good jest to:

Nancy Hamilton-the "2020 Don't Choke Award", awarded for her knee knocking experiences on hole #4! A

chicken trophy with googlie eyes!

Jean Sullivan the 2020 "Don't Leave Home Without It" Award, for driving the furthest each and every week from Robbinsville! She received a bag of trail mix, sunglasses, Johnny Walker Red label tiny bottle, sunscreen and the worlds flattest flash light!

Gloria White 2020 Sharp Shooter" Award for the most chip-ins! She received the Mountain Harbour LGA divot repair tool!

Congratulations also went to Vicki Hough the recipient of our 2020 "Most Improved Golfer" Award! She keenly reduced her handicap from a 42.9 on June 4th to a 31.4 HCI on September 10th, which was her last play day of the season. She was awarded a certificate and a 30-minute golf lesson with Curtis!

And of course, the Championship and Presidents Cup winners received their personalized "trophy cards" designed and made by Donna Walker for each recipients cash award, along with a Low Gross pin, and 4 Low Net pins to remember this year's win.

Diana Azor Low Gross

\$60.

Nancy Outlaw 1st place A Flight Low Net \$35.

Glenda Geddings 1st place B Flight Low Net \$35.

Vicki Hough 1st place C Flight Low Net \$35.

Jean Sullivan 1st place D Flight Low Net \$35.

Birdie Pins were awarded to 21 members, they had their choice of two different birdie pins since we had multiple birdie recipients.

Nancy Hamilton, Diana Azor (2), Martha Zimmer(3), Alison Taylor, Glenda Geddings (2), Vicki Hough (2), Kay Kirkland, Connie Dockery, Karen Mussoline, Beckie Suverkrup, Linda Davenport, Claudia Mahaffie (2), and Pat Westbrook.

The event concluded with raffle drawings consisting of 2 30 minute golf lessons with general manager-pro Curtis Phillips, and golf towel and accessories.

Our 2021 season will hopefully begin without delay on Thursday, May 13th, 2021. MHLGA invites all area women to join our association! Contact league organizer, Beckie Suverkrup at beckieup@gmail.com. T00e14.G1SH

Softball: Commerce 9, Towns County 1

Commerce - The Lady Indians struck for a run in the top-half of the first but it was all Commerce the rest of the way. The Tigers answered with three in bottom half of the first before tacking on two runs in each of the next three innings to take a 9-1 victory in four innings.

Towns County was limited to two Kenzie Livingston hits while Natalie Smith went the complete four innings, allowing nine hits. Each team finished with one error in the field.

The Lady Indians fall to 8-10 on the year. Commerce improves to 15-8-1.



Towns Co. Softball and coach Chris Vardo. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

NASCAR 2020

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Chase Elliott Is On A Roll

Charlotte, NC - Chase Elliott is one step closer to his first NASCAR Cup Series championship. The young Dawsonville, Ga. driver led three times for 27 laps in Sunday's race. He took the lead for the last time on lap 91 and led the remaining 18 laps around the Charlotte Roval.

"Just had another fast car," said Elliott. "The road courses have been real good for us. We took tires at just the right time and things worked out for us. We try to get a little better each time and it was really good to win here."

It was Elliott's fourth straight road course victory.

Joey Logano did not lead any laps, but was able to finish second.

"I typically don't get nervous before races, but this one had me pretty nervous because, I said earlier before the race, I've never felt less prepared for the battle ahead," said Logano.

"Typically a guy over-prepares, tries to make sure he sees everything coming at me before it happens. But this one I couldn't do it. I just didn't know what it was going to be. I asked as many questions to Austin Cindric, watched the Xfinity race yesterday from a suite. I did everything I felt like I could do and I still didn't feel comfortable, especially being on the cut line of what was going to happen.

"Just a great day. Executed the race as good as we could, with getting stage points, a few good restarts, really good pit stops kept us in the game, got us to second."

Erik Jones, who did not make this year's playoffs was third. "That's nice," he said. "I think we've had our share of ups and downs. Definitely more ups in the last month and a half than downs. So that's good."

"We're doing what we're supposed to do, up and running in the top five each and every week. I think Vegas even we could have run in the top five had things worked out a little bit differently at the end of the race."

"We're right there. We want to win a race bad. We just haven't had quite enough speed at some of these places to really cap it off. Today we got kind of lucky with the pit call there at the end and got some good track position with new tires."

"Overall, though, it feels good. I'm still hunting to finish up my plans for next year. I think every good run doesn't hurt. Can only make things a little easier."

Kurt Busch was fourth, followed by Ryan Blaney, William Byron, Martin Truex Jr., Alex Bowman, Cole Custer, and Clint Bowyer.

Denny Hamlin was also involved in a couple spin outs and finished 15th.

Ty Dillon won Stage 1 while Ryan Blaney took Stage 2.

The playoff field has been reduced to 8 drivers: 1. Harvick-4067, 2. Hamlin-4054, 3. Keselowski-4035, 4. Elliott-4027, 5. Logano-4022, 6. Truex Jr.-4017, 7. Bowman-4009, 8. Kurt Busch-4006.

Kyle Busch came up short and for the first time in his career, is no longer in the championship standings. He was involved in several spins and accidents that left his



Chase Elliott car a mess. He finished 30th.

"Just been the year, nothing has played out or been on our side, it's just been unfortunate circumstances and a lot of bad luck," said Busch, driver of the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota.

The other three drivers that eliminated were: Austin Dillon, Clint Bowyer, and Aric Almirola.

ALLMENDINGER GETS SECOND XFINITY WIN
AJ Allmendinger won Saturday's Xfinity Series race to get his second win of the season and his second at the Charlotte Roval. His margin of victory over second-place Noah Gragson was .446 of a second.

The race ended in overtime after a long afternoon of rain showers and blustery wind caused it to be red flagged for 38 minutes.

Chase Briscoe was two laps away from winning until a spin on the rain-soaked track relegated him to an 18th-place finish.

"I don't know what we just witnessed," Allmendinger said. "I was complaining the whole race. Crazy. The 98 (of) Chase Briscoe was doing a fantastic job. I didn't really have anything for him after a couple laps but I knew that final restart I was going to do everything I could."

Daniel Hemric, Alex Labbe, Ross Chastain, Austin Cindric, Cody Ware, Jade Buford, Michael Annett, and Brandon Jones were the remaining top-10 finishers.

The Xfinity Series Playoffs have been reduced to 8 drivers: 1. Briscoe-3060, 2. Cindric-3050, 3. Allgaier-3033, 4. Gragson-3025, 5. Haley-3023, 6. B. Jones-3020, 7. Chastain-3010, 8. Sieg-3002. Brown, Burton, Annett, and Herbst were the four drivers eliminated.

SUAREZ LANDS RIDE WITH NEW TEAM

Daniel Suarez has landed a 2021 Cup Series ride with the newly formed Trackhouse Racing.

The team, which will field Suarez in the No. 99 Chevrolet, has been formed by Justin Marks. Marks is a former NASCAR driver and once co-owned a K&N Pro Series West team.

Trackhouse will be part of a technical alliance with Richard Childress Racing and will use ECR engines. The team replaces Germain Racing as a technical alliance partner and will operate from RCR's shop in Welcome, North Carolina.

"The formation of a top-level NASCAR Cup Series team has been a dream of mine for a long time," Marks told NASCAR.com. "A lot of hard work has transpired to get us to this point and I don't

think we could've ended up with better partners in RCR and Chevrolet and with a more passionate and committed driver than Daniel Suarez. Daniel's drive and hunger to get to the top of this sport is palpable every time I am in his presence. We are building a team of winners and Daniel has delivered just about every time he's sat in race winning equipment. It's my job now to put a car underneath him that will carry him to the highest echelon of the sport."

Trackhouse Racing is the second new Cup team to be announced for the 2021 season. It joins the unnamed team co-owned by Denny Hamlin and Michael Jordan that will field a car for Bubba Wallace.

Trackhouse has leased a charter from Spire Motorsports, ensuring it a post in each race next year.

Meanwhile Clint Bowyer, driver of the No. 14 Stewart Haas Ford is hanging up his driving suite for a business suit in the broadcasting booth at the end of this season.

"I have a new opportunity (to) do what's next in my life," Bowyer said. "In 2021 my suit will no longer be fireproof."

Bowyer has raced for all three manufacturers - Chevrolet, Toyota and Ford - and had wins with each of them. He got the call from Richard Childress Racing 16 years ago and made his debut at Texas Motor Speedway. It was a lackluster performance. On Lap 33, Bowyer would spin coming out of Turn 4 and then on the final lap his RCR No. 21 Chevrolet stalled on the backstretch when the engine blew. Since then, Bowyer has been to victory lane a total of 10 times in the Cup Series, eight-time in the Xfinity Series, three times in the Truck Series and was the Xfinity Champion in 2008.

Racing Joke: Justin and his newlywed wife realized that their marriage wasn't working and filed for divorce. The judge wanted to know what the problem was.

Justin answered, "In the seven weeks that we've been together, we haven't been able to agree on a single thing."

The judge turned to the wife: "Have you anything to say?"

She replied, "It's been eight weeks, your honor."

Weekend Racing: NASCAR teams travels to the 1.5-mile Kansas Speedway for three races.

Sat., Oct. 17; Truck Series race; Starting time: 4 PM ET; TV: FOX.

Sat., Oct. 17; Xfinity Series race; Starting time: 7 PM ET; TV: NBCSN.

Sun., Oct. 18; Cup Series race; Starting time: 2:30 PM ET; TV: NBCSN.

Racing Trivia Question: How many Cup teams does Roush Fenway racing field this year?

Last Week's Question: Which is the shortest track on the NASCAR circuit? Answer: Martinsville's 0.526-mile oval makes it the shortest. Bristol is second at 0.533-miles.

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.