

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Indians suffer tough loss during Athens Christian Homecoming

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Athens - Despite a truly stellar performance on behalf of the Towns County defense at certain times in the game, the Indians lost 32-0 in the Friday, Oct. 14, matchup against Athens Christian School on Eagles turf.

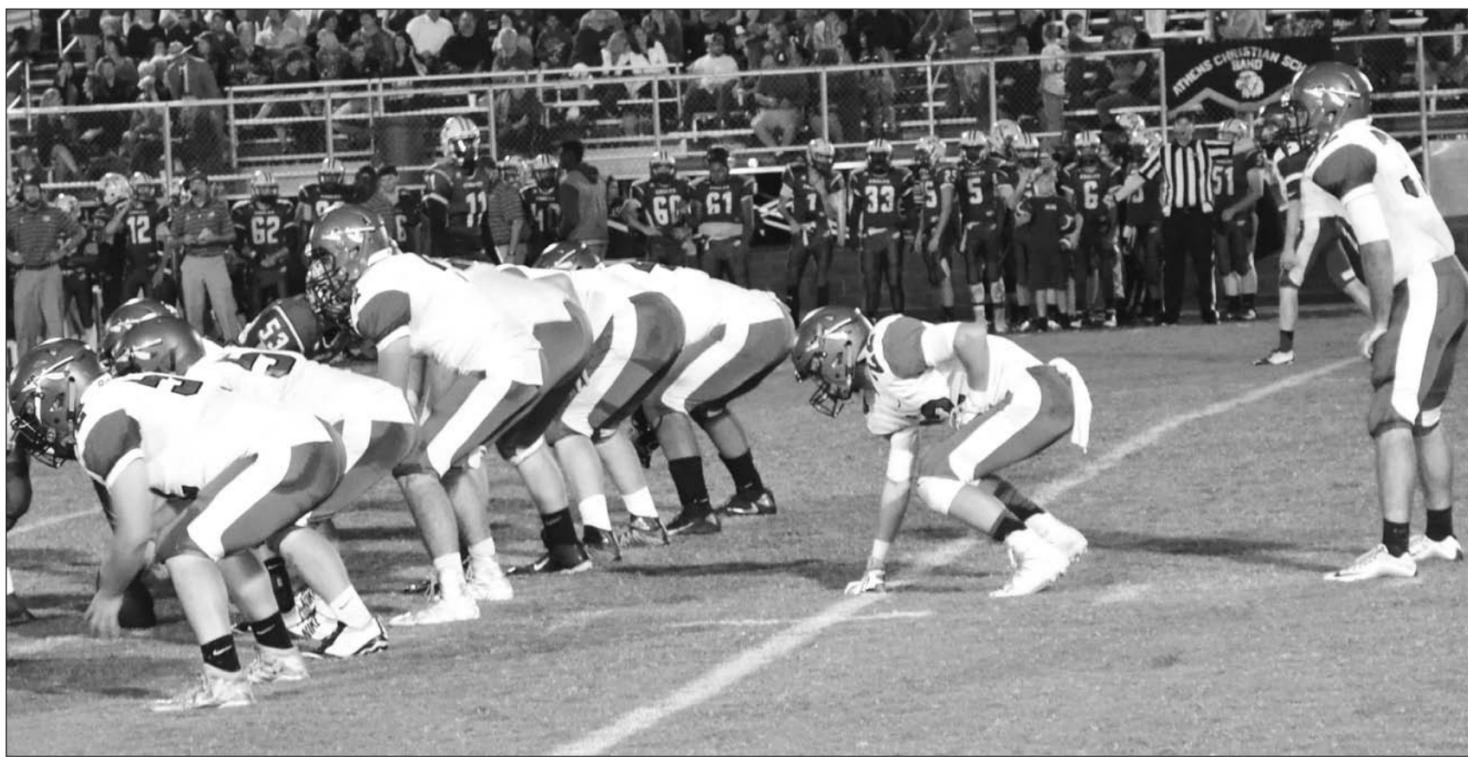
For the entire first quarter and halfway through the second, the football never left Indian territory - and the Eagles never scored.

To be certain, Towns County faced dire circumstances in those early moments of the game, only to rise repeatedly as defensive victors. One such instance occurred as Towns County forced Athens Christian to turn the ball over on downs at the Indian 3-yard line.

Unfortunately, the Eagles hit the scoreboard just a few short minutes later, and they continued to hit it unanswered until the clock ran down in its final seconds.

Looking ahead to this Friday's game against Commerce, the Indians will undoubtedly be going over all aspects of the game with an emphasis on moving the ball.

Towns County will be looking to put up some more points by utilizing the promising running/passing combo inherent in Zach Davenport and Trent Bradshaw's



The Towns County Indians offense lines up in the shadow of their own endzone last Friday at Athens Christian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

play styles, as both boys alternate at the quarterback position. The Indians were unable to muster an offense during last Friday's game, though several in the stands remarked that the officiants seemed to be a little tougher on the Boys in Blue than their Eagle counterparts. Team captains for the game were: Cody Williams, Hunter Frisk, Kendall Barnard and Harold Cox. The Eagles were celebrating their Homecoming that evening, with classic cars around the track at halftime, as well as the Homecoming festivities familiar to Towns students. At the close of the game, the Indian Raider Band performed their uniquely dramatic halftime show, before everyone piled onto their respective buses and made their way home to Towns County to dig into Fall Break. The Indians play No. 1 Commerce away this Friday, Oct. 21, with a kickoff time of 7:30 p.m.

## Cross Country teams gearing up for another October/November to remember

Blairsville - On Thursday, Oct. 13, the Towns County Indians Cross Country Team competed at Meeks Park in Blairsville.

Freshman Blythe Smith took the lead runner spot for the Boys Team, with Corbin Henderson, Tyler Grimsley, Kaine Hoffman and Caleb Ledford rounding out the Top Five.

Henderson, Smith, Ledford, Jeremy Lovell, Ryan Tyler and Xavier Hoges all set a PR for the 2016 season.

Top Five runners for the Girls Team were Hannah Whitehead, Emma Kate Ledford, Jasmine Miranda, Taralee Arrowood, and returning from injury, Lydia Moss. Taylor Cornett didn't run due to knee pain.

Whitehead, Ledford, Miranda, and Hayley Stowers all set a PR for their 2016 season.

Xavier Hogesed, Ryan Tyler, Caleb Ledford, Corbin Henderson, Blythe Smith, Kaine Hoffman and Emma Kate Ledford all set Personal Records for their running careers.

Overall, Meeks Park was an extremely successful meet for both boys and girls.



The postseason is right around the corner and the State Championship Meet is less than three weeks away as both Towns County squads have high hopes once again in 2016.

## NASCAR 2016

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### "Happy" Harvick Is A Winner At Kansas



Happy Harvick is Kansas Winner

KANSAS CITY, KS -- Kevin Harvick is one happy driver, after powering his way to victory lane in Sunday's Sprint Cup race, and guaranteeing himself a spot in the next Chase round.

Harvick gained the lead from Carl Edwards during a restart on lap 226 of the 267-lap race and went on to win by 1.188-seconds.

The win was his fourth of the season.

"We pretty much had our backs to the wall," said Harvick. "These races are just so hard to win, and this goes to show how good this team is. We've hit a lot of bumps in the road, but we're a no-give-up team."

Carl Edwards, who finished second, led 61 laps, but was no match for Harvick after the race's last restart with 39 laps remaining.

Joey Logano and Kyle Busch battled each other hard for several laps near the end, but it was Logano that ended up third.

The remaining top-10 finishers: 4. Jimmie Johnson, 5. Kyle Busch, 6. Austin Dillon, 7. Alex Bowman, 8. A J Allmendinger, 9. Matt Kenseth, 10. Kasey Kahne.

Chase Elliott was running near the front when a bumping incident during lap 243 cost him a cut tire. He had to pit under green and finished 31st. The poor finish leaves him last in the current 12 driver Chase scenario.

Brad Keselowski was another driver that had a bad day. After an ontrack skirmish, he spun down into the infield grass, knocking the front end off his car. Then with 46 laps to go, his engine expired, causing him to wind up with a DNF, and a 38th place finish.

"I don't know what happened," he said. "Something just came loose, and it let go."

Top-12 Chase contenders: 1. Johnson-3082, 2. Kenseth-3074, 3. Kyle Busch-3072, 4. Edwards-3089, 5. Kurt Busch-3062, 6. Truex-3058, 7. Harvick-3048, 8. Logano-3045, 9. A. Dillon-3045,

at Michigan in June, 2016.

Since that time he has followed doctors orders in an effort to rehabilitate himself so he can return to driving

This past week, Earnhardt seemed to put any retirement rumors to rest, but he did say that he still needed to find a way to deal with the stress of racing.

"I feel like I could get out there and do it," he said. "I'm anxious for this season to get wrapped up and get to Daytona. I'm looking forward to going to Daytona and getting in the garage and getting in the suit and back in the process of being part of the team."

So if that statement is true, then Earnhardt fans can expect him back in 2017.

In addition to performing routine mental tasks, Earnhardt has to do daily exercises as part of his recovery process, and that has resulted in a weight loss for a driver who typically only worked out in the off season.

"It has gotten me in better shape," he continued. "When you're racing, you don't have to worry about weight as long as you're not eating a bunch of junk. The only thing I ever worried about was making sure I fit in my (fire suit). Any time we had to alter the suit, I had to start watching what I was eating. Like, 'Man, we're getting out of control here.'

"I think once I get back in the car, I've got to have a whole new frame of mind about how I handle the pressure of driving and the pressures of performing and finishing well and all that stuff. I'm so hard on myself. If I don't get the result I think I should get, it just ruins the whole thing, it ruins the whole experience for me. Not being in the car, not having to worry about performing, not having the stress of living up to my own expectations, I've enjoyed being at the track.

"Overall, I'm in better shape. So that's good. I feel good. I

feel like I can get out there and do it. I'm anxious for this season to get wrapped up and over with and get to Daytona. I'm looking forward to getting to Daytona, getting into the garage, getting into my suit, back into the process of being a part of the team."

That's good news Dale! All your fans are cheering for you.

Weekend Racing: The Trucks and Cup teams will be at Talladega Super Speedway. At 2.66-miles, it is the longest track on the NASCAR circuit.

Sat., Oct. 22, Truck Series race 19 of 23; Starting time: 1 p.m. ET; TV: Fox.

Sun., Oct. 23, Sprint Cup Series race 32 of 36; Starting time;

2 p.m. ET; TV: NBCSN.

**Racing Trivia Question:** Which Cup team will Clint Bowyer drive for in 2017?

**Last Week's Question:** What is Jimmie Johnson's middle name? Answer: It is Kenneth.

You may contact the Racing Reporter by e-mail at: hodges@race500.com. NT0c19Z19CA

Firearms deer hunting season opens October 22

If you have never had that pre-opening day of firearms deer hunting season feeling, let this be the year you experience it! Firearms deer hunters can take to the woods beginning Sat., Oct. 22 and continue through Jan. 8, 2017 statewide.

"Hunters already know the benefits of having a few deer in the freezer," said John W. Bowers, chief of game management for the Wildlife Resources Division. "However, we hope that people interested in providing healthier, organic meals for their families take an interest in the pursuit of their own meat. Venison is a healthier alternative to most domestic meat, and hunting is an excellent way to enjoy the 'field to fork' experience."

During firearms deer season last year, over 302,000 hunters harvested almost 300,000 deer in the state. The use of regulated deer hunting ensures that Georgia's deer population continues to be healthy and strong.

New: Either Sex Day Map: A new interactive map has been created for Georgia hunters allowing hunters to see the opportunities available for the counties they hunt. More info at www.georgiawildlife.com/hunting/deer-opportunities.

New: Georgia Game Check: While deer hunters have utilized a deer harvest record in

the past (to record the date and county of kill), beginning this deer season, all hunters on both public and private lands must record their deer on the harvest record AND report their harvest using Georgia Game Check. All deer must be reported within 72 hours of harvest. However, deer taken to processors/coolers must be reported before the deer can be left at the place of business. More info at www.georgiawildlife.com/HarvestRecordGeorgiaGameCheck.

Georgia hunters have access to more than one million acres of public hunting land across the state, including over 100 state-operated wildlife management areas. In addition to traditional hunts, a number of special hunts are offered, including ladies-only and adult/child hunts. Dates and locations for these hunts, as well as WMA maps, can be found in the 2016-2017 Georgia Hunting Seasons and Regulations Guide at www.gohuntgeorgia.com/hunting/regulations.

Hunters are allowed a harvest of up to 10 antlerless deer and no more than two antlered deer (with one of the two antlered deer having a minimum of four points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers).

To pursue deer in Georgia, all hunters must have a valid hunting license, a big game li-

cence and a current deer harvest record. If hunting on a WMA, a WMA license is required. Licenses can be purchased online at www.gohuntgeorgia.com/licenses-permits-passes, by phone at 1-800-366-2661 or at a license agent (list of agents available online).

All deer hunters must wear at least 500 square inches of fluorescent orange above the waist to legally hunt during firearms season except on archery-only areas.

Georgia's deer rut map can be found at www.georgiawildlife.com/rut-map. For more information on deer hunting seasons, regulations, licenses and WMA maps, visit www.georgiawildlife.com/hunting.

**Youth Basketball Registration**

Towns County Recreation Youth Basketball registration will begin October 29, 2016 and run through October 29, 2016. Youth basketball includes boys and girls ages 6-12. Registration fee is \$45 and is held at the Towns County Recreation and Conference Center. Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For more info please call (706) 896-2600.