

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## YHC Bass Fishing Team claim top spot in Rankings

**YOUNG HARRIS** – The Young Harris College bass fishing team was recently ranked No. 1 out of 117 colleges and universities on Bass Rankings' College Ranking list. Bass Rankings is a comprehensive and accurate multi-year ranking system for tournament bass anglers of all levels of experience.

The College Ranking reflects the performance of the entire institution. To qualify, a college or university must have competed in at least five events in the past year with at least three different teams contributing to those events. Each tournament score reflects the average of the teams from the institution competing in that event.

YHC moved to the top of the rankings after Grayson Payne, a sophomore biology major from Blairsville, Ga., and Joe Thompson, a junior biology major from Clayton, Ga., recently finished fifth at the 2013 FLW Southeast Regional Championship, securing a spot at the 2014 FLW College Fishing National Championship.

The College's bass fishing team was founded in 2009 by Brad Rutherford, a senior business and public policy major from Lavonia, Ga. The team has continued to rack up accolades through the years



Young Harris College bass fishing team members Grayson Payne, a sophomore biology major from Blairsville, Ga., and Joe Thompson, a junior biology major from Clayton, Ga., finished fifth at the 2013 FLW Southeast Regional Championship held on Wheeler Lake in Alabama

while regularly competing in fishing events nationwide.

"It is quite a feat for the team to be at the top of this list, and I am so proud that our anglers continue to grow and thrive as they compete on a national level," YHC President Cathy Cox said. "We are thrilled that bass fishing teams from all over the country will visit our

campus later this summer when we host an exciting national collegiate tournament."

YHC will host the 2013 Carhartt Bassmaster College Series National Championship on Lake Chatuge, Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 1-3. This marks the first time in the tournament's history that it will place outside of Arkansas, where it has been

held since its inception.

According to College Series Manager Hank Weldon, the tournament "promises to be the biggest in the history of the series." Competitors will weigh in their catches each day on the YHC Campus Plaza, and the tournament will receive national television coverage from ESPN.

"I think this tournament is going to be huge for the College and for the local community," said Rutherford, who led YHC's team to a 10th-place finish in the national championship last year. "Having the tournament on Lake Chatuge will allow us to show off this great lake we have and hopefully host more big tournaments in the future. I'm proud to be a part of this monumental moment for YHC."

Four team members will participate in the final qualifying event for the Carhartt Bassmaster College Series National Championship on Pickwick Lake in Alabama, June 14-15. The national championship title will be awarded to one college or university and determine which individual anglers will advance to the Bassmaster Classic bracket, Sept. 26-29, 2013, with a chance to represent collegiate anglers in the Super Bowl of bass fishing on Lake Guntersville in Alabama, Feb. 21-23, 2014.

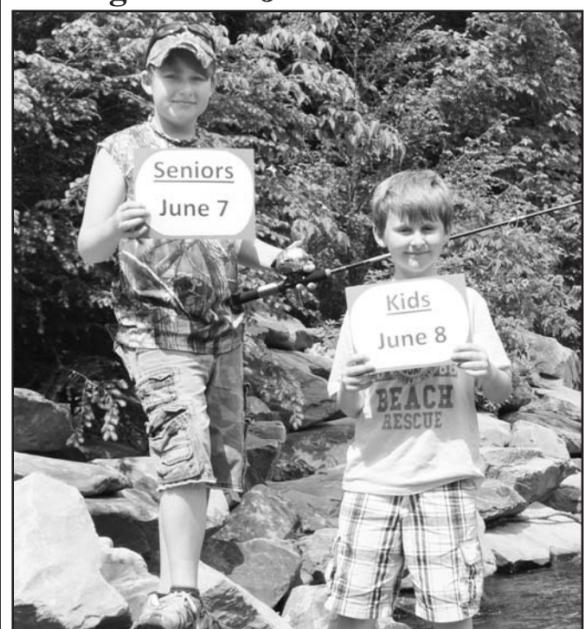
## 2013 Summer Day Camp

Summer is just around the corner and that means hot weather and Summer Day Camp for boys and girls ages 6 thru 12. This summer the Recreation Department will offer day camp for 3 sessions, each session being two weeks, running Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sessions will be as follows: Session I June 3rd thru June 14th; Session II June 17th thru June 28th; Session III July 8th thru July 19th. Day Camp offers children sports game activities, social game activities,

field trips, nature hikes and much more. Give your child a lot to do this summer and sign them up for Day Camp. You may send your child to any or all of the sessions. Children need to bring a swimsuit, towel, sprayable sunscreen and sack lunch. The Recreation Department will furnish the drinks for the campers. No pre-registration is required, just show up at the Recreation Center for camp located on Hwy. 76 west of Hiawassee. For more details please call us at 706-896-2600.

## Fishing Rodeos June 7th and 8th



(L-R): Cole and Coy Chambers fishing in Rock Creek

Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery located on Rock Creek Road off GA Hwy 60 near Suches, GA, will have the Seniors Fishing Rodeo for adults ages 55 and older on Friday, June 7, and the Family Fishing Festival for youth ages 16 and under on Saturday, June 8. Each event is free and will be held rain or shine from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Free lunch and prizes will be offered both days. Additionally, exhibitors from vari-

ous agencies and groups will provide information and activities for youth and families on Saturday. Youth will also have the opportunity to participate in a scavenger hunt. Approximately 5,000 beautiful rainbow and brook trout will be stocked over the two days. Bring your own fishing gear and bait. All 2013 Georgia Sport Fishing Regulations will apply. For more information, please call the hatchery at 706-838-4723.

## Camp ...continued from Page 8A

good," he said. "The money we raise here supports the girls basketball program and we have always been able to provide them with their needed expenses. They need money for their camps and shoes and stuff so they come in and work. Its good for everybody. These kids are our future so we want to start them off right and the girls help make that happen and I appreciate them doing it."

Coach Melton would also like to remind the players and anyone else involved that the girls high school basketball camp will be June 10 - 12th.

"We start our high school camp on the tenth and we work on a lot of team oriented drills and fundamentals. We will also attend camp at U.G.A. as well as over at Union with Coach Tucker. My goal is to play as many games as we can during summer camps so that my freshman are better prepared when the season starts this fall,"

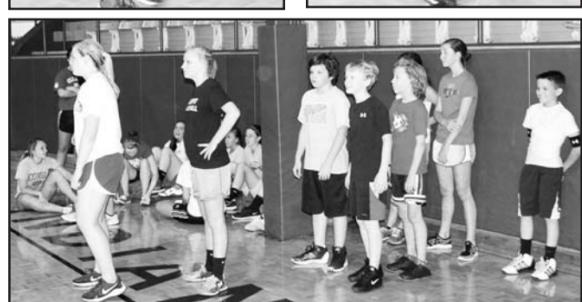
proclaimed Melton.

The basketball camp was a success in a large part because of the eager young boys and girls who have a desire to play school sponsored sports.

It is a scientific and known fact that 65 percent of all high school age teenage trouble occurs between the hours of 3:00 -6:30 p.m. in the afternoon following the school day. These are the very hours that student athletes are working hard on their own preparing for their chosen sports season or in practice for an upcoming game or meet.

It stands to reason then that children who participate in high school sports will do better in school and in their chosen careers.

Camps like the Indian Basketball Camp provide a place for kids to grow as individuals and athletes. This, as they say, is a win/win for all involved.



Towns County Basketball Camp photos by Lowell Nicholson

## NASCAR 2013

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### Stewart gets thriller at Dover

Tony Stewart won his 23rd Sprint Cup victory in a thrilling, come-from-behind finish over Juan Montoya.

The scenario for Stewart's win began on lap 381 of the 400-lap race.

Montoya and Johnson were the leaders on the race's last restart, with Stewart back in sixth. Johnson moved out front and had pulled away from the rest of the field, when NASCAR said, "Not so fast," and gave Johnson the black flag for jumping the restart.

Johnson was penalized and sent to the tail end of the field.

Meanwhile, Montoya was the new leader. He was never able to put any distance between himself and the rest of the cars, and Tony Stewart, who was second, began to gain on him.

By lap 396, Stewart was knocking on Montoya's rear bumper.

On lap 397, Stewart made a clean pass to the outside for the lead, while all Montoya could do was wave 'bye-bye'.

The win was Stewart's first in the last 30 races, and came after a dismal showing by his team this season.

"Man, it's been such a tough year," said Stewart. "Yesterday it seems like we were going backwards. They (the team) worked hard all night to get me here."

Montoya's second-place finish was his best of the year.

"The car was a little tight," said Montoya. "I think I run a good race, but near the end I couldn't hold off Tony."

Jeff Gordon almost passed Montoya, but had to settle for third.

"We needed a good finish," said Gordon. "The car was good and we needed that last caution. We were a team on the move, but we didn't quite have a winning car."

Kyle Busch, winner of Friday night's truck race was fourth, followed by Brad Keselowski, Clint Bowyer, Kyle Logano, Kevin Harvick, Mark Martin, and Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Jimmy Johnson finished 17th.

"He (Montoya) wasn't go-



Tony Stewart and crew chief Darrien Grubb

ing," said Johnson. I had already checked up, and at some point I felt like I had to go. It's a judgment call on NASCAR's part."

Top-10 points leaders after 13 of 36: 1. Johnson-473, 2. Edwards-443, 3. Bowyer-423, 4. Kenseth-399, 5. Harvick-399, 6. Earnhardt-398, 7. Kahne-392, 8. Keselowski-375, 9. Kyle Busch-374, 10. Menard-371.

### TWO TIRES ARE BETTER FOR LOGANO

Joey Logano took two tires on the final pit stop in Saturday's Nationwide race while others took four. The decision put Logano in the lead on the final restart, and gave him the position he needed to win.

Logano trailed race leader Kyle Busch by nearly 5-seconds prior to the pit stop. During the stop, which was made under caution, Busch became mired in traffic, and was never able to regain the lead.

"It feels great to get back in Victory Lane," Logano said. "This is my favorite race track. Really the winning call was on that last pit stop, when (crew chief) Jeremy Bullins made an audible and decided to do two tires."

Brian Vickers ran second, followed by Matt Kenseth, Trevor Bayne, Kyle Busch, Kasey Kahne, Sam Hornish, Austin Dillon, Regan Smith, and Kyle Larson.

Top-10 leaders after 11 of 33: 1. Smith-411, 2. Hornish-384, 3. Vickers-369, 4. Allgaier-368, 5. A. Dillon-358, 6. Kligerman-355, 7. Sadler-347, 8. Scott-343, 9. Larson-322, 10. Bayne-321.

### 'ROWDY' KYLE TAKES DOVER TRUCK RACE

Kyle Busch pulled way from the rest of the field on a restart with four laps to go to win Friday's truck race at Dover.

Busch started fifth and had to fight traffic throughout the early stages of the race, and was never able to dominate. He didn't take the lead until he passed David Starr on lap 142 of the 200-lap race.

"It was unbelievable how loose it was following those guys," Busch said of the early racing. "I had to get outside of their wake and kind of move around, and that's where I started making up some ground. It was more later in the run than it was early in the run."

It was Busch's second win of the season, and the 32nd of his career.

Matt Crafton, Ryan Blaney, Chase Elliott, Brendan Gaughan, Timothy Peters, Johnny Sauter, Joey Coulter, Darrell Wallace, and John Townley rounded out the remaining top-10 finishers.

Top 10 in Points after 6 of 22: 1. Crafton-245, 2. J. Burton-215, 3. Gaughan-210, 4. Sauter-202, 5. Blaney-201, 6. Buescher-200, 7. Dillon 188, 8. D. Wallace-180, 9. Paludo-176, 10. Armstrong-176.

### MORE SAFER BARRIERS NEEDED.

After taking a hard hit into the wall at Charlotte, Jeff Gordon said there needs to be more Safer barriers.

"I found the one off of (Turn) 2 here (Dover) and they haven't fixed that one, I saw somebody in the Truck Series found it,

too. I understand their theory is they go through their testing and see where multiple impacts have happened and highest impacts and those things.

"But, I've got to tell you, that hit at Charlotte was one of the hardest I've had in a race car. And the type of impact it was, I got hit from the left so it shifted everything to the left, and then I hit the wall on the right so I went from left to right. I had a rough week. I didn't quite understand the pain that I was feeling that night until I went back and watched the video and realized the angle that I hit as well as the fact that there was no Safer barrier.

"I had no idea there was no Safer barrier at that dogleg on the front stretch. That blew my mind that there wasn't one. I mean, there's one at the start/finish line and it stops and then there's one at Turn 1. It goes around to Turn 2. That kind of shocked me. So, I certainly said something and when I get the opportunity, I'll talk to others as well about it.

"As I've learned in the past, they're going to look at those circumstances and make their calls based on that. Me sitting down and having a conversation with them isn't necessarily going to change that, but it doesn't mean it's going to stop me from doing it."

Weekend Racing: The Trucks will at Texas Motor Speedway, while the Nationwide cars are at Iowa, and the Cup teams will be at Pocono.

Fri., June 7, Camping World Trucks, race 7 of 22; Starting time: 9 pm ET; TV: SPEED.

Sat., June 8, Nationwide Series, race 12 of 33; Starting time: 8 pm ET; TV: ESPN.

Sun., June 9, Sprint Cup Series, race 14 of 36; Starting time: 1 pm ET; TV: TNT.

**Racing Trivia Question:** Which year did Kurt Busch win his only Cup championship?

**Last Week's Question:** How many road races does NASCAR have on the 2013 Cup schedule? Two, they are at Sonoma, CA, and Watkins Glen, NY.

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

## Fish for Food Fishing Tournament

Matthew 25 Food Ministries presents "Fish for Food Fishing Tournament". 60% of tournament money goes to feed needy families in our area. The remaining 40% will go to tournament prize money. Prize money will be awarded for 1st Place, 2nd Place and 3rd Place and biggest fish. Actual prize amount will depend on number of entries.

Entry fee is \$50 per boat, the tournaments begin in March

and end in October, occurring the second Saturday of each month rotating between Lake Chatuge, Woods Grove Boat Ramp and Lake Nottely, Deaver Road Boat Ramp, from 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tournament schedule: June 8 - Nottely; July 13 - Chatuge; August 10 - Nottely; September 14 - Chatuge; and October 12 - Nottely. For contact information call David Crisp at 706-897-5347.

## Vogel's Kids Fishing Rodeo

Vogel's Kids Fishing Rodeo will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2013 from 8 a.m. - noon at Vogel State Park, 405 Vogel State Park Road, Blairsville, GA 30512, located 11 miles south of Blairsville on Hwy. 129/11, cost \$5 per vehicle parking fee.

Vogel State Park and the Vogel Volunteers will host a Kid's Fishing Rodeo. Wolf Creek will be stocked with trout for children 12 years and younger to fish. Your child must be present at the registration tent for sign-in and to receive a free tee shirt prior to fishing. The first 300 children will receive a tee shirt. Also the lucky

ticket holders will receive a prize. Park staff and volunteers will be helping by giving out bait, baiting hooks, taking fish off, and give out prizes. Prizes are paid for by donations from local businesses.

A limited supply of loaner rods/cane poles, corn and worms will be available. So please, bring your own if possible. All fishing laws are to be followed. We want to teach the children to protect and conserve the resources while having fun.

For further information call 706-745-2628 or www.GeorgiaStateParks.org.

## Chatuge Shores Ladies Golf news

It was another picture perfect day in the hills, and the scores reflect that.

Net, nothing but net is a familiar saying among golfers, and that was our game for May 28. Due to the division of handicaps among those who signed up to play, there was a division of 2 flights.

The winners of the A/B flight in order of their lowest net scores were: Barbara Boswell, Lynne Busco, Susan Palmich, Pat Mosteller, and Nancy Steck. Those winners in order of lowest net in the C/D flight were: Janet Woodruff, Bobbi LeHoullier, Judy Wright, Kay McLeod, and Pat Seeley. Many of these scores were tied, and the winners had to be determined by a show of cards. Great playing and great scoring, Chatugettes! Stay tuned for next week's results of T's and F's.

Submitted by Judy Wright, Tournament Chair

## VFW Golf League news

Again we thank the Good Lord for the great weather on 5/30/13 and the opportunity to enjoy wonderful fellowship with a great bunch of people.

We had only 15 players this week, but we had a new lady join us this week, Mo Rodgers, bride of Bart Rodgers. Boy, can she slap that little ball. Sure hope she will join us every week. Teams were 4 foursomes and 1 threesome.

The winning team posted a score of 69, six birdies on the front nine and two birdies and one eagle (17) on the back nine. Great shooting.

Team members were Bill Long; Myron Grizzo; Julio Burbage; and Russ Schoetker. Another great job done by your VFW in action.

## Cheerleading Registration

Towns County Youth Cheerleading Registration (Kindergarten -5th Grade) will be Saturday, June 8th at the Towns County Recreation Department.

Registration fee is

\$80, due at sign up. If you have any questions or cannot be at registration, please contact Lisa Walls at 706-994-0215 prior to June 8th.