

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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More than 300 young anglers hit Wolf Creek

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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Blairsville -
More than 300 children ages 12 and under had the time of their lives on Saturday at Vogel State Park.

The occasion was the Annual Vogel State Park Kids Fishing Rodeo, and many a trout were caught.

The four-hour event brought parents, grandparents and children together for an event that will be stored in each one's memory banks for a lifetime.

Jakob Jorgensen, 5 years old, of Blairsville was all smiles as he reeled in a beautiful rainbow trout from the swift waters of Wolf Creek. Jakob gave a big thumbs up after he caught the colorful trout.

Bryleigh Lands, 3 years old, of Blairsville was just as excited as she caught her first rainbow trout. She giggled with excitement as her mother helped her take the pan-size trout off her hook.

Jeffery Sanderlin, Kabree and Jada Palumbo and Sky McClure also caught their share of



Towns County's youth were reelin' em in at the Vogel's Fishing Rodeo. Photos/Lowell Nicholson



rainbow trout.

Maycee Garrison of Hiawassee was thrilled to reel in her prize trout as the event once again proved a success. After all, the purpose of the trout rodeo is to teach children to protect and conserve nature's resources, while at the same time, having fun.

Vogel's Kids Fishing Rodeo is held each year on the second Saturday in June, from 8 a.m. - noon at Georgia's second oldest State Park, located 11 miles south of Blairsville on U.S. Highway 129/11. There

is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee, but, you can't buy smiles any cheaper than that.

Wolf Creek was stocked full of rainbow trout for the children to fish for on Saturday. With the aid of their parents, several youngsters caught their limit of 8 trout. They also received a free "Gone Fishing" T-shirt prior to the event.

There were some lucky ticket holders that received a prize.

The Park's staff and volunteers were on hand helping by giving out bait, baiting hooks,

taking fish off, and giving out prizes. Prizes are paid for by donations from local businesses.

For those children who didn't bring a fishing rod and reel, or bait, there was a limited supply of loaner rods/cane poles, corn and worms available.

The Park always urges anglers to bring their own rod and reels if possible. All fishing laws were followed.

"We want to teach the children to protect and conserve the resources while having fun," Park Superintendent Cliff Tipens said.

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.

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, oc-

curing 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.

TCCC to host golf tournament

Tri-County Community College (TCCC) promises to award more than \$3,500 in cash and prizes to winning participants in its upcoming 6th Annual Golf Tournament. The event is slated to be held on Saturday, June 15 at the Ridges in Hayesville. The Four-Person, Best-Ball, Shotgun-Start tournament will begin at 9 AM. June 15 is the "rain date" for this tournament that was originally scheduled on April 27.

The event is open to the public, so residents are invited to form their own teams and enjoy friendly competition

with other groups. The registration fee is \$85 per person and that includes Greens Fees and a cart on the day of the tournament, and a complimentary buffet-style breakfast.

All proceeds from the tournament will go to support the TCCC Foundation which is a non-profit organization that supports college and community-based events and projects.

For more information about the event, please contact Dote Stafford-Ortega at 828-835-4208.

NASCAR 2013

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Johnson dominates at Pocono

Jimmie Johnson dominated Sunday's Sprint Cup race at Pocono, leading 128 laps of the 160-lap race. Unless you were a Johnson fan, there was very little to cheer about, because the entire race was less-than-exciting.

Johnson started on the pole and except for the times he pitted for fresh tires and fuel, he was the leader.

"The car was fantastic," said Johnson. "It was awesome on the straightaways. We had a vibration several times that we never quite figured out, but it didn't seem to affect the handling of the car."

The race's sixth caution came on lap 153. Greg Biffle was fifth on the restart. Within two laps he had moved into second, but was unable to gain on Johnson's No. 48.

"I really didn't have anything for Jimmie," said Biffle. "I just wasn't able to catch him. Maybe we can get back on track next week at Michigan. That's a track we've always ran well on."

Dale Earnhardt, Jr. ran with the leaders for most of the race and finished third.

"It's been a good weekend," he said. "I'm just glad to be able to run this well. Jimmie was good in turns 3 and 4. I just couldn't do anything with him."

The remaining top-10 finishers were: Tony Stewart, Ryan Newman, Kyle Busch, Kurt Busch, Denny Hamlin, Kevin Harvick, and Joey Logano.

Though Joe Gibbs Racing drivers Kyle Busch and Hamlin finished sixth and eighth, respectively, Hamlin said he could feel a reduction in horsepower in his TRD (Toyota Racing Development) engine, after the engines were detuned in favor of reliability in reaction to several recent valve train failures.

"Any horsepower change is going to be a difficult thing to overcome, especially this week and next week (at Michigan), our two horsepower race tracks," Hamlin said. "I wouldn't be opposed to say that other guys probably stepped up coming to this race track, and we took a step back."

"It's kind of a double whammy, but it's something TRD's going to work

through." Top-10 leaders after 14 of 36: 1. Johnson-521, 2. Edwards-470, 3. Bowyer-452, 4. Earnhardt-439, 5. Harvick-434, 6. Kenseth-418, 7. Kyle Busch-412, 8. Kahne-400, 9. Keselowski-398, 10. Biffle-395.

BAYNE GETS WIN FOR NEW WIFE

Trevor Bayne won the rain-delayed Nationwide race at Iowa Speedway. The race was originally set for Saturday night, but rain showers forced NASCAR officials to postpone it until Sunday morning.

Bayne had "tied the knot" last week and sealed the deal with his win. Bayne took the lead with 11 laps remaining in the 250-mile race.

"I got married this week," said Bayne. "So (my wife) Ashton told me I had to win so nobody could say I went into a slump after getting married. I'm really excited about this win and being a part of this team."

"This Ford was so good on the long run. After 30 laps it really came to life. I'm so proud of this team and what they accomplished here today - not giving up, even to the end."

Bayne was strong all day, running second for much of the race behind the No. 3 car of Austin Dillon. However, as the laps wound down Bayne's No. 6 Ford Mustang began to make up the ground, eventually catching Dillon and engaging in a tight battle for the lead, before passing the No. 3 with just over 10 laps remaining.

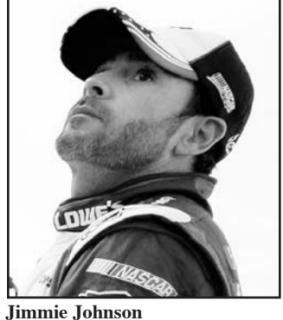
Dillon was second, followed by Elliott Sadler, Sam Hornish Jr., Kyle Larson, Brian Scott, Regan Smith, Justin Allgaier, Ryan Blaney, and Mike Bliss.

Top-10 leaders after 12 of 33: 1. Smith-448, 2. Hornish-425, 3. Allgaier-404, 4. A. Dillon-402, 5. Sadler-388, 6. Kligerman-385, 7. Vickers-384, 8. Scott-381, 9. Bayne-368, 10. Larson-361.

ANOTHER BURTON WINS TRUCK RACE

Jeb Burton, son of former Cup Driver Ward Burton won Friday night's Truck race at Texas Motor Speedway. It was his first win in seven starts.

"It was really fun," said



Jimmie Johnson

Burton, "I'm just living the dream. It's huge. I've been telling everybody once we get one (win) they're going to start stacking-up. We've got the momentum going into Kentucky. Every week it's fun to go to the racetrack. I'm just so pumped-up."

Burton took the lead from Ty Dillon on a restart on Lap 144 of the 167-lap race and led the remaining 23 laps.

"It's a heartbreaker," said Dillon. "Our truck was the dominant truck all night. That last restart, it seemed like the No. 88 (of Matt Crafton) gave the No. 4 (of Burton) a good push down the backstretch. I can't blame it on anybody. You get a draft, that's five extra horsepower. If I could do it again tomorrow, I'd do it again, take the top."

The remaining top-10 finishers were: 3. German Quiroga, 4. Matt Crafton, 5. Brendan Gaughan, 6. Darrell Wallace, 7. Johnny Sauter, 8. Ryan Blaney, 9. James Buescher, 10. Miguel Paludo.

Top-10 leaders after 7 of 22: 1. Crafton-285, 2. Burton-262, 3. Gaughan-250, 4. Sauter-240, 5. Blaney-238, 6. Buescher-235, 7. T. Dillon-232, 8. D. Wallace-218, 9. Paludo-211, 10. Armstrong-209.

CHASE ELLIOTT WINS ARCA RACE

Bill Elliott's seventeen-year-old son, Chase Elliott became the youngest superspeedway winner in ARCA Racing Series history Saturday night, as he won the Pocono ARCA 200 at Pocono Raceway.

Elliott raced his way from the 32nd starting position, took the lead with 21 laps to go, and then held back a hard charge from fellow 17-year-old driver Erik Jones to earn his career-first ARCA victory.

"This means a ton to

me," Elliott said. "It was about 10 years ago that I was sitting in victory lane here with my dad."

Elliott, who had to test at Pocono beforehand just to be eligible to enter the race, was the story of the show, setting the age mark on a track that his father won five career NASCAR races at. The elder Elliott stood alone atop the team transporter for most of the race watching his son make laps, take the lead, and then hold on for the victory.

"He definitely helped me out a lot," Chase continued. "He wasn't here Wednesday, but we talked on the phone. It was strange coming here because I am so used to coming here with dad and watching him race. It definitely opens some doors for us and enables us to do something different."

Erik Jones, Frank Kimmel, Tom Hessert, Mason Mitchell, Mason Mingus, AJ Hendriksen, Spencer Gallagher, Justin Boston, and Josh Williams were the remaining top-10 finishers.

KESEKOWSKI TEAM PENALIZED

Brad Keselowski's No. 2 Cup car was found to be too low in the front end following the finish of the Dover race. As a result of this violation, crew chief Paul Wolfe has been fined \$25,000 and will remain on NASCAR probation until Dec. 31. The team has also been docked six championship driver (Brad Keselowski) and six championship car owner (Roger Penske) points.

Weekend Racing: The Cup and Nationwide teams are at the 2-mile Michigan International Speedway. The trucks do not race again until June 27.

Sat., June 15, Nationwide Series, race 13 of 33; Starting time: 2 pm ET; TV: ABC.

Sun., June 16, Sprint Cup Series, race 15 of 36; Starting time: 1 pm ET; TV: TNT.

Racing Trivia Question: Where is Kevin Harvick's hometown?

Last Week's Question: Which year did Kurt Busch win his only Cup championship? Answer: It was 2004.

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

10 and Under Girls' Softball headed for All-Stars



The 10 and Under Girls' Fast Pitch Softball team with their coaches.

The girls have worked very hard this season to reach this goal. A spectacular season record of 14 and 1, securing wins over 3 different Hayesville teams, 3 different Union County teams and 2 different White County teams.

The team of 12 girls is: Sophia Shook, Kennedy Henson, Kaytrie Bradshaw, Remington Parker, Anna Ruryk, Abby Mauldin, Bianca Eller, Lindsey Giles, Reagan Waters, Arina Bradshaw, Alisa Moss, and Trinity Riley. Coaches are Gail Bradley and Ashley Bradshaw.

We would like give a huge thank you to McDonalds, Dr. Julie Ledford DDS, Dollar General, and various anonymous donors for all their donations and support. Everything is greatly appreciated.

The All Star games begin on Thursday, June 13th in Blairsville at Meeks Park. The Towns County Girls will play their first game on Thursday, June 13th at 8 p.m. Come on out and help cheer the girls to victory! TJuni12.FJ/SH

Chatuge Shores Ladies Golf news

Tuesday was another great day to be playing golf in the mountains. The 28 players must have been concentrating too hard on their golf for taking any photos. In addition to the usual gross and net scores, an inside game of T's and F's was played, that is a score on all the 9 holes that begin with a T or an F divided by one half of the handicap. The winners of the T's and F's for the A flight were in order of finish: Jackie DiChiara, Judy Schmitt, and Vicky Donaldson. It must be noted that Judy Schmitt shot a 76 gross for an outstanding round of golf. Right behind her was Jackie with an 80 and Nancy Outlaw with an 85, pretty special, since she had a knee replacement the end of



December! Guess we need to start making them play from the blue tees! B flight: #1 was Nancy Steck, #2: Opal Rose, and #3 was Barbara Boswell. The C flight winners in order of finish were: Jeanne Odom, Lynne Busco, and Sandy Navarre. The 3 place winners in order of finish were: Mary Rau, Kay McLeod, and Bobbi LeHoullier. Besides all of those really great golfers in the league, there are some of us who just look forward to the camaraderie and breaking 100! We are still welcoming new members so come join the fun.
Submitted by Judy Wright, tournament chair

VFW Golf League news

On 6/6/13 we again had great weather and 15 players making four foursomes and one threesome. This must have been an off week, maybe the clouds. Believe it or not, the winning team posted a score of only 4 under par (68). Looks like 2 birdies on both sides. Team members were Bill Kiser; Butch Patterson; Mo Rodgers; and Bob Barber. (hope I have the spelling right). Bill claims that Mo was the most help of all the left handers. Anyway good shooting folks. Looking forward to next week, hope to see all you there, maybe a few more players.

Tennis, anyone?

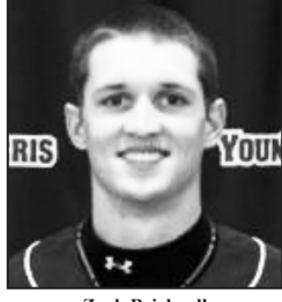
Adult intermediate mixed doubles. We play on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:30 AM at Towns County High School courts. Call 561-738-0431 for more info. TJuni12.GJ/SH

Bricknell named to ABCA/Rawlings NCAA Division II All-America team

Young Harris - Young Harris College outfielder Zach Bricknell has been named to the American Baseball Coaches Association/Rawlings NCAA Division II All-America First Team.

Bricknell, who was named to the NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region First Team by both the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association and the ABCA earlier this month, is the Mountain Lions' first All-American in any sport since Young Harris became a four-year institution.

Bricknell was one of four Peach Belt Conference players named to one of the three All-America



Zach Bricknell

teams and the only one to be named to the first team.

"Zach is not only an All-American baseball player, he is an All-American young man," said Young Harris Director of

Athletics Randy Dunn. "He is a true representative of what a student-athlete should be."

Bricknell, a 6-foot-2 senior from Woodstock, Ga., set four single-season records (for the Mountain Lions) in as he was named to the All-Peach Belt first team in 2013. Bricknell, who was named the Peach Belt Player of the Week and the NCBWA's Hitter of the Week once this season, set the YHC all-time home run single-season record with 22, surpassing Nick Markakis' total of 21 in 2003.

Bricknell, who became the 11th PBC player to hit three homers in a game, also set single-single

marks in RBI (68), total bases (147) and slugging percentage (.774). Bricknell, who became only the second PBC player to hit three home runs twice in a game, led the Peach Belt in homers, total bases and slugging percentage and finished second in RBI. Bricknell, who batted .326 (62-for-190) with 13 doubles and 41 runs scored, was eighth in the league in triples with three.

Young Harris, which is in year two of the three-year NCAA Division II membership process, finished 2013 with a 25-23 overall record and a 10-19 ledger in its first Peach Belt campaign.