Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

www.townscountyherald.net • E-mail: tcherald@windstream.net

Towns County Youth Football takes two of three

By Mason Mitcham **Towns County Herald** Staff Writer

The youth football games not be as hyped as the varsity games, and the athletes may be a little smaller, but the air of competition was just as was strong as the players took the field in the merciless sun on Saturday.

First to play were the 7-8 year olds at 9 a.m., followed at 11:30 a.m. by the 9-10 year olds and the 5-6 year olds at 1:30 p.m..

The 7-8 year olds came up against Lumpkin County. The game went bad for Towns, in part because of some trouble blocking in the first half, and in part because of an age and size difference. Director Jimmy Smith has had to fill most of his line up with younger, smaller 7-year olds, who worked hard but were outplayed by Lumpkin's older, bigger, and more experienced team. Lumpkin scored a touchdown with 5:13 in the first quarter and kept the momentum throughout the game. Although returning tailback Braylen Raider kept up the aggression, the Indian offense grew evidently flustered near the end of the third, committing consecutive offsides violations for a total loss of 10 yards at a crucial time. That game ended with a score of 25-0, Lumpkin.

"I see us doing a little bit better this week," Director Smith said of the loss. "Lot of new players. In a couple more weeks we're going to get things worked out. We're going to keep practicing harder and harder every day.

It was a different story when the 9-10 year olds began to play. Opponents Gilmer County put up a fight, but were demolished over all four quarters by Towns County's steady, relentless onslaught. Towns pulled ahead with a touchdown and field goal with 3:03 left in the first, and another touchdown in the second, bringing the score to 14-0. In a game full of highlights, one specific pass play stood out. Kyle Oakes threw

joke" early in the race. ill on the radio, I'm sure that I can't say enough about Dave Rogers and the team that he's assembled around us. I think if you can pin a championship night on one race or a championship on one night, tonight was the night. "We certainly had a lot to do and a lot to overcome, and I think that Dave and these guys stuck with me. For as bad as I may have been talking, they certainly never gave up. They kept going to work and trying to figure things out for me and make my life a little easier behind the wheel."





Towns County Youth Football League photos by Lowell Nicholson

Caleb Bradley with less than of their equally determined 30 second on the clock in the second quarter. It was 20-0 going into the third. Feeding on their own aggression, Towns County continued to dominate tinued to make runs, ending the during the last half, ending the game 40-0.

Director Jimmy Smith admitted that it was an "expected" win. "I can't say enough," he said. Our offense line, I'd like to give them a big credit. I always say this; our offense line always gets overlooked. I want to let those guys know just how good and important to us they are on this football team.'

ued with the 5-6 year olds. Brett Young scored in the first sun, the small but determined my favorite team, by the way.

a touchdown pass to receiver athletes withered the offense opponents to keep the score at 6-0 going into the second half. In the third and fourth quarters, Young, a returning player, congame with a score of 22-0 for Towns.

> "He's an awesome play-Smith said of Young. "He takes the game and controls it, just takes it over. He's a good kid all around.

Director Smith stresses the basics when he teaches the 5-6 age group. "First, we learn to block. Then we tackle. And we tackle every day. And just The momentum contin- encourage them. That's what I tell them all the time, they might be playing for the Bears one quarter for Towns. In the blazing day." He adds, laughing, "That's





The Chicago Bears."

Smith, who has been coaching for Towns County for 17 years, has a simple philoso-"They need to go home, clean

He's certainly doing something right. Towns County will play again next Saturday. Smith doesn't seem worried about which team his players will compete against next; he is confident the ability of his athletes and coaching staff. "I'm looking forward to next week,' he said with a grin.



Tips from the Range

The game of golf we play today is very target oriented meaning we aim our shots to take off from a given spot and land in a given spot. Back in the day when players had no yardages to help choose clubs with, they merely hit the shot they felt at the time. It might have been a high fade or a low hook but it was the shot they felt. Do you think Phil Mickleson practices that shot he hit off the pine needles on hole 13 at the Masters to help him win? No, he felt it and he hit it. Feel is what will keep the game fun and is an easy thing to achieve.

When we talk about feel in golfing terms, we talk about something that can be valuable or detrimental. Feel works through our swing on the good days and hides behind a bad swing on bad days. Learn to control it and you learn to control your game.

Connection is the key to controlling feel and to put it in simple terms, any time you feel your hands controlling the club path you have basically found the wrong feel. You must eliminate bad feel to obtain good feel. Sounds crazy doesn't it, but it is the only way to get the big muscles to control the swing. Lose the feel and gain the control.

The bigger muscles have a much easier time of swinging the club but they provide very little feedback other than impact. Learn to feel the big muscles and your body's core will promote control throughout the entire swing, which will then give you the correct feel during the shot. Turn from the knees up when you take the club away from the ball and use the weight transfer to move the turn into impact. Learn to feel the sequence out of the top of the swing. Hips first then shoulders while you maintain a still head and spine.

Trust your feel around the course and only hit shots you feel you can hit, but make sure it is the big muscles that control the path of the club. Mickleson knew he could hit that shot because his swing path is controlled by his turn, which incorporates the bigger muscles of the body. He takes advantage of his dynamic feel around the greens by using those big muscles to control the smaller muscles he uses on specialty shots like his infamous over the head flop shot.

When working on feel, try and maintain connection between the chest and the club so the big muscles control the club path. Focus on swinging the arms in front of the body and your feel will be steady in your body's core.

Practice makes golf better so get out there and work on it. Good luck and I will see you on the course!

Upward basketball and cheerleading



On-line registration is now open through October 14th for Upward Basketball and Cheerleading for boys and girls in grades Kindergarten through 6th Grade at www.hopb.org or at www.fumcunioncounty.org.

The registration price to participate is \$60 and includes one jersey or cheerleading outfit among other miscellaneous items. Payment plans are available if needed. Convenient once per week practices will begin the week of October 14, 2013, while games will be held on consecutive Saturdays between November 2nd through December 14, 2013, with the exception of the sports arena and values for life.

week of Thanksgiving. Everyone is encouraged to

attend one evaluation to be held on Tuesday, September 24th and Thursday, September 26th from 6 to 7:30 PM at the House of Prayer Family Life Center.

Form and registration fees may also be dropped off, Monday through Friday, at House of Prayer Family Life Center or First United Methodist Church's business office between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. For more information, contact either church office at HOP (706) 745-5925 or FUMC (706) 745-2073.

Upward Sports partners with around 2,600 churches to provide first-class, organized and welcoming children's basketball, soccer, flag football and cheerleading leagues and camps. By providing a fun sports experience based on healthy competition, Upward Sports Leagues help children develop skills for the

2013 Youth Coed Basketball

The Towns County on August 24th and run thru Recreation Department will Saturday, September 7th. Fee for the program will be \$25 per child (this inbegin registration for the Youth Coed Basketball League for children ages 5 cludes a uniform). You must thru 7. (Must turn 5 by Noregister your child and volvember 1st of 2013 to be eliunteer to coach during this period. gible). Boys and girls will be For more information placed together on teams. contact the Recreation De-Teams will have volunteer partment at (706) 896-2600 Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. coaches who will lead, teach and direct their team. till 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 Registration will begin a.m. till 4 p.m.

"ROWDY" KYLE WINS IN luck and/or engine problems **"JOKE" CAR**

Kyle Busch beat Joey Logano to the finish line by .740 seconds; in a car he labeled "a

plagued several, including Jimmie Johnson and Brad Kesel-

NASCAR called a competition caution on lap 27 of the "The car was terrible at first," said Busch. "Well, it started a little ugly. I was a little 325-lap race. On the restart, Jeff spun his tires. This caused a multicar backup and damaged the cars of Jimmie Johnson, Mark Martin, and Jeff Burton. Johnson's team made repairs, but he was involved in another altercation and was sent to the tail end of the field three times for pit road violations. He finished 28th. Brad Keselowski took the biggest hit after an engine failure relegated him to a 35thplace finish, putting him in danger of missing the Chase. Top-15 leaders with one race before the Chase begins: 1. Johnson-837, 2. Bowyer-809, 3. Harvick-795, 4. Edwards-795, Kyle Busch-786, 6. Kenseth-768, 7. Earnhardt-750, 8. Logano-729, 9. Biffle-727, 10. Kurt Busch-719, 11. Gordon-713, 12 Kahne-709, 13. Truex-704, 14. Newman-699, 15. Keselowski-699.



got to do what you've got to do.'

Dillon led 25 laps of the 64-lap race, but wound up 17th. "I knew it was going to

be a tough race at the finish," said Dillon. "I had an awesome truck. He just wrecked me.

phy. "I teach the kids to respect each other. Respect their parents, respect their grandmother, whoever it is. It's yes ma'am, no ma'm to everybody. I tell them this every day," he said. their room, tell their mom and dad they love them.'

Busch's win also secured him a spot in this year's Chase for the Sprint Cup.

Second-place finisher, Joey Logano also had problems.

"We overcame a loose wheel early in the race and cycled ourselves back to the lead after all of that," Logano said. "When there's a restart after another restart and you don't have a car that's very good on the first five, six laps of a run it didn't give me the greatest opportunity there. But we were catching them the last few laps, just needed five, six more laps to get them, maybe less."

Martin Truex Jr., who finished third, was racing with a cast on his right hand after breaking a bone in his wrist during the Bristol race.

"It was an interesting race," said Truex. "It was a hell of a battle for us. Our car wasn't very good most of the night. Couldn't get it turning, burned the right rear off and kept battling through that and then we had to go to the rear with about 100 to go and really thought we were in big trouble, but we were able to fight up through there and figured out what our car needed towards the end. We were probably one or two adjustments away from having something for Joey and Kyle.'

The remaining top-10 finishers were: Kurt Busch, Ryan Newman, Jeff Gordon, Juan Montoya, Dale Earnhardt Jr. Kevin Harvick, and Brian Vickers.

While some drivers were

IT'S CRUNCH TIME FOR CHASE CONTENDERS

With just one race left, Chase contenders will be going all out next weekend at Richmond to try and make this year's Chase field.

Only the top-10 in points are locked into the 12-driver, 10-race Chase. Positions 11 and 12 are wild cards, awarded to the two drivers between 11th and 20th in points who have the most wins. In the event multiple drivers have the same number of wins, a driver's point standing serves as the tiebreaker.

Six drivers--Johnson, Bowyer, Kevin Harvick, Edwards, Kyle Busch and Matt Kenseth have clinched top-10 spots in the Chase.

It appears Earnhardt, Logano, and Biffle will also make

Kurt Busch, Jeff Gordon, and Kasey Kahne are "iffy".

Those on the outside looking in are Martin Truex, Ryan Newman, and Brad Keselowski.

Since Keselowski has no wins this season, it's a must win-situation for him at Richmond.

"HAPPY" HARVICK IS ATLANTA NATIONWIDE WINNER

Kevin Harvick held off able to persevere, bad racing Kyle Busch to win Saturday

Kvle Busch

NASCAR 2013

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

night's Nationwide race.

Busch, who led the most laps made it a close battle for the last few laps of the 195-lap race, but couldn't get the job done and finished .579-seconds back.

Sam Hornish was third, followed by Kasey Kahne, Kyle Larson, Joey Logano, Trevor Bayne, Austin Dillon, Regan Smith, and Brian Scott.

Top-10 leaders after 24 of 33: 1. Hornish-842, 2. A. Dillon-832, 3. Sadler-816, 4. Smith-813, 5. Allgaier-795, 6. Vickers-790, 7. Larson-775, 8. Scott-775, 9. Bayne-771, 10. Kligerman-724.

ELLIOTT BUMPS HIS WAY TO TRUCK WIN

Chase Elliott knows what the front bumper on his truck is for.

On the last turn of the last lap, Elliott, who was running second to the leader, Ty Dillon, put his bumper into the side of Dillon's No. 3. The force knocked Dillon's truck into the outside wall, allowing Elliott to streak on to victory lane in Sunday's truck race at Bowmanville, Ontario's road course.

'I hate to win a race like that," said Elliott's crew chief, Lance McGrew.

The win was the first NA-SCAR truck victory for Elliott.

'That's not how I race,' said Elliott, "but someimes you

Dance at CCSC

Dance at the Clay County Senior Center, Hayesville, NC Fri. Sept 6th from 6:30 to 9 PM. Music by "Tom Ellers" For more information call 828-369-9155. NT(Sep4,G1)SH

Register for Adult Coed Softball

Recreation Department will registration date. For more be having a Co-Ed softball League. The dead line to register your team is the 17th of September. All players must

There was certainly no respect on his part."

Canadian Chad Hackenbracht finished second, followed by Miguel Paludo, Darrell Wallace, Ron Hornaday, Max Papis, Ross Chastain, Timothy Peters, James Buescher, and Matt Crafton.

Top-10 leaders after 14 of 22: 1. Crafton-532, 2. Buescher-485, 3. T. Dillon-469, 4. Burton-467, 5. Paludo-465, 6. Peters-462, 7. Blaney-450, 8. Gaughan-444, 9. D. Wallace-426, 10. Sauter-425.

Weekend Racing: The Cup and Nationwide teams are at the .75-mile Richmond track.

The trucks race Sunday, at the seven-eighths mile Newton, Iowa facility.

Fri., Sept. 6, Nationwide race 25 of 33; Starting time: 7:30 pm ET; TV: ESPN2

Sat., Sept. 7, Sprint Cup race 26 of 36; Starting time: 7:30 pm ET; TV: ABC.

Sun., Sept. 8, Truck race 15 of 22; Starting time: 2 pm ET; TV: Fox Sports1. Racing Trivia Ques-

tion: Carl Edwards is currently fourth in Chase points. How many Cup wins does he have this season?

Last Week's Question: What year did Jeff Gordon move to the Cup series? Answer. It was at Atlanta in 1992. He started 21st and finished 31st. This was the last race for Richard Petty.

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

Adult Ed classes

Towns/Union Adult Ed (GED classes) is now offering open enrollment/registration every Monday-Thursday at 9 a.m. Please call in advance to schedule an appointment. Your GED credential is the door to a brighter future! Register now by calling 706-439-6342.

The Towns County be at least 18 years of age by information or league rules please call The Towns County Recreation Department at 706-896-2600. T(Sep4,11,F2)SH

VFW Golf League news

On August 29th, we had our annual tournament with 5 teams. The winning team of Danny Barrett; Ray Ward; Russ Shoetker; and Frank Geddings posted a score of 66, 6 under par. Second place team of Bill Kiser; J.T. Garrett; Moe Rodgers; and Bob LeHoullier posted a score of 67, 5 under par. Third place team of Mel Halfron; Larry Jordan; Frontz Goring; and Chuck Woodworth had a score of 68, 4 under par. Two teams came in with a score of 71, 1 under. Because of rules regarding breaking ties,

team of Bart Rodgers; Butch Patterson; Charlie Logan; and Jan Still placed 4th. They birdied #9 hole; #2 handicap hole. Team of George Darden; Myron Grizzio; Glen Greenwald; and Robert Lyle made par on hole #9, putting them in 5th place. Closest to the pin on #3 was Ray Ward. Closest to the line on #5 was Frontz Goring. Neither of the ladies put their drives on the green on #16.

All in all, a great day with some fantastic people. Hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Marine Corps League Warriors Golf Tournament

The deadline for sign-up for the Warriors Golf Tournament is the 13th of September. The tournament, starting at 1 p.m. on the 20th of September will be held at the Old Union Golf Course. The contest, a 4 person select shot is a fun-fest round of golf that benefits Veterans and their families that are lie Sowers at 706-745-5123. in need.

Entry fee is \$55 for individuals or \$220 for the team of four. The Marine Corps League is a non-profit organization and fees and donations are tax free. Sign up now to insure your place in the tournament. For more information call Skip Belton 706-745-2273 or Char-

Results of Food Pantry Golf Tournament

Önce again our community responded when golfers gathered at Chatuge Shores Golf Course to benefit the Tri-County food pantries. Each golfer stipulated a county to receive his donation. Clay County received 72% of the proceeds, Towns County, 23% and Union County, 5%. Eighty-three golfers teed off under blue skies.

And the winners (beside the food pantries) were: Matt Rogers, Beefy Rogers, Gene Farley, and Verlyn Giles

with a 59 for first place; Jerry Gibson, Pat Mosteller, John Dichiara, and Jackie Dichiara came in second, and in third place were Bill Rinaldo, Bill Croteau, Floyd Harpo, and Medford Griffin. Closest to the pin on the par threes were Judy Schmitt, Opal Rose, Herb Steck, and Maynard Brown.

This annual event is sponsored by the Ladies Golf Association at Chatuge Shores. Join us in 2014. T(Sep4,F1)SH