

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Towns' 10&U still unbeaten; 8&U and 6&U fall

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

All three of the Towns County youth football teams played at home on Saturday. Though the two youngest teams lost, the 10&U remains undefeated with a 6-0 record.

The 6&U and the 8&U were not as fortunate. The youngest group lost to Lumpkin County, and the 8&U lost to Banks County.

The 6&U Indians now have a 4-2 record. Though the indomitable Brett Young scored two touchdowns, the Indians lost 19-13 to Lumpkin County.

"That was a good ball game," Director Jimmy Smith said. "They came in with the same record we did, so that was two good teams playing each other." He added that this time, the 6&U team didn't have the speed necessary to win. "You can't cope with speed. They just had a little bit more speed than we did today," he said.

Steadily but certainly, the 8&U keep improving. Though they lost to Banks County 35-12, Director Smith said that the score doesn't reflect the game play.

"They're getting a little better," he said. "We've got about two more games left, maybe we can win won out of them. Again, it's a learning year for them."

Banks County pulled ahead with an early 8-0 lead, strengthening their score in the second quarter with another touchdown to make it 14-0. Jensen Gobel and Braylen Rader performed on offense, but were unable to do significant damage to the Banks County defense. Walker Underwood stood out on defense for the Indians, with several significant score-stopping tackles. Despite his efforts, however, Banks scored as the buzzer sounded at the end of the third with a touchdown and a 2-pt conversion. Going into the fourth quarter, the score was 22-0.



Towns County Youth Football pictures by Lowell Nicholson

With six minutes left in the fourth, Braylen Rader carried about 50 yards for a touchdown. The extra point attempt was unsuccessful, making the score 22-6. Banks retaliated in one of the next plays, scoring a touchdown at five minutes and 45 seconds, bringing the score to 28-6. At 3:01 left in the fourth, Jensen Gobel ran about 15 yards for Towns's final touchdown. Shortly after, with two minutes and 49 seconds left in the game, Banks ran approximately 80 yards for a touchdown and extra point, finalizing the score at 35-12.

Director Smith was primed for a close match between Towns's and Banks's 10&U teams. "It'll be a dogfight," he said. But that was before Towns took the field. Towns County's 10&U can be downright ferocious when they play football. What immediately separated Towns from Banks County is that, given the choice, the Towns youth would obviously rather sustain injuries or play to exhaustion than concede a single point.

The first quarter ended 6-0.

In the second, Colin Crowder scored a touchdown, and Kyle Oakes ran the extra point. The score was 13-0.

With seven seconds left in the third quarter, however, Banks ran for a touchdown. On defense, Kyle Oakes was hurt, allegedly after being shoved in the back by a Banks County athlete. When the officials refused to award a penalty, Coach Oakes took exception. The officials removed him from the game. It was now 13-6, Towns.

With 5:50 left in the contest, Crowder scored another touchdown, bringing the score to 19-6. The clock continued to wind down. With 37 seconds left in the game, Crowder scored again. The extra point was successful, making Towns County victorious 27-6.

"We played probably the best I've seen us play all week, no doubt," Smith said. "We had a great week at practice. We had that homecoming parade the other night, and we've been pumped since."

Smith's teams only have two more games before the start of the Superbowl, and he hopes to enter the first-round playoffs with an 8-0 record. The youth teams play again at home next Saturday.

Joe Collins

Tips from the Range

I have talked many times about the need for good balance and the importance of maintaining your address posture.

This is a very important part of being able to move the club on the proper swing path and it is the swing path that is all important in making good connection with the ball at impact.

There is one area you can look to so that keeping your balance an maintaining posture can become comfortable. To keep the spine in a good position throughout the swing, it is crucial that you keep your head behind the ball and make sure it does not move up or down, left or right. This action will enable you to hold good positions and create a good solid path on the downswing.

Look at it this way. Your head is connected to the top of the spine and this controls a lot of muscle action in a short distance between the top of the shoulder and the base of head. Any movement from the head will make the top of the spine move and therefore your swing path must change to compensate for the new position you have now created. Keep your head still. Don't let it lift or drop during the whole of the swing.

There are ways to train yourself to feel when the head is staying still enough. It is very difficult to swing and keep the

whole of your body still so focus on some part of the head and let the rest of your body move how it wants. As long as the head stays behind the ball, then the top of the spine will stay behind the ball and that is required to be square at impact.

I like to tell students to keep the chin behind the ball or make sure you keep your nose pointed at a point a few inches back on the takeaway. I like to work with keeping my chest centered over the ball and let my legs drive. I have a slight lean in my set up so keeping my center behind the ball keeps the top of my spine behind the ball.

Another interesting point is, if you keep your head behind the ball it promotes good balance and we all know solid impact is a result of good balance combined with proper technique or at least near proper technique.

The next time you tee it up, relax in the lower body and try and keep the head still behind the ball. The top part of the spine needs to stay still over the ball, but the lower tip of the spine can move laterally a few inches, especially if you are not as young as you once were. Leg drive will give you power and keeping your head still to activate the bigger muscles will make your impact more solid which produces more distance.

Get out and enjoy the fall beauty of our local golf courses and work on keeping things in control.

Good luck and I will see you on the course!

Youth basketball registration

The Towns County Recreation Department will be having youth basketball registration during the week of Monday the 7th of October 2013 and will run through Saturday the 26th of October 2013. You may register your child at the Towns County Recreation Department. Our hours of operation are Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. 'til 8

p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. 'til 4 p.m. Fee for the program will be \$45.

Age divisions will be 10 & under divisions (8, 9, & 10 years old), 12 & under divisions (11 & 12 years old). This is for both male and female.

For more information please contact The Towns County Recreation Department at 706-896-2600. T(Oct.02.13)SH

Horse Show coming to Shooting Creek

Three Bars Farm and Shooting Creek Stables will present a Horse Show for adults and children of all ages. The show will be held October 12 at Shooting Creek Stables Arena in Hayesville. Sign up will be at 9 AM, show time 10

AM. \$5 per class or \$25 for all classes. Negative Coggins required. Concessions will be available. All proceeds will go to Clay County Trails & Rails 4-H Horse Club. For more info contact Alaina Brooks at 828-447-2888. T(Oct.2.13)SH

NASCAR 2013

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

"Happy" Harvick wins at Kansas

Kevin Harvick started on the pole in Sunday's Sprint Cup race, led the most laps, and crossed the stripe 2.4-seconds ahead of Kurt Busch.

"These guys did a great job all weekend," said Harvick. "From the first practice I knew we had a great race car. The only times I had problems was when we got stuck in traffic. Then, it was tight. Once I got to the front, I knew nobody was going to catch us."

Kurt Busch, the second-place finisher began the race from the 41st starting position, because his team made changes to his car after qualifying. At one point, he was two laps down, but rallied to finish as the runner-up.

"Well, we had a good race, but I sure wish we could have passed Harvick. "That would have made it a great day."

Jeff Gordon, the third-place finisher had a discussion with Busch after the race ended.

"This was one of our better days," said Gordon. "Restarts are always tough. On that last one I had a little problem with Kurt, about the way he drove me. But it wouldn't be a NASCAR race if there wasn't these little disagreements and discussions."

Joey Logano was fourth, followed by Carl Edwards, Jimmie Johnson, Paul Menard, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Marcos Ambrose, and Aric Almirola.

Kyle Busch had three spinouts, and finished 34th.

Busch had a problem on the very first lap, and had to pit several times under caution for his team to make repairs and adjustments.

During lap 186 of the 267-lap race, Busch was nudged in the left rear quarter panel by Juan Montoya and spun out.

On lap 201 he was bumped from behind. This time he hit the outside wall very hard and was finished for the day.

He dropped from third to fifth in Chase points. There was a record 15 cautions.

Top-10 Chase leaders after 30 of 36: 1. Kenseth-2183, 2. Johnson-2180, 3. Harvick-2158, 4. Gordon-2154, 5. Kyle Busch-2148, 6. Biffle-2139, 7. Kurt Busch-2136, 8. Earnhardt-2129, 9. Bowyer-2128, 10. Logano-2124.

KENSETH TAKES NATIONWIDE RACE

Matt Kenseth won Saturday's Nationwide Series race at Kansas Speedway, but it was Kyle Busch and Brad Keselowski that provided the most entertainment in a wild race that saw 11 caution periods in the 200 lap race.

Kenseth took the lead with 34 laps remaining, and went on to victory by nearly a second ahead of Paul Menard. It was Kenseth's second Nationwide win of the season and 28th of his career.

Keselowski gained the lead on lap 151, but lost it to Kenseth 15 laps later. While Kenseth and Keselowski were running 1-2, Kyle Busch slipped into the third spot. Kenseth was able to pull away, while Keselowski and Busch started battling each other.

Busch tried going under Keselowski several times, but was unable to make the pass. The pair raced bumper to bumper for several laps, with Busch unable to get by.

As the leaders entered turn-2 during lap 187, Busch was right on Keselowski's rear bumper. There was contact between Busch's No. 54 and Keselowski's No. 22, and Keselowski slid into the outside wall.

Kyle Busch continued on.

Keselowski's car would not restart, and he was out of the race.

"I got wrecked by a dirty driver," said Keselowski. "There's no other way of putting it. I have raced him really cool over the past year to be respectful and try to repair our relationship."

"He put me in the fence during the Chicago truck race. It's not going to last. I can tell you that. I feel sorry for his guys that are going to have to fix all his stuff."



Kevin Harvick, winner at Kansas Furnished by NASCAR

"Now we're at war." Kyle Busch said he did not have a plan to wreck Keselowski.

"It was hard racing," said Busch. "There were several times I felt a little crowded, but the contact was because I got tight off the turn. I got too tight, got inside and just got too close and spun him out."

"Brad Keselowski knows what dirty drivers are because he's done it plenty of times. I have yet to wreck a person on purpose."

Paul Menard finished second, followed by Regan Smith, Kyle Busch, Justin Allgaier, Austin Dillon, Parker Kligerman, Brad Sweet, Trevor Bayne, and Elliott Sadler.

Top-10 leaders after 29 of 33; 1. A. Dillon-1024, 2. Hornish-1016, 3. Smith-989, 4. Sadler-981, 5. Allgaier-959, 6. Vickers-957, 7. Scott-942, 8. Bayne-939, 9. Larson-878, 10. Kligerman-858.

NASCAR'S OLDEST DRIVER CALLS IT QUILTS

James Hylton, NASCAR's rookie of the year in 1966 has hung up his driving helmet. At the age of 79 years old, he was the oldest driver to race in each of NASCAR's three highest divisions. Hylton called it a career after Friday night's ARCA Series race at Kansas.

Hylton was one of thirteen children who grew up on a farm and became obsessed with racing. He had no plans, no funds and no backing in racing. All of his experience was on the family farm.

From 1959-63, he prepared cars for Rex White, helping White to the 1960 Grand National title. In 1964-

65, Hylton served as crew chief for Ned Jarrett, and Jarrett won the series title in '65.

Hylton got his chance in 1964, making three starts in Jarrett's back-up car. The 30 year old driver grabbed 20 top-5s in 41 starts. He finished second in points behind David Pearson and was the hands-down choice as Rookie of the Year. He ran the whole season with one car and one engine; he never crashed or blew an engine during that period.

His consistency in the point standing between 1966 and 1975 was surpassed by only Richard Petty's average finish of 2.2. Hylton averaged 4.0 easily topping David Pearson, Cale Yarborough and Bobby Allison.

So why isn't James Hylton's name known more these days? Simple, he didn't get enough wins. In 601 starts he had only two wins, Richmond in 1970 and Talladega in 1972.

"If I'd gotten some help, I feel like I could have run with anybody," he said. "If I'd had some financial backing where we could have hired people to let me concentrate on racing, I feel I could have driven with anybody. I'm not too happy with NASCAR for not supporting the independent drivers. Not only me, there were a dozen independent drivers who could have been winners if they'd had some financial help."

"I know it wasn't NASCAR's responsibility to see that everybody's got the best of the best. But I know there were opportunities there, that with a little bit of coaching from NASCAR, they could have shoved a little sponsorship our way, but they never did."

"I have a little resentment there, because I feel like I was left out, not because of a lack of ability or a lack of working myself to death. It was all a financial deal."

Weekend Racing: The Cup and Nationwide cars at Charlotte for night racing. The Trucks do not race again until Oct. 18.

Fri., Oct. 11, Nationwide race; 30 of 33; Start-

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.

the tournaments 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: October 12 - Nottely. For contact information call David Crisp at 706-897-5347. N(Oct.2.13)CA

Marine Corps League Golf Tournament

The 17th Annual Marine Corps League Golf Tournament will be held at Chateau Shores Golf Course, Hayesville, NC on October 10, 2013. The tournament benefits children, elderly, families and individuals in need within our

communities throughout the year and charities of Union and Towns counties and worthy military charities.

For more information please call Bobby Jarrard at 706-896-6084 or Walt Scott at 706-897-9610. NT(Oct.2.13)CA

Primitive Weapons Season opens Saturday, October 12th

Hunters looking to pursue deer with firearms that harken back to a different time will have their chance, October 12-18, during the week-long primitive weapons deer hunting season. During last year's primitive weapons season, more than 45,000 hunters took home more than 10,500 deer representing about three percent of Georgia's total deer harvest.

firearms, or to continue hunting with archery gear," said John W. Bowers, chief of the Game Management Section. "It is a chance to 'get in the woods' with a different type of firearm prior to the opening of the more traditional modern firearms deer season."

Being young is a bonus during primitive weapons season! Youth under 16 years of age may hunt deer with any legal deer firearm October 12-18, including during any wildlife management area primitive weapons hunt. NT(Oct.9.13)CA

"The primitive weapons deer season provides hunters an opportunity to hunt with traditional or inline black powder

ing time: 7:30 pm ET; TV: ESPN2.

Sat., Oct. 12 Sprint Cup race; 31 of 36; Starting time: 7:30 pm ET; TV: ABC.

Racing Trivia Question: How many Hendrick Racing drivers are in this year's Chase?

Last Week's Question: Where is the headquarters of Furniture Row Racing, owner of Cup car No. 78, driven by Kurt Busch? **Answer:** They are headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

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

Fun hike in the Smokies

October 19th, join Benton MacKaye Trail Past President, Dick Evans on the Twentymile Loop Trail in the Great Smoky Mountains National park. A 7.6 mile hike. Meet 9 a.m. at the Twentymile Reeger in the Park. Bring lunch, water, rain gear and usual stuff for a day hike in the mountains. Contact Dick for more info: 828-479-2503 or dick.evans@frontier.com If the shutdown is still in effect, we will hike in the National Forests, which are open. NT(Oct.9.13)gg