

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Towns County Indians basketball camp attracts nearly 80 youngsters



Towns County coaches Brian Hunnicutt, Alan Rogers and Rollie Thomas conducted a successful three-day youth basketball camp at the TCHS gym last week. Photo/Todd Forrest

Towns County Indians head coach Brian Hunnicutt has been on the job for only a few weeks, but he's already making long-term strides for the basketball program.

Hunnicutt and fellow Towns County coaches hosted a three-day youth basketball camp for grade 1-8 beginning Monday, June 28. Each day afforded campers with an opportunity to hone a particular skill.

Ball handling was the focus of Monday's session; Tuesday centered around passing and defense. The third and final day allowed the competitive juices to flow as campers took part in various skills competitions over the three-hour workout.

"We had some big numbers this week and we appreciate everyone that participated and helped make this camp possible," Hunnicutt said. "We

had 99% attendance everyday with an equal number of boys and girls taking part. We're extremely excited that this many [local youngsters] are fascinated with the game of basketball.

"I want to thank coaches Rollie Thomas and Alan Rogers for helping out. I also want to thank John Landers for all he did with our [camp] tee-shirts. And last but not least, I have to thank the parents for bringing their kids."

Last week's youth camp

marked the end of Towns County's organized summer basketball. However, the Indians head coach is still hosting open-gym dates for athletes hoping to stay in shape over the break.

"We'll open the gym in July, but nothing more," Hunnicutt said. "We'll be open so the kids can come in and run, but this [youth camp] is the end of our summer basketball schedule."

Official basketball practices will get underway in October.

Register your child for Recreation Department activities

UFA Youth Soccer: Registration Open Now! Recreational U4-U19, Competitive U8-U19. Register online at mountains.unitedfa.org. Call (706) 429-4446.

Towns County Recreation Department Flag Foot-

ball 2021: 6u Co-ed, 8u boys and girls division, 10u boys and girls division. Registration - Monday, June 21st-Monday, August 9th. \$30 to register.

Register online at townscountyrec.com. TJ017.FJSH

The Fours Have It for Chatuge Shores Ladies Golfers



Members enjoy fellowship at weekly lunch after the game.

The Chatuge Shores Ladies Golf Association (CSLGA) played 18 holes on Tuesday, June 29th, but only the par 4s counted in the weekly game called The Fours Have It.

The league's two new-

VFW Golf League news

The league held its annual Par 3 Tournament at Chatuge Shores Golf Course. Afterward the league had a cookout at the VFW on Sunnyside Rd. All had a good time and the tournament winners were as follows:

Low Gross Division: 1st Place, Steve Crayton 61; 2nd Place, Danny Barrett 64; 3rd Place, Mel Halfon 65.

Low Net Division: 1st Place, Ray Ide & Larry Schwalm tied at 53; 3rd Place, Ron Flatt 55.

est members were in attendance, Geni Preece and Marguerite Wilson. Both ladies made birdies and Preece won prizes on chip ins and low putts, proving the point that the league is not only fun but can pay for itself! Also joining play was guest Alice Clayton.

Flight one winners were Kathy Stewart, first place, Mary Mott, second place, Pam Herrick, third place and Bonnie Shore, fourth place. Flight two winners were Evie Miller, first place, Charlotte Maddox, second place, Rebecca Turner, third place and Gail Cole, fourth place.

Three members split the Chip Ins - Sandy Snyder, Marguerite Wilson and Genie Preece. Birdie ladies were Genie Preece, Mary Mott, Kathy Stewart and Marguerite Wilson. Low

putts went to Janet Woodruff and Genie Preece.

After play, the group gathered for the traditional bring your own lunch in the club house and reveled in each other's fellowship while having a lighthearted discussion of the day's game. Next week's game is Against All Odds which is the net score on all odd numbered holes.

CSLGA plays every Tuesday at Chatuge Shores Golf Course 260 Golf Course Rd, Hayesville, NC 28904. Tee time is 9 a.m. The league has members from throughout the tri-county area and includes golfers of all skill levels.

If you are not a member, but are interested in joining, email Vicky Healy at vhealy55@gmail.com. The league web site at www.chatugeshoreslga.com.

NASCAR 2021

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Elliott becoming "King of the Road Racers"

Chase Elliott passed Kyle Busch for the lead on Lap 46 of 62 of Sunday's Cup Series race and cruised to victory by nearly 6-seconds at Road America.

The win was Elliott's second of the season and the 13th of his career. Seven of those victories have come on road courses, including this year's debut race at Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas. Elliott had to settle for second to teammate Kyle Larson in last month's event at Sonoma.

Elliott started Sunday's race 34th in a field of 40. By the end of Stage 1, he was 10th, and by pitting three laps before the end of Stage 2, he positioned himself for a front-row restart for the final stage.

"Just really proud of our team for overcoming some adversity early and having to start in the back, having good pit stops," said Elliott, "Yeah, I never felt like I got in a real good rhythm all of yesterday (in practice). For whatever reason there, after about halfway through the race, I started finding some of that rhythm, was able to put it together, piece different parts of the track."

"Finally I felt like I was able to piece most of it together. Yeah, stayed with it and glad it worked out."

Christopher Bell finished as runner-up.

"Yeah, kind of buried ourselves there when we had that pit road penalty," said Bell. "It was a lot of fun. It's been a trying last two months, but we feel like we're getting back on track. There's no reason why we can't be running up front every week."

Kyle Busch started from the rear of the field and finished third in a backup car after wrecking his primary No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota during Saturday's practice.

Brother Kurt Busch came home fourth and increased his lead to 25 points over Chris Buescher in the race for the final Playoff position. Denny Hamlin came home fifth, giving Joe Gibbs Racing three cars in the top five.

Chase Briscoe was the top-finishing Ford driver in sixth, matching his best result of the season. Ross Chastain, Tyler Reddick, Martin Truex Jr. and Matt DiBenedetto completed the top 10.

Hendrick Motorsports has won 10 of 20 races this season and seven of the last eight. Elliott has the most road course victories among active drivers, is third all-time behind Jeff Gordon (nine wins) and Tony Stewart (eight) and has won at more different road courses (five) than any other driver in Cup history.

Top 10 leaders after 20 of 36: 1. Hamlin-798, 2. Larson-795, 3. Byron-713, 4. Kyle Busch-685, 5. Logano-678, 6. Elliott-674, 7. Truex-634, 8. Blaney-603, 9. Harvick-599, 10. Keselowski-593.

"ROWDY" KYLE GETS FOURTH XFINITY WIN

Fresher tires and a late race wreck allowed Kyle Busch to win Saturday's Xfinity Series race at Road America, for his fourth series victory in four starts this season.

On Lap 41 of 45, Busch took the lead from AJ Allmendinger, whose No. 16 Chevrolet was struggling on older tires.

Over the next four laps, Busch widened his lead to 3.522 seconds at the finish over teammate Daniel Hemric, who ran second after passing Allmendinger for the runner-up spot.

Busch who won in his Road America debut and for the 101st time in his career, extending his own series record. The victory came after Busch experienced several off-track excursions that luckily didn't deprive his car of the speed necessary to win.

"Obviously, tires, that was the saving grace for us," said Busch, who got four new tires under caution on Lap 36. "We had a set of tires left over and



Chase Elliott wins at Road America.

(Allmendinger) didn't.

"When we did put our last set of tires on, I wasn't sure we'd be able to get through that many cars. I don't know what happened on those last couple of restarts. I couldn't really see what was happening. We were fortunate to get by that stuff and get through that stuff without any damage to our race car."

Michael Annett finished third, followed by AJ Allmendinger, Harrison Burton, Kevin Harvick, Riley Herbst, Austin Cindric, Noah Gragson, and Justin Haley.

Top 10 leaders after 17 of 33: 1. Cindric-721, 2. Allmendinger-632, 3. Hemric-616, 4. Allgaier-570, 5. H. Burton-546, 6. J. Burton-524, 7. Haley-499, 8. B. Jones-485, 9. Gragson-471, 10. Annett-450.

NASCAR MAKES FIRST TRIP TO KNOXVILLE

For the first time in series history, the NASCAR Trucks will race at Knoxville Raceway, in Knoxville, Iowa, the Sprint Car Capital of the World.

Knoxville's status in the world of dirt racing is nothing short of legendary, starting as a horse track built in 1878 that found its purpose as an auto-racing facility not long after the turn of the 20th century.

After a years-long racing hiatus during World War II, stock cars became the vehicle of choice to work around the dark Iowa clay. That choice evolved to supermodifieds and eventually sprint cars in a short amount of time.

But to have stock-car racing back in the heart of Iowa's home for dirt racing? That's as full circle as it gets.

"It's going to be quite significant," said Bob Wilson, the track historian at Knoxville. "It's going to be the first time (the trucks visit) and it's going to be a different sort of race than our regular people are used to seeing. However, I think the stands will be filled with NASCAR people who are really interested in this."

The hype around Knoxville is growing with each passing day, as the legendary World of Outlaw Sprint Car racer, Donny Schatz will make his series debut in one of NASCAR's national touring series.

Schatz is a 10-time winner of the Knoxville Nationals, one of the highest honors in sprint-car racing around the world.

Also joining Schatz around the half-mile track in a series debut will be hometown hero Brian Brown.

While the track's reputation has exploded over the past

several decades, the significance of this event cannot go unrecognized.

The importance goes both ways. In one aspect, heading to Knoxville legitimizes the Truck Series' venture to dirt. While the series circuted Eldora Speedway for seven consecutive years from 2013-19 and put on great displays of racing, Eldora was the only dirt venue at which the series competed. To go to such a storied location this year after a successful trip to Bristol Motor Speedway's dirt-covered banks only bolsters the series' reputation.

Likewise, a nationally-televised live broadcast of a NASCAR-sanctioned national series event further cements Knoxville's status in the world of racing, proving its facilities are built to host an event of this magnitude.

Racing Joke: Aric and his family were visiting Europe during the off season. They decided to visit a monastery that was perched high on a cliff several hundred feet in the air. The only way to reach the monastery was to be suspended in a basket, which was pulled to the top by several monks who were pulling and toiling with all their strength. Obviously, one trip up the steep cliff is terrifying. Aric got exceedingly nervous about halfway up as he noticed that the rope by which he was suspended was old and frayed. With a trembling voice he asked the monk who was riding with them in the basket how often they replaced the rope.

The monk responded brusquely, "Whenever it breaks."

Weekend Racing: The Trucks will be dirt racing in Knoxville, Iowa, home of the National Sprint Car Assn., while the Xfinity and Cup teams will be at Atlanta.

Fri., July 9; Truck Series race 14 of 22; Starting time: 9:00 pm ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Sat., July 10; Xfinity Series race 18 of 33; Starting time: 3:00 pm ET; TV: NBCSN.

Sun, July 11; Cup Series race 21 of 36; Starting time: 3:30 pm ET; TV: NBCSN.

Racing Trivia Question: What length is Atlanta Motor Speedway?

Last Week's Question: What year did Jeff Gordon win his first Cup Series championship? Answer: It was 1995.

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Register now for the Enchanted Valley 5K

Join us July 31, 2021 at Mayor's Park in Young Harris for the Enchanted Valley 5K. All runners and walkers are welcome! All proceeds go to help our team with race fees, food, etc. Race will start at 8am. Overall first, second, and third place finishers will receive a special prize from a local business.

Visit www.runsignup.com/enchantedvalley5K for more information and to register. Be sure to register by July 15th to guarantee your shirt size. Race day registration will be available. See you there! NT017.FJSH