



Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians fall in Region 8 Tennis Tournament



Maria Constantino serves during the Region 8 Tennis Tournament. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Courtney Farmer serves during the Region 8 Tennis Tournament. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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The Towns County Lady Indians were eliminated from state playoff contention during Monday's Region 8 Tennis Tournament at Young Harris College.

The Lady Indians lost 3-2 to Prince Avenue Christian in the one-and-done single elimination tournament.

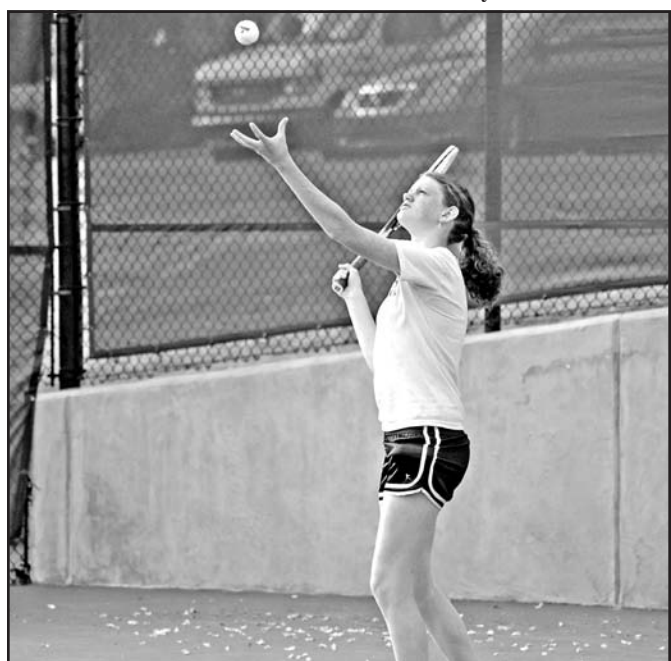
In First Singles, Kristie McConnell went down 6-0, 6-0; in Second Singles, Christa Hamill went down 6-0, 6-0; in Third Singles, Maria Constantino went down 6-0, 6-2.

The Lady Indians prevailed in the Double's Competition with Kayla Olin and Eryn Cochran leading the way with a 6-1, 6-2 victory.

Likewise, Courtney Farmer and Gabby Arencibia



Coach Shannon Floyd talks it over with Courtney Farmer and Gabby Arencibia during the Region 8 Tennis Tournament. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Kristie McConnell serves during the Region 8 Tennis Tournament on Monday. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

followed with a 6-0, 6-0 victory.

The end result: the Lady Indians are staying home instead of taking their regular trip to the state playoffs.

"We were an underdog going into this tournament," Tennis Coach Shannon Floyd said. "We were playing a team that had already beaten us this year 3-2. It sounds close being 3-2 but in the three singles matches, they put it on us pretty good."

The Lady Indians were

young in tennis experience this season.

"Last year we were real strong, but graduated five seniors," Coach Floyd said. "This year, is being a learning process for our girls."

"It's hard to compete when you play some of the private schools or these boarding schools; they've got kids who have grown up with rackets in their hands. We brought back quite a few players this year, but experience is a factor."

2012 North Georgia Gun Show

North Georgia Gun Show is rolling into Blairsville on Friday, April 20th and Saturday, April 21st will be the largest gun show that North Georgia has ever seen. With over 75 tables of guns, knives, ammo and gun accessories, this is one show you don't want to miss! With the current climate of uncertainty for the election year, gun manufacturers are working 24-7 to meet the demand for gun buyers throughout the United States. Some gun manufacturers have sold more guns in the past two months than they did for the entire 2011 retail year! The North Georgia Gun Show will host antique arms, modern rifles, pistols and of course black guns. Ammo, holster and optic dealers will also be on hand to help you outfit your purchase.

This is a buy, sell and trade gun show. Bring your unloaded firearms for trade or sale consideration. Whether your guns are old or new, ven-

dors will be on hand to examine your firearm and give you the best deal on it.

There will be coffee and finger foods on hand to feed your hunger on Saturday. Admission is only \$5 at the door. Venue doors will open at the Union County Civic Center (Haralason Civic Center, 165 Welborn St., Blairsville) from 3 PM till 8 PM on Friday and

Saturday from 9 AM till 5 PM. Motorcycle parking is right up front.

This gun show is part of our 2nd Amendment right as citizens of the United States of America that our forefathers believed in. Exercise your right and be a part of the North Georgia Gun Show this weekend, April 20th & April 21st. www.ngagunshow.com

Anderson achieves grand slam of turkey hunting



Rodney Anderson with his grand slam birds.

As the last snowflakes fell, and the mountains were blanketed with one of the most beautiful snowfalls in years, my mind goes to the warm days of spring. A magical day-break, where the birds wake up and sing praises to God for surviving yet another cold winter, and the arrival of a new day. The individuality of a snowflake mimics moments of our lives. Rodney Anderson achieved his special moment. Last spring, he completed the grand slam of turkey hunting. In order to reach this honor, Rodney successfully harvested

4 subspecies of wild turkeys, the Osceola, Eastern, Rio Grande and the Merriam's.

In order to do this, one must be able to "dance" with the rhythm of nature. Rodney complete his dream, confined to a wheelchair. With lack of mobility and other hardships he faces daily, this should be an inspiration and challenge to all turkey hunters, handicapped or not. "A single moment, a solitary snowflake."

Congratulations on your accomplishment!
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Texas Hold 'Em at Chatuge Shores

You are invited to join us Wednesday evenings at Chatuge Shores Golf Course for a friendly game of Texas Hold 'em. No money is exchanged.

Games start at 7 p.m. A certain number of chips are given to each player. Extra chips are given to people who sign in by 6 p.m. Food and drink orders also will earn you extra chips. Grand prizes are awarded at the end of the tournament.

Please come and join us for an evening of inexpensive fun and socializing. T(Apr18,F)1SH

NASCAR 2012

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

A determined Biffle wins at Texas

A determined Greg Biffle finally put a win on the board, as he cruised to a 3.235-second victory over Jimmie Johnson in Saturday night's Cup race at Texas Motor Speedway.

"I just dug deep," Biffle said. "I knew I had to do it and kept trying and trying and trying. I knew the team would forgive me if I wrecked it trying to beat him, so I gave it all I had. I was bound and determined to put this team back into victory lane tonight."

From the moment he passed pole-sitter Martin Truex Jr. for the lead on Lap 180 of the 334-lap race, Johnson was dominant, but Biffle chased the five-time champion lap after lap through three cycles of green-flag pit stops.

Biffle frequently gained ground when Johnson hit traffic, but the margin would expand when Johnson got to clean air. The lead stayed at roughly one second until the race hit Lap 300. Mark Martin in third at 7.8 seconds back was the only other driver within 10 seconds of the leader.

With 34 laps left, Biffle turned up the pace. On Lap 304, as Johnson tried to work his way through traffic, Biffle made the pass for the top spot, sliding to the inside of Johnson's No. 48 Chevrolet as the cars approached the start/finish line.

Biffle said he was "foaming at the mouth" with Johnson in his sights, but he had to conserve fuel and save his tires for the first few laps of the final run after his last pit stop.

"I was a little short on fuel, so I kind of lifted a little early and let the car roll down through the corners," continued Biffle, who expanded his series lead to 19 points over Earnhardt and Kenseth. "When he started catching a little bit of traffic, that's when I started going."

Johnson took issue with drivers of lapped cars -- particularly the No. 39 of Ryan Newman -- who Johnson felt failed to show the respect due a race leader.

"When I caught lapped traffic, some guys that were multiple laps down didn't show much respect for myself, the leader," said Johnson. "Before I knew it, the 16 (Biffle) was there inside of me and got by."

Mark Martin came home third, followed by Jeff Gordon, Matt Kenseth, Martin Truex, Kasey Kahne, Carl Edwards, Kevin Harvick, and Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Top-12 leaders after 7 of 36: 1. G. Biffle - 273, 2. M. Kenseth - 254, 3. D. Earnhardt, Jr. - 254, 4. M. Truex Jr. - 253, 5. K. Harvick - 249, 6. D. Hamlin - 242, 7. T. Stew-

art - 234, 8. J. Johnson - 233, 9. R. Newman - 225, 10. C. Bowyer - 219, 11. C. Edwards - 215, 12. P. Menard - 192.

STENHOUSE TAKES NATIONWIDE RACE

Streking away from Denny Hamlin and pole-sitter Paul Menard after a restart with six laps left, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. won Friday night's Nationwide race at Texas.

"I loved coming here, and we finally finished off a race," said Stenhouse, who promised a traditional cowboy hat that goes to the victor to every member of his team. "I felt a lot better coming into this year, obviously, with the championship from last year, but one thing that I do enjoy about this is that we're running up front every week."

Menard finished second, with Kasey Kahne passing Hamlin for third in the closing laps. Austin Dillon ran fifth, followed by David Ragan, Justin Allgaier, Danica Patrick, Michael Annett, and Steve Arpin.

Patrick's team brought her into the pits during a late race caution for four fresh tires, which allowed her to pass several other drivers who stayed out.

"It's always quite chaotic when you have such great tires along with everyone around you," Patrick said. "It's two-wide -- and you want to get by them. But, all in all, it's nice to have a good finish for the team, for everybody that works really hard. We've kind of had a tough going to the start of the year, so that was fun."

Top-10 points leaders after 6 of 33: 1. Sadler-247, 2. Stenhouse-243, 3. A. Dillon-227, 4. Hornish-193, 5. Annett-183, 6. Whitt-182, 7. Bayne-180, 8. Malsam-163, 9. Allgaier-163, 10. Bliss-147.

KAHNE WINS 'ROCK' TRUCK RACE

Here are the top-10 finishers of Sunday's NASCAR Truck race at Rockingham, NC.

1. Kasey Kahne, 2. James Buescher, 3. Matt Crafton, 4. Johnny Sauter, 5. Timothy Peters, 6. Joey Coulter, 7. Nelson Piquet, 8. Ty Dillon, 9. Parker Kligerman, 10. Justin Lofton.

Top-10 leaders after 3 of 22: 1. Peters-121, 2. Lofton-115, 3. T. Dillon-114, 4. Buescher-111, 5. Kligerman-101, 6. Piquet-100, 7. White-94, 8. King-93, 9. Hornaday-90, 10. Starr-84.

NASCAR ANNOUNCES NEW HOF NOMINEES

Last week NASCAR announced the 25 nominees that will be voted on for next year's Hall of Fame. Following are the 25 nominees, listed alphabetically:

1. Buck Baker, first driver



Greg Biffle winner of Texas Cup race

to win consecutive series titles.

2. Red Byron, first NASCAR series champion, in 1949, 3. Richard Childress, 11-time car owner. 4. Jerry Cook, six-time Modified champion. 5. H. Clay Earles, founder of Martinsville Speedway. 6. Tim Flock, two-time Cup series champion. 7. Ray Fox, legendary engine builder. 8. Anne Bledsoe France, wife of Bill France Sr. 9. Rick Hendrick, 13-time car owner champion. 10. Jack Ingram, two-time Busch Series champion and three-time Late Model Sportsman champion. 11. Bobby Isaac, 1970 series champion. 12. Fred Lorenzen, 26 wins. 13. Cotton Owens. 14. Raymond Parks, NASCAR's first champion car owner. 15. Benny Parsons, 1973 series champion. 16. Les Richter, former NASCAR executive. 17. Fireball Roberts, 33 NASCAR series wins. 18. T. Wayne Robertson, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. 19. Wendell Scott, the first African-American NASCAR series race winner. 20. Ralph Seagraves, executive with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. 21. Herb Thomas, first two-time series champion. 22. Curtis Turner, called the "Babe Ruth of stock car racing." 23. Rusty Wallace, 1989 NASCAR series champion. 24. Joe Weatherly, two-time NASCAR series champion. 25. Leonard Wood, part-owner and former crew chief for Wood Brothers.

Weekend Racing: The Sprint Cup and Truck teams will be at the 1.5-mile Kansas Speedway, while the Nationwide teams take a week off.

Sat., Apr. 21, Camping World Truck Series Union 225, race 4 of 22; Starting time: 1:30 pm ET; TV: SPEED.

Sun., Apr. 22, Sprint Cup STP 400, race 8 of 36; Starting time: 12:30 pm ET; TV: FOX.

Racing Information: Who is the oldest driver still running a partial Cup schedule?

Last Week's Question: Who won the inaugural Texas Motor Speedway Cup race? **Answer:** Jeff Burton.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at hodge@race500.com. NT(Apr18,C2)ac

Kenneth West
Owner

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