

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## YHC joins Peach Belt Conference

YOUNG HARRIS—The next era in Young Harris College athletics began Sunday (July 1) when the Mountain Lions became the 14th member of the Peach Belt Conference.

The Peach Belt extended an invitation to the Mountain Lions, who are transitioning into NCAA Division II and is a candidacy year one member, in January.

The Mountain Lions will be immediately eligible for all regular-season championships without automatic bids, and all other PBC awards, including all-conference and all-academic honors for its student-athletes. Young Harris will not be eligible for participation in any PBC Championships which award automatic bids to NCAA Tournaments until they become a full-fledged member of NCAA Division II.

"Young Harris is a perfect fit for our conference," said PBC Commissioner David R. Brunk. "The commitment they have made to provide a quality academic and athletic experience for their student-athletes will enable them to be competitive in our league immediately. The foundation they have established in a short time will allow them to continue to grow and be successful for years to come, and we are excited to be able to share in that growth and success. President Cathy Cox and Athletic Director Randy Dunn have made a commitment to both Division II and the Peach Belt Conference, and we welcome them with open arms."

The addition of Young Harris brings the Peach Belt to 14 member institutions, the most the conference has had in its 21-year history. Located about two hours north of Atlanta, in the town of Young Harris, Ga., the college will play basketball in the PBC



west division, giving both the east and west the same number of teams for the first time in three years. YHC becomes the first new member of the Peach Belt since Flagler College and the University of Montevallo joined in 2009. North Georgia College & State University and Georgia Southwestern State University both joined the PBC in 2006 while making the transition from the NAIA. Young Harris joins Flagler as the only private institutions in the Peach Belt.

"We are very excited that the Peach Belt wants Young Harris College to be a part of this prestigious Division II conference," said YHC President Cathy Cox. "I would like to thank Commissioner Brunk and all of the member-institution presidents for their support. The Mountain Lions look forward to competing against some of the best student-athletes in Division II athletics."

Young Harris was

founded in 1886, making it the third-oldest institution in the Peach Belt behind Lander University (1872) and North Georgia (1873).

"We are extremely honored to join the Peach Belt Conference, which is comprised of such an elite group of institutions," said Dunn. "Not only will this provide our student-athletes with the opportunity to compete at the highest levels of NCAA DII, it will also give our institution regional and national exposure."

Currently, the Mountain Lions field men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's soccer and men's and women's tennis, all of which are PBC Championship sports. YHC will add men's and women's lacrosse as well as competitive cheerleading this fall.

Founded in 1991, the Peach Belt is the home to 32

NCAA Division II National Championships, including the 2012 men's and women's tennis titles won by Armstrong Atlantic State University. The PBC hosts 13 championship sports with 14 members in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida and Alabama.

Members of the Peach Belt include Armstrong (Savannah, Ga.), Augusta State University (Augusta, Ga.), Clayton State University (Morrow, Ga.), Columbus State University (Columbus, Ga.) Flagler (St. Augustine, Fla.), Francis Marion University (Florence, S.C.), Georgia College (Milledgeville, Ga.), Georgia Southwestern State (Americus, Ga.), Lander (Greenwood, S.C.), Montevallo (Montevallo, Ala.), University of North Carolina at Pembroke (Pembroke, N.C.), North Georgia (Dahlonega, Ga.), and the University of South Carolina Aiken (Aiken, S.C.)

## Youth Football Registration

Sign-ups for ages 5-12 years old began on Saturday, June 30 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Towns County High School Field House. Sign ups will take place every Saturday, at the same time, until July 28.

The registration fee is \$90 and you will need to bring a copy of the player's birth certificate. Players who played last year will not need to bring a birth certificate. No sign ups can be accepted until the registration fee is paid. The fee will cover their insurance and equipment. The players will be allowed to keep their jersey at the end of the year. Players must be present at sign up so they can be sized for their uniform.

Practice begins on Mon-

day, July 30. Practices will take place from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

As for the younger squad, 5 and 6 year olds will play together but each age from 7-12 will have its own team.

There will be a free Towns County youth football camp on July 19 and July 20 at the Towns County High School Football field from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The camp will once again be conducted by Towns County High School Head Coach Kyle Langford along with his staff and players. The Youth Football League coaches also will be in attendance.

For more details Jimmy Smith can be reached at (706) 896-2622 or (706) 835-6176.

## TCHS 2012 Football Schedule

August 24: @ Hayesville, NC  
August 31: vs Union County  
September 7: @ Fellowship Christian  
September 14: @ Rabun Co.  
September 21: vs Rabun Gap

October 5: @ Copper Basin  
October 19: vs North Cobb Christian  
October 26: vs St. Francis  
November 2: @ Lakeview  
November 9 vs Hebron

## Mountain United Soccer registration

The Mountain United Soccer Association is ready for Fall Soccer. Registrations are currently being accepted. Forms will be mailed to all players who have participated in a previous season. Forms are also available by visiting the league's website: www.mountainssoccer.org.

The spring 2012 season was a big success. Our younger teams played in Blairsville, Hiawassee, and Blue Ridge. The older age groups competed throughout Georgia. We had players registered from all the surrounding counties as well as some from North Carolina.

In Blairsville, Cott Beverage is our community host for the soccer fields. In Hiawassee, the fields at the Towns County Fairgrounds are utilized through the cooperation of the local recreation department. The league is grateful for their commitment

and support.

The fall season will begin in early September. Anyone who is interested in playing needs to register promptly. In some cases space is limited.

M.U.S.A. is a volunteer run organization and is also a 501C3 non profit. Any and all donations are directed to the youth player. Field Sponsors, Sign Sponsors, and Team Sponsors are always needed. If you are interested in supporting the youth soccer player in our community through sponsorship and/or a donation, please contact the Association.

For additional information contact the league at 706-835-1077, musa.soccer@gmail.com, or visit www.mountainssoccer.org on the web.

Like "Mountain United Soccer Association" on Facebook and follow the league on Twitter @MUSoccerA.

## Towns County's 14-U All-Stars finish top 12 in state



The Towns County Rec Departments 14-U boys Baseball team traveled to Jefferson to play in the Dizzy Dean State Tournament on June 30th. The boys had to play West Cobb Wildcats in the first game on Saturday morning. The West Cobb team to be a little more than the smaller Towns County team could handle beating them 12-2. Later on that day the Indians had to face the host team and 100 plus degree temperatures. The Indians battled to the very end losing in the last inning 18-17. The Towns County Recreation Department would like to thank all parents coaches and parents. You represented Towns County very well and we are very proud of you.

## 2nd annual Jessi's Gift 5K Run

2nd Annual Jessi's Gift "Pay it Forward" 5K Run 2 Mile Walk will be on July 14th at 8:30 a.m. at Clay County Recreational Park Myers Chapel Road, Hayesville, NC. \$15 pre-registered adults. \$20 Race. \$10 Student pre-registered \$15 Student Race Day. T-Shirts guaranteed to all 5k runners or walkers who pre-register by June 27th. Awards to Overall Male and Female, 10 and Under then 5 year age brackets.

Items also being donated for raffle are from Lowes, Brasstown Valley Resort, Body Sense, Brothers Restaurant, The Rustice Rose and The Ridges.

Last year's run raised enough money to grant wishes to 3 children. Zedrick and Tia Medaugh from Murphy, NC and Tyler Shead from Temple, GA. All money raised benefits Kingdom Kids. A 100% pass

through organization which means 100% of all money raised goes directly to the children. Everyone is encouraged to go to www.supportkingdomkids.com and read about this great organization. Jessi Patrick was granted a wish through Kingdom Kids from money raised during Lily's Run in Cumming, GA in 2010. Jessi met Lily in the hospital while both were going through treatment, each for different kinds of cancer. Lily is still fighting today. It is our hope to provide wishes to more children this year. Please come out and help us "Pay it Forward".

You can register at Active.com or download registration forms at Facebook on "Jessi's Gift Pay it Forward 5k run. Registration forms are also available at several gyms in Hiawassee, Hayesville and Blairsville.

## 2012 TCRD Summer Day Camp

Summer is here 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 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Session II - June 18th thru June 29th. Session III - July 9th thru July 20th.

The fee for the two week session is \$120. The fee is payable to the Towns County Recreation Department the first Monday of each session.

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 you 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.

Registration will be the first Monday of each session at the Recreation Department located on Hwy. 76 west of Hiawassee. For more information please call the Recreation Department at 706-896-2600.

## Golf news from The Ridges

On Thursday, July 5, ten ladies braved the high temperatures to get together and play a friendly game of golf. Six of the ladies played 18 holes. This week they played an individual Stableford. The same scoring was used this week with the individuals as last week with the three person teams: bogeys were worth 1 point, pars 2 points, birdies 3 points, eagles 4 points and double eagles 5 points. Claiming first place honors, with four net eagles, was Mary Rau. Mary had a total of 45 points for the day. There was a tie for second/third place among Sidney Moser and Anita Flood. Each of these ladies had 38 points. Fourth place went to Nancy Luck with 34 points. Coming in fifth was Becky Sutton with 26 points and sixth place went to Carol Baxter, a guest from Chatuge Shores, with 23 points. Congratulations to all of our ladies that participated.

The nine hole ladies were comprised of Deborah Warner, Nancy Meldram, Nan-

cy Edwards and Linda Wark. As with weeks past, these ladies chose to simply play nine holes of golf without any special games.

We need more ladies and men to come join in on the fun. The course conditions are excellent thanks to a new Superintendent this year and a new management team. Make plans now to participate each week. Speaking of participating each week, I announced that beginning on Friday, July 13, the Friday night scramble would be held every Friday night. Because of a previously scheduled tournament benefiting the Western Carolina Catamount Club, the Friday night scramble will begin on July 20th and continue every Friday thereafter. We hope everyone will come take part in the fun. Hopefully, Mother Nature will cooperate and bring us some cooler temperatures. To play in any of these events, call The Ridges Golf Shop at 828-389-9000. We look forward to seeing you soon.

## VFW Golf League news

July 7th, we had a beautiful day and a good group of players.

I believe we had 5 teams today. Pretty good scores too.

The winning team of Danny Barrett; Larry Jordan; Myron Grizio, and Chuck Woodworth came in with a score of 65, 7 under par, with no bogeys.

Everyone contributed

too. Good shooting guys. We had a lady join us, too. Happy you could join us, Bobbi.

Looking forward to seeing you next week. All ladies are most welcome to join our group.

We welcome anyone who would care to join us on Thursday mornings.

Submitted by Charles Woodworth

## YHC Baseball Camp

Young Harris College Head Baseball Coach, Rick Robinson, will coordinate all instruction. Website access: www.yhcatchletics.com/sports/bsb/index or

TheROCKSports.com.

Come learn from the best! 3 camps each week to accommodate all players at different levels. Camp week: July 23-27.

## Annual free clogging lessons

For the fourth consecutive year, Blairsville School of Dance will be hosting a free 3 week clogging session. Designed for the beginner, new students will be introduced to basic clogging by members of the BSoD Force competition clogging team.

"We are so excited to be able to offer this for the fourth year," said Angela Puleo, Studio Director. "We usually get a great turnout not only from Blairsville, but also from the surrounding communities."

The classes will be open to anyone ages 4 and up and will take place on Thursdays, July 12, 19 and 26 at 6:30 p.m. Participants should plan on attending all three classes.

The BSoD Force competition clogging teams are well equipped to lead the session. With its regular participation in the regional and national competition circuit, the group is on the cutting edge of contempo-

rary clogging. In addition to the classical dance forms, BSoD has a nationally recognized clogging program that begins training recreational and competitive dancers at age 3.

"Our beginning session focuses more on traditional clogging," said Puleo. "While our group performs a mix of traditional and contemporary style clogging, most of the more modern steps contain elements of Irish, tap and Canadian step dance."

This session's beginning students will learn the "drag/slide" style of clogging. At the completion of three weeks, the new dancers will have learned a simple new routine.

Those interested in participating in this year's 3 Free Week Session should reserve a spot by calling (706) 835-1415 or emailing blairsvilledance@yahoo.com. While the session is free, space is limited, so a reservation is required.

## Ladies Golf at Chatuge Shores

21 Chatuge Shores Ladies showed up to play Odds 'n Evens for their tournament on Tuesday, July 3.

Mary Reece, Vicky Donaldson, and Linda MacDonald were the A Flight winners. B Flight winners

were: Opal Rose, Susan Palmich, and Anita Flood. Donna Workman, Carol Baxter, and Jeanne Odom were the C Flight winners. Helen Klooche, Bobbi LeHoullier, and Janet Woodruff were the winners in D Flight.

