

# Union's golf season gets underway with wins over Gilmer and Towns

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Golf season is underway and the goals are clear for the 2016 season.

The Lady Panthers are seeking, not only a Region 8-AA Championship, but a State Championship, as well.

Union County is led by sophomores Ally Horinek and Grace Wishmeyer, and junior Maddie Horinek.

Last season, Union's ladies came up short at the Region Tournament but qualified for State at the Sectional Tournament.

At the State Tournament, Union would finish third behind a pair of 84's from the Horinek sisters.

At this season's match with Gilmer, Wishmeyer was low medalist after firing a 39. Ally Horinek shot a 42 as Union defeated Gilmer 81-125.

Meanwhile, the guys just missed out on State, but return more than enough talent to improve on their 2015 finish.

Brady Lawn fired a 40 to take low medalist honors during the Panthers' early season win over Gilmer and Towns last month.

Jeremy Herum shot a 46, Lance Hill finished with a 47, and Grayson Blocker was nipping at their heels with a 48.

Union finished with a 183, thirteen strokes better than second place.



The Union County Lady Panthers golf team at State Sectionals last May. With a team dominated by underclassmen, Union County went on to finish third at the Class AA State Championships. During the win over Gilmer, sophomore Grace Wishmeyer (far left) was the overall low medalist with a 39.



Jeremy Herum (above) and the Union County men's golf team just missed out on a shot at the State Tournament in 2015. At the match with Towns and Gilmer, Herum was second on the Panthers with a 46, behind overall low medalist Brady Lawn's 40.

# Union County track and field opens with strong showing at Rabun County

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**Tiger** - Union County track and field is off and running and appears to have picked up where the cross country teams left off at the State Meet in November.

Last week, Union traveled to Rabun County where they met Region 8-AA foes Rabun and Riverside, along with future 7-AAA opponent East Hall, and left with five first place finishes. Including a sweep of the three distance races by the Union County ladies.

Senior Emma Garrison took first place in the 1600M and 800M races. Senior Anna Danek was first in the 3200M race.

Junior Zach Stone came in first in the Triple Jump event and senior Jacob Kelley placed first in the High Jump. Kelley was also third in the 400M race.

Senior Stephanie Busse was second in the 1600M and 800M races, as well as the Long Jump.

Cole Payne placed second in the Long Jump. Chad Buzzard was fourth in the Triple Jump.

Kanon Hemphill came in third in the 300M Hurdles and fourth in the 400M race.

Skylar Ludlum took third place in the Shot Put.



Union County track got underway at Rabun County.

Emmaline Stuart was third in the 300M Hurdles.

Jordan Stubblefield placed third in the 100M and 200M races. Courtney Moose was fourth in the 100M race.

The 4x100 girls relay team of Stubblefield, Stuart, Moose, and Amanda Siriani took home third place.

The 4x400 girls relay team of Garrison, Stuart, Danek, and Busse claimed second place.

In the 4x400A boys relay race, the team of Stone, Kelley, Jared Herum, and Aaron Hill placed second.

The 4x400B boys relay team of Payne, Buzzard, Hemphill, and Adrian Shaw came in third place.

On Monday of this week, Union County traveled to Fannin County to take on two more future Region 7-AAA foes in Fannin and Lumpkin Counties.

2016

## Union County High School Golf Schedule

2-29-16	Butternut	Gilmer/Towns	3:00
3-1-16	Brasstown	Towns	3:00
3-3-16	Chatuge	Hayesville	3:30
3-8-16	Brasstown	Towns	3:00
3-10-16	Butternut	Hayesville	3:00
3-12-16	Mossy Creek	Warrior Invitational	Girls
3-15-16	Old Union	Gilmer/Towns	3:00
3-17-16	Brasstown	Tri County Cup	3:00
3-23-16	Old Union	White	3:30
3-24-16	Kingwood	Rabun/Riverside	3:30
3-26-16	Mossy Creek	Warrior Invitational	Boys
3-28-16	Butternut	Fannin	4:00
3-29-16	Brasstown	Towns	3:00
3-31-16	Innsbruck	White	3:30
4-11-16	Monroe Country Club	Region Tournament	
5-2-16	Sectional Tournament		
5-16-16	State Tournament		

## Bowling scores

Monday Night Men: Ernest Rice 203, Joe Teague 220, 213, Derick Rice 205, 203, 207, Michael Whitehead 200, Taz Matetzschk 223, 214, BJ Gilbert 200, 245, 210, Stanley Tyler 202, 216, Ranny Jones 253, 231, Jay Burrell 214, Ray Everett 235, 209, 256, Ken Thigpen 221, Bart Rodgers 216, Doug Tanner 214, Bob Bischoff 222, Greg Whittenburg 203, 256, Ron Wingate 202, Keith Rhodes 244, 241, Bonnell Thomas 215.

Monday Night Ladies: Linda Nichols 186, Amber Gilbert 181, Patty Newsome 188, Kathy Brandenburg 199, Jackie Garita 190, Sarah Chumbley 192, Monita Rodgers 204.

Blairsville Youth: Michael Fox 177, 200.

Young @ Heart Seniors: Paul Napolitano 197, Linda Wood 195, Ron Wingate 234, Ron Gaucher 214, Ken Thigpen 214, 212, Bob Landis 223, Max Puett 200, Ron Weppleman 202, Ernest Rice 259, Nell Rice 199, Mo Rodgers 198, Bart Rodgers 201, Dewey Allen 201, 219.

Thursday Night Fun Mixed: Tony Lynch 209, Joe Chubberley 208, Bonnell Thomas 229, Chuck Reeves 200, 233, 204, Doug Roberts 204, Dewey Allen 213, 247, Bill Cox 208.

## NASCAR 2016

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### Penske Teams Double Down At Vegas

LAS VEGAS, Nev.--Penske Racers Brad Keselowski and Joey Logano finished 1-2 in Sunday's 267-lap Sprint Cup race.

Keselowski was running third on the race's last restart, with 35 laps to go, behind the leader Kyle Busch and teammate Logano. The three leaders maintained their position until Keselowski was able to move ahead of Logano on lap 254. Five laps later, Keselowski was able to slip by Busch for the lead, and went on to victory lane.

"I really liked the way the car handled," said Keselowski. "You know we got that pit road speeding penalty and it put us behind, but the way the car was handling I knew we could make it back to the front."

"It's been a long time since we had a win, and this really feels good."

Logano led 70 laps, but he was no match for Keselowski as the race neared its end.

"It was a great race," said Logano. "I wasn't sure I had enough to catch Kyle, so there was no use in me trying to race Brad and hold him back, because he was faster than me. The team gave me a great car, and even though a win would have made me feel better, I'm happy that Brad could win."

Jimmie Johnson, last week's Atlanta winner edged ahead of Busch's car just before the two crossed the finish line for third.

"It was a fantastic race for us," said Johnson. "We had a fast car, not the fastest, but these kind of races keep you in the game."

Kyle Busch led 38 laps, but the handling went away on his No. 18 Joe Gibbs Toyota with about 10 laps remaining, and he had to settle for fourth.

"I don't know what happened," said Busch. "There was something about those last right side tires we put on, and I just couldn't get the job done."

Austin Dillon finished a strong fifth, followed by Ryan Blaney, Kevin Harvick, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Kurt Busch, and Kasey Kahne.

There were five caution periods, but only two wrecks despite the high winds. The first wreck happened during lap 213 and involved Regan Smith and Kyle Larson. Both were able to continue.

A major pileup occurred on lap 224 after Matt Kenseth slipped up, causing a chain reaction behind him. The other cars involved were Chase Elliott, Carl Edwards, and Kurt Busch. Elliott and Kenseth were done for the day, while the others came back on the track after repairs were made.

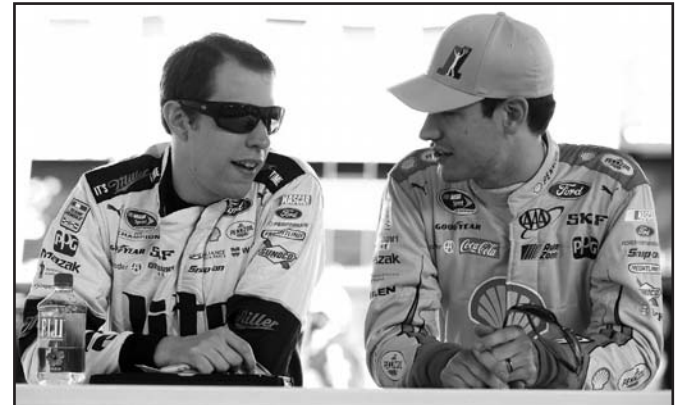
Denny Hamlin, winner of the Daytona 500 finished 19th. Danica Patrick was 21st.

Top-10 leaders after 3 of 36: 1. Kyle Busch-116, 2. Johnson-110, 3. Harvick-109, 4. Logano-104, 5. Kurt Busch-102, 6. Keselowski-98, 7. Edwards-96, 8. Hamlin-93, 9. Truex-90, 10. A. Dillon-90.

### "Rowdy" Kyle Dominates Vegas Xfinity Race

Kyle Busch led 199 laps of Saturday's 200-lap Xfinity Series race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. He started on the pole and the only lap he did not lead was lap 55 when he pitted for fuel.

His two teammates, Daniel Suarez and Erik Jones fin-



Teammates Brad Keselowski and Joey Logano

ished second and third, respectively.

Chase Elliott, Austin Dillon, Brandon Jones, Ty Dillon, Elliott Sadler, Justin Allgaier, and Brendan Gaughan rounded out the top-10.

Top-10 leaders after 3 of 33: 1. Suarez-106, 2. Sadler-103, 3. T. Dillon-99, 4. B. Jones-99, 5. Allgaier-95, 6. Gaughan-91, 7. E. Jones-86, 8. Reed-79, 9. Sieg-73, 10. Burton-72.

### Who Is Landon Cassill

Landon Cassill is the driver of the No. 38 Front Row Motorsports Ford in the Sprint Cup Series.

Like most of the lesser known drivers, Cassill is hardly a household name, but he has been involved in racing for over 13 years.

Cassill was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and began racing when he was three years old. He finished second in the Pro Kart Tour at Atlanta at age 10. The following year, he earned his first of two Kart Series national championships.

At age 16, he became the youngest winner in American Speed Association history when he won at Lake Erie Speedway on June 9, 2006.

Cassill was signed by Hendrick Motorsports in December 2006. In 2007, he worked in the team's research and development program and drove during practices for the Hendrick pit crews. Cassill made his Nationwide Series debut at Gateway in July 2007. He was named Rookie of the Year in 2008.

In early February 2012, it was announced that Cassill would drive for Front Row Motorsports, in the Sprint Cup Series, but the deal fell through. Shortly afterwards, he started driving the No. 83 for BK Racing. He finished 31st in season points.

In the 2014 Cup season, he finished 12th at Daytona, and had his best career finish of 4th at Chicago.

On February 2, 2015, Snap Fitness returned to the No. 40 team for a second year, sponsoring the races at Daytona, Atlanta, the All-Star Showdown, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Michigan International Speedway, and Darlington. He ran very strongly at Daytona in July, but his underfunded car was involved in a massive crash on the last lap at the checkered flag, and he wound up 13th.

In 2016, Cassill joined Front Row Motorsports, driving the No. 38.

While his record is not too impressive, neither has been the quality of his equipment. While the 26 year old driver might not have set the racing world on fire with his finishes, he has certainly put his heart into it.

## Blairsville Cub Scouts learn the new sport of Pickleball



(L-R): Darrel Cothren, Thomas Gary, Kegan Storms, Casey Roberts, Darrin London, Cameron Roberts, Jakob Jorgenson, Hunter Yancey

Dr. Crystal Gary and Physician's Assistant Katie Storms brought their Den 1, Pack 101 Cub Scout troop to the Blairsville First United Methodist Church gym on Sunday, February 28, to learn the game of Pickleball. The boys learned about the court boundaries, the techniques of play, proper use of the paddles, and basic rules. The church provided the courts, nets, paddles, and balls. The class

was conducted by Jeff Illston, Charles and Nancy Smith, volunteers from the Blairsville Pickleball Company. One of the scouts liked the game so much, he was planning to "save up his allowance" to buy a good paddle.

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the USA. It is a combination of ping pong, tennis, and paddle ball. Using a smaller court and whiffle ball, it is very appealing to

the young as well as the older players. Some schools across the country are now offering Pickleball in physical education classes. Currently, the Blairsville Pickleball Company has almost fifty members, and classes are being taught in the Blairsville First United Methodist Church Oasis program.

If interested, look in the USAPA.org website and watch Pickleball on Youtube.

### Weekend Racing: The Cup and Xfinity series' are at the 1-mile Phoenix International Raceway. Sat., Mar. 12: Xfinity Series race 4 of 33; Starting time: 2:30 p.m. ET; TV: Fox. Sun., Mar. 13: Sprint Cup Series race 1:30 p.m. ET; TV: Fox.

**Racing Trivia Question:** How many crew chiefs has Jimmie Johnson had in his Sprint Cup career at Hendrick Motorsports?

**Last Week's Question:** What year did the Las Vegas Motor Speedway open? Answer: The first race was held March 1, 1998.

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