

# UCMS Panthers put up 43 points in season opener at Banks County

By Todd Forrest  
North Georgia News  
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**Homer** - The Union County Middle School Panthers went on the road for their season opener and came away with a one-sided 43-22 victory over the Banks County Leopards.

Kanon Hemphill scored four times for the Panthers - two through the air and two rushing. Both touchdown passes were to Chayton Schafer.

Both Chad Buzzard and Brian Smith scored a rushing touchdown.

New Head Coach Gary Butler liked what he saw from his offense at Banks County despite the grueling heat and humidity.

"The offense executed well especially when you consider the heat," he said. "That was one of the hottest football games I have

ever experienced as a coach. The defense had several mental mistakes and not enough overall team hustle. The first team defense only allowed 8 points. We still have a ways to go.

"Our focus this week will be to correct the mistakes that were made at the Banks game," he added. "We had to make adjustments at half time on defense and the players did very well understanding the changes. This week we are making a few changes on the depth chart. This game gave us more insight as to what positions were better fit for each player.

"McDonald's is recognizing the offensive player of the game, defensive player of the game and the special teams player of the game with a meal. The three this week are Kanon Hemphill, Chayton Schafer and Brian Smith and honorable mention is Isaiah Garrett."



Coach Gary Butler



Under the tutelage of new head coach Gary Butler, the Union County Middle School 'Purple Swarm' defense drag down a Gilmer County ball carrier during their recent scrimmage game at Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium. Photos/Todd Forrest

# Middle School Lady Panthers continue to roll in 2014



Left: Maddie Sutton during Union's 10-2 win over Rabun. Right: Maddie Tanner delivers in the Rabun County win. Last Monday, Union defeated Lumpkin County 10-1 with Sutton picking up the win from the circle. Prior to the Lumpkin County game, Union was coming off an 11-0 win over White County. Coach Michael Smith-Foot is hoping to guide the Lady Panthers to another league championship. It would be the second-in-a-row under him and third-in-a-row overall. Photo/Todd Forrest

## Trout stocking sites week of August 18-22, 2014

Fannin: Rock Creek  
Union: Cooper Creek  
Note: Information is subject to change. For the latest on stocking and event information, remember to "like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ChattahoocheeForestNationalFishHatchery](http://www.facebook.com/ChattahoocheeForestNationalFishHatchery). Please call the hatchery at 706-838-4723 for questions. The hatchery also provides trout for the state. Please contact Georgia DNR for information on sites stocked by the state.

## Wounded Warriors Golf Tournament

On Friday, September 12th, at Old Union Golf Course, the Warriors-Scholarship Fund will be having a Golf Tournament, 1 p.m. Shotgun Start.

The format: teams of four, best ball. Team trophies for First, Second, and Third Place; Longest Drive and Closest to the Pins. Cost per team \$220, per player \$55. Companies, businesses, and organizations sponsoring teams \$200.

Sponsors and donors and anyone interested in making a donation or wanting to play in the tournament please contact Marine Sgt. Skip Belton at 706-745-2273 or Marine Sgt. Charlie Sowers at 706-745-5123. We do return calls!

## Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group

Sharon Penner leads the Local Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group at Cadence Bank in Blairsville on the first Monday of the month from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sharon has a library of information on hand (brochures, videos, books and literature) and offers workshops for caregivers to understand this devastating disease.

Please contact Sharon at (770) 789-2044 or pennervan-huss@yahoo.com for more information about Alzheimer's disease, caregiving, volunteering, donations, caring closet, or becoming an advocate for Alzheimer's.

## Golden Club Bowling League Summer winners

First Place: Jim's Smokin' Q: Gene Craig, Monte Tolson, John Poffenberger, Doug Foster; Runner Up: 3 Trees and A Logger: Jackie Keene, Marilyn Grant, Ann Boyd, Brenda Tate; 3rd Place: McRoberts Counselling: Capt. Mac McRoberts; 4th Place: Lucky 7: Capt. Margie Slodysko; 5th Place: Blairsville 4: Capt. Nancy Hopkins; 6th Place: Fannin Lanes: Capt. Lynne Hurst; 7th Place: Blue Ridge Trophies, Capt. Bonna Graham; 8th Place: Rusty Bike Café, Capt. Gene Langford; 9th Place: The Wild Bunch, Capt. Jr. Farmer; and 10th Place: Hit & Miss. Capt. Larry Dumas.

High Average Lady: Rose Marie Terry 165. High Average Man: Everett Hall: 195. Most Improved Lady: Margie Slodysko, #10. Most Improved Man: Larry Dumas #13.

Individual Awards (Lady): High Scratch Series: 563 Rose Terry, 515 Esther Day, 503 Bonna Graham; High Scratch Game: 215 Margie Slodysko, 200 Lucy Loper, 180 Lynne Hurst; HDCP Series: 798 Claudia Parks, 778 Nancy Hopkins, 767 Ann Boyd; HDCP Game: 284 Jackie Keene, 279 Sandy Langford, 270 Brenda Tate.

Individual Awards (Men): High Scratch Series: 691 John Poffenberger, 645 Everett Hall, 582 Billy Acton; High Scratch



First Place: Jim's Smokin' Q: Gene Craig, Monte Tolson, John Poffenberger, Doug Foster

Game: 248 Clifton Deal, 248 Gene Craig, 744 Monte Tolson, 738 Doug Foster; HDCP Game: 281 Junior Farmer, 279 Gene Crombie; HDCP Series: 800 Langford, 268 Ted Nesius.

## Union County Saddle Club news

On August 23, riders gathered at the Union County Arena for another Saddle Club Open Horse Show, which included speed, Western, racking, and English events. The next open show will be Saturday, September 30, at noon. The show sheet is available at [www.unioncountysaddleclub.org/forms.html](http://www.unioncountysaddleclub.org/forms.html).

Starting at 7 p.m. on September 2, we'll have roping practice at the arena. Cost is \$20 per person.

On September 6, barrel racers from all around north Georgia will return for another National Barrel Horse Association show. Riders will compete in pee wee, youth, senior, and open divisions in this money-added, 4D event. This event is free for spectators, and concessions will be available throughout the day.

Finally, you won't want to miss the Benefit Fun Show on September 13 at noon. We'll have all the old favorites like panty race, catalog race, and cupcake race. There will be great prizes for all fun events and for the overall points winner and runner-up for the day. Everyone can participate--



Don't miss the panty race at the 2014 Fun Show

Western, English, fast or slow! We'll also run poles, arena race, and barrels (3D open) with cash payouts. If you can't ride, come out and watch. We'll have some fun contests and prizes for non-riders, too. You can see the show sheet at [www.unioncountysaddleclub.org/forms.html](http://www.unioncountysaddleclub.org/forms.html). All proceeds from the fun show will go to Castoff Pet Rescue. Title sponsors for this event are Aviator Cafe, General Supply, Lovely Nails, and Walmart.

For more information on the club and its events, visit [www.unioncountysaddleclub.org](http://www.unioncountysaddleclub.org). New members are always welcome!

# NASCAR 2014

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

## Penske teams finish 1-2 at Bristol

BRISTOL, Tenn.—Joey Logano took the lead from Matt Kenseth in Saturday's Sprint Cup race with 45 laps remaining, and held off his teammate Brad Keselowski for his third win of the season.

"It just means a lot to be able to get this victory, and obviously Penske with the one-two finish puts the cherry on top," said Logano. "Yeah, right now we have the momentum. We've been fast at every type of race track. I wish we were in Atlanta tomorrow. Well, maybe not tomorrow. I'm going to enjoy tomorrow. But Monday sounds good."

Keselowski followed Logano for the last 30 laps of the 500-lap race, but was never able to make a pass for the lead, and had to settle for second.

"It was a hard night," said Keselowski. "I'll tell you, first off, this place, the race pace is really brutal and aggressive. I swear, this is the most grueling race of the year. It feels good just to complete it and be able to kind of look myself in the eye and know I gave it all I had. It just wasn't enough, but I didn't fall out of the seat, so I'm damned near as proud of not falling out of the seat as anything else."

Logano joined four other drivers, Keselowski, Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Jimmie Johnson, who have three wins this season.

The remaining top-10 drivers were: Matt Kenseth, Jimmie Johnson, Kurt Busch, Ricky Stenhouse, Carl Edwards, Jamie McMurray, Paul Menard, and Greg Biffle.

Polesitter Kevin Harvick came home 11th. On lap 160, Harvick moved up the track and bumped Denny Hamlin's No. 11 Toyota in the rear. Hamlin's car hit the wall, and spun down the track. As Hamlin's car was spinning around, along came Dale Earnhardt Jr. and slammed into the side of it.

Hamlin was unable to continue and finished 40th. Earnhardt's team made repairs but when he returned to the track, he was unable to maintain a proper speed and called it quits on lap 178. He wound up 39th.

Kyle Busch, who was involved in several incidents as well as a pit road speeding penalty was told off by his crew chief.

According to a story reported by MRN Radio, Busch radioed his pit crew, and began voicing several complaints to his crew chief Dave Rogers during lap 440.

"Park it behind the truck and take your whiny little ass to the bus," Rogers told him. Busch parked the car on pit road. He and Rogers later talked, and Joe Gibbs said the two would be able to move on.

Busch finished 36th and is now 17th in points, which means he is not currently in the Chase.

Chase Contenders with two races to go before the 10-race Chase begins: 1. Gordon-845, 2. Earnhardt-818, 3. Keselowski-776, 4. Logano-761, 5. Kenseth-751, 6. Johnson-726, 7.

## Harvick-721, 8. Edwards-716, 9. Newman-710, 10. Bowyer-699, 11. Biffle-694, 12. Larson-668, 13. Kahne-661, 14. A. Dillon-654, 15. Menard-649, 16. McMurray-634.

## BLANEY WINS OVER KYLE BUSCH

Kyle Busch led 161 laps of the 300-lap Bristol Nationwide Series race and seemed headed for victory lane.

But Ryan Blaney had a different idea. Beat Busch on the restart with seven-laps-to-go.

On the final restart, Busch was holding back. Blaney suddenly jumped to the lead as the cars took the green and sailed off to victory lane.

"Kyle didn't go on that last restart," Blaney said, referring to the marked area on the track wall inside which the leader is supposed to accelerate. "He said his tires were jacked up and we got to the second line and we just went."

Busch finished second, followed by Chase Elliott, Ty Dillon, Regan Smith, Brendan Gaughan, Kevin Harvick, Erik Jones, James Buescher and Chris Buescher.

Top-10 leaders after 23 of 33: 1. Elliott-834, 2. Smith-821, 3. T. Dillon-804, 4. Sadler-792, 5. Scott-783, 6. Bayne-771, 7. C. Buescher-682, 8. Gaughan-664, 9. Reed-632, 10. J. Buescher-621.

Top-10 Truck Series leaders after 13 of 22: 1. Sauter-487, 2. Crafton-479, 3. Hornaday-470, 4. Blaney-463, 5. Wallace Jr.-454, 6. Quiroga-433, 7. Coulter-425, 8. Peters-414, 9. Kennedy-412, 10. Burton-393.

## GIBBS SAID STEWART HAS STRENGTH TO RETURN

Tony Stewart's former car owner, Joe Gibbs believes Stewart has the strength to return to racing at some point following the Aug. 9 incident which left sprint car driver Kevin Ward Jr. dead.

Gibbs, who employed Stewart at Joe Gibbs Racing from 1999-2008, said he has not spoken to Stewart since the incident but thinks the driver will be able to come back and race again.

Stewart has missed the past three NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races and also has canceled his non-NASCAR racing appearances until further notice. "From what I saw with Tony, he's got great courage, he's smart, he loves this sport," Gibbs said. "He's totally focused on it."

Gibbs said he was told by Stewart's representatives the driver is taking some time for himself right now, and is in seclusion.

"We all love Tony, we love what he did for us here," he said. "We know he's a racer's racer and he's big for our sport. I would love to have a chance to speak with him at some point and encourage him."

Except to offer one statement right after the accident, Stewart has not made any comments about the accident which



Joey Logano, Cup winner at Bristol

took the life of the 20-year-old Ward. He has hired a "crisis team" to advise him on future actions and statements.

He has given several requested statements to the Ontario County Sheriff's Dept, but because of a possible criminal indictment, and/or civil lawsuits, his team has advised him against making any public statements or appearances.

In an article in the Washington Post last week, NASCAR writer, Jeff Owens said Stewart should: take time off from racing, explain what happened that night, honor Ward in some fashion and think long-term about how to make sprint-car racing safer.

Based on the e-mails I receive from fans, public opinion is against him, no matter what the real or actual circumstances were.

This tragedy is going to haunt Stewart for the rest of his life. He will never be able to distance himself from it.

I would hope that he and his advisors would begin to set the record straight and shed as much light as possible. The longer he waits, the more difficult it's going to be for the four Stewart Haas Racing teams to maintain a positive outlook. And don't forget their individual sponsors. These are national 500 Companies that have their reputation on the line.

He needs to face up to the situation for what it really was, rather than use a team of outsiders to make it appear as something it wasn't.

There is a lot more involved in this scenario than just Tony Stewart.

**Weekend Racing:** The Cup and Nationwide teams are at the 1.5-mile Atlanta Motor Speedway for night races, while the Truck Series heads to Ontario, Canada for a Sunday afternoon event.

Sat., Aug. 30, Nationwide Series race 25 of 33; Starting time: 7 pm ET; TV: ESPN.

Sun., Aug. 31, Truck Series race 14 of 22; Starting time: 1 pm ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Sun., Aug. 31, Sprint Cup race 25 of 36; Starting time: 7 pm ET; TV: ESPN.

**Racing Trivia Question:** Which driver has the most Cup wins at Atlanta?

**Last Week's Question:** The first NASCAR race held at Bristol was in 1961. Who was the winner? **Answer:** Georgia's Jack Smith was the winner.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at: [www.hodges@race500.com](http://www.hodges@race500.com)

## OPEN HOUSE

**AUGUST 28, 4:30-5 PM**  
**COME AT 5 P.M. FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Topics to be discussed, that are important to you as parents, include:

- What is a Title I school?
- Review of the Schoolwide Program
- Common Core curriculum and assessments
- Review of the Parent Involvement Policy
- Review of the School-Parent Compact

Childcare will be provided. In addition, attendees will receive a "Homework Pass."

**We hope to see you there!**