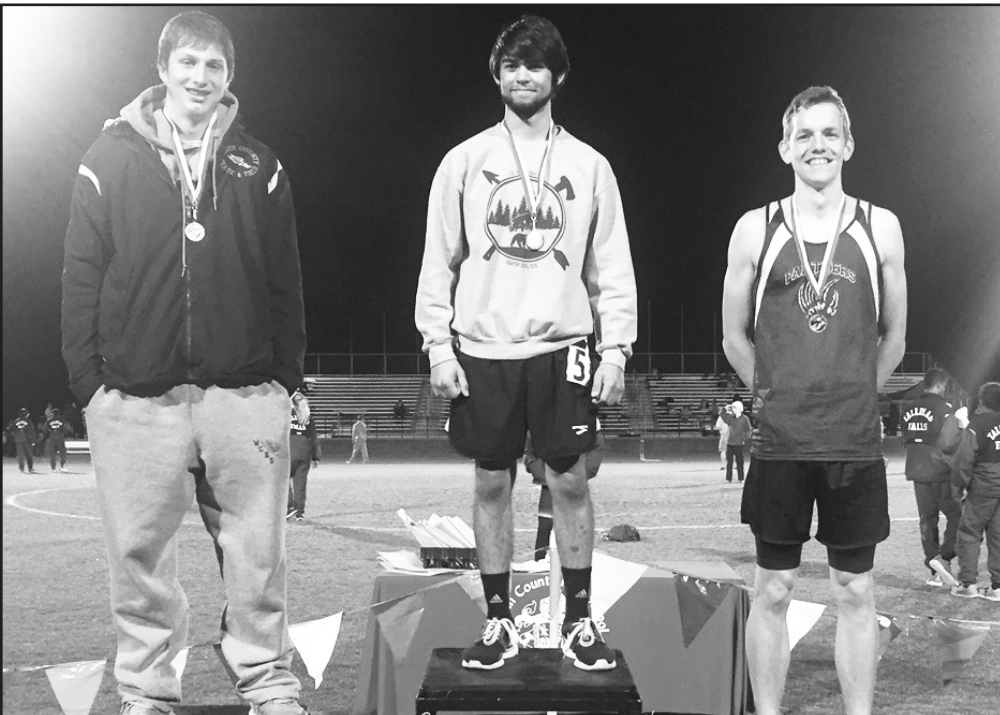


# Union track takes a step up in competition at Bo James Invitational



Top: Union County's Emma Garrison came in first place in the 1600M race with a time of 5:39. She also took home first in the 800M race with a time of 2:31. Below: Jacob Kelley came in third in the 400M race, fourth place in the High Jump, and fifth in the 100M race. Other results were: Stephanie Busse placed fifth in the 3200M race with a personal best time of 13:57. Anna Danek placed fourth in the 800M event with a personal best time of 2:40. She also came in sixth in the 3200M race with a time of 14:11. Emmeline Stuart was seventh in the 100M and 300M hurdles. Courtney Moore was fourth in the shot put and seventh in the discus. Jered Herum was fifth in the 200M race and Cole Payne was seventh in the 800M race. Zach Gilliam was sixth in the discus. Zach Stone was fourth place in the Long Jump and Triple Jump. Union County will travel to Fannin County on Thursday.

# Union County Head Golf Coach Greg Chambers discusses the 2016 season

By Greg Chambers  
North Georgia News  
Sports Special



Golf Coach Greg Chambers

The Girls golf team did have a great year last year and I know they were all excited to get back to practice a few weeks ago, but they also understand that they still have to work on their game in order to continue to improve. They will not sneak up on anyone this year and they know that last year was last year.

We need to stay grounded and not be satisfied from our 2015 season in order to improve from top to bottom. They have another opportunity this year to do something special for Union County in the region and at the State level, but that is all that we are guaranteed is an opportunity. The most important aspect for the girls, will be for them to focus on their game, relax and have fun, everything else will take care of itself.

The Boys team had some solid performances last year, but came up a little short at the Region Tournament. We have several returners this year, plus we added a couple of newcomers in Freshmen Grayson Blocker and Lance Hill who played well for their first match on Feb. 29th.

Jeremy Herum and Brady

Hill, Watson, Dills, and Day) in the top 6, we have some potential. We were pretty good at No. 1-through-3 last year, but we never had a consistent No. 4 player, mainly due to inexperience, but keep an eye out for the newcomers, Hill and Blocker.

The other key for us will be for the returners, who now have a year of high school experience under their belts. I would keep an eye on all of these ladies. Maddie and Ally were our No. 1 and 2 all of last year and played solid and improved as the season extended into the end of May at the State Tournament. They play all summer, fall, winter. They work very hard on their game and they practice all of the time. Grace and Megan played No. 3 and 4 each week and they were playing their best golf by the end of the season in May. Grace had a really good round on Monday with a 39, which was awesome since she just got back out to practice from basketball. I look for her and Megan to have a good year.

Megan has a very good golf swing and I am looking forward to see her play this year. They have the potential to push for the No. 1 and 2 spots on the team, which makes the entire team better.

## NASCAR 2016

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### Harvick Gets Close Win At Phoenix

Phoenix, AZ - Kevin Harvick's Sprint Cup win over Carl Edwards by 0.100-second was the closest win on record at the one-mile Phoenix track.

What looked like a Harvick waltz to the finish line turned into a no-holds barred, bumping match between the two drivers during the last half of the last lap of the 312-lap race.

Harvick led twice for 139 laps and was nearly three seconds ahead of Dale Earnhardt Jr. when the caution flag came out after Kasey Kahne hit the outside wall with five-to-go.

Harvick, Clint Bowyer, and Earnhardt remained on the track while Edwards, Kyle Busch, Denny Hamlin, Jimmie Johnson and Matt Kenseth made a brief pit stop for two right side tires.

On the green-white-checkered restart, which sent the race into overtime, Edwards was lined up fourth. He quickly got by Bowyer and Earnhardt, and set his sights on Harvick.

But Harvick wasn't waiting around. He had the accelerator to the floor and Edwards was unable to catch him until the two cars exited turn-4 and were headed for the finish line. Edwards bumped Harvick several times, and until the end of the race, it looked more like a drag race than an oval race.

Edwards moved ahead briefly, but Harvick held steady and crossed the stripe a couple feet ahead of Edwards.

"I knew I could beat him (Edwards), but when I saw him coming, I knew I was going to get some sheet metal messed up on the car," said Harvick. "This is a tough track and you have to move around to find the right groove, but it paid off today."

Edwards gave it his best shot and after the race went over, stuck his head in Harvick's car and congratulated him.

"I could have wrecked him," said Edwards. "But I didn't want to do that. I tried to move him up, and was able to, but it wasn't quite enough."

Denny Hamlin did not lead any laps but finished a strong third.

"The car was a mystery to us," said Hamlin. "It was a fast car, but it seemed like the longer the runs, the better it got. It wasn't as fast on the restarts, and that kind of put us behind."

Polesitter Kyle Busch led 75 laps, but after the midway point of the race, he wasn't able to lead any laps, and finished fourth.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. was fifth, followed by Kurt Busch, Matt Kenseth, Chase Elliott, Austin Dillon, and Ryan Blaney.

Top-10 leaders after 4 of 36: 1. Harvick-154, 2. Kyle Busch-154, 3. Johnson-140, 4. Kurt Busch-137, 5. Edwards-136, 6. Hamlin-131, 7. Logano-127, 8. A. Dillon-122, 9. Truex-117, 10. Earnhardt-115.

**GIBBS TEAMS SWEEP XFINITY RACE**  
Joe Gibbs teams led by

Kyle Busch finished 1-2-3 and dominated Saturday's Xfinity Series race at Phoenix.

Justin Allgaier, Chase Elliott, Ty Dillon, Austin Dillon, Elliott Sadler, Brad Keselowski, and Brandon Poole were the remaining top-10 finishers.

Top-10 leaders after 4 of 33: 1. Suarez-144, 2. Sadler-136, 3. T. Dillon-135, 4. Allgaier-132, 5. B. Jones-129, 6. E. Jones-126, 7. Gaughan-119, 8. Reed-106, 9. Poole-102, 10. Wallace Jr.-96.

#### WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO JAMIE McMURRAY

Jamie McMurray started off in the Sprint Cup Series in 2002 with a bang. According to some of his competitors he's a very competitive driver, but he has never lived up to his early expectations. "He is a good, clean driver, but if he is racing for position, he isn't going to move over and let you pass him," said Carl Edwards, driver of the No. 19 Gibbs Toyota. McMurray was born June 3, 1976 in Joplin, MO. He grew up racing go-karts and competed in nearly every form of karting around the country before moving to late-model stock cars.

He is best known for winning at Charlotte as a substitute driver for Sterling Marlin in his second Cup start, and is one of only three drivers to win both the Daytona 500 and Brickyard 400 in the same year. He currently drives the No. 1 Ganassi Chevrolet in the Sprint Cup Series with crew chief Matt McCall.

McMurray's entry into Sprint Cup racing is unique among active drivers. He was tapped as interim replacement for the injured Sterling Marlin, who fractured a vertebrae in a crash at Kansas Speedway in 2002. He made his Cup debut in SABCO Racing's No. 40 Dodge at Talladega. One week later, at Charlotte, in just his second career NASCAR Winston Cup and first non-restrictor plate start, McMurray outraced Bobby Labonte and Tony Stewart for the win.

In 2003, McMurray joined the Cup Series full-time. He won Rookie of The Year honors by 37 points over Greg Biffle. McMurray had five Top 5 finishes for the year and finished 13th overall.

He did not win any races in 2004 or 2005, and moved to Roush-Fenway Racing in 2006, scoring two of his biggest career Sprint Cup wins at the famous superspeedways of Daytona and Talladega. For 2010, Jamie returned to race for Ganassi, winning the Daytona 500 and Brickyard 400.

McMurray married Christy Futrell in July 2009. Their first child Carter Scott McMurray was born Thanksgiving morning, November 25, 2010. Their second child, a daughter named Hazel, was born February 11, 2013.

Through the tumultuous years of 2009 and 2010, McMurray found the power of prayer.

Following his win at Charlotte in 2010, McMurray said in his post-race interview, "As those laps were winding down, I was thinking about Daytona and why I cry and the power of prayer. I had a tough year last year. I found out the power of prayer and what that can do for you. When you get to victory lane, and you get to experience this, it just makes you a believer."

In 2013, he had one win, one pole, nine top-ten finishes and four top-five finishes in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series coming home 15th in the championship standings. He was the winner of the 2014 Sprint All-Star Race and earned two poles, seven Top 5 and 13 Top 10 finishes, but failed to make the Chase.

Going into last year's Contender Round, he was one point above Dale Earnhardt, Jr., who marked the cutoff line. During the race, McMurray was locked in a constant battle with Earnhardt for control of the final transfer spot. Ultimately, Earnhardt finished third and McMurray finished fourth, which tied them in points. The tie was broken in favor of Earnhardt, and McMurray was eliminated.

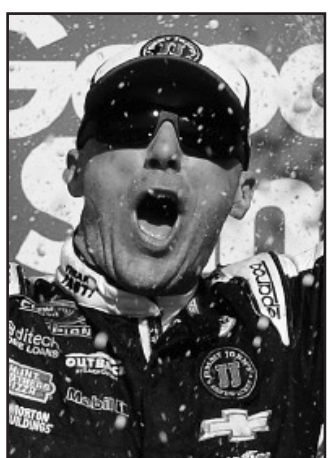
After three races into the 2016 season, he is 16th in points. I don't know if it's his team, or equipment, that has kept him from having better finishes, but I believe that McMurray can still get the job done.

**Weekend Racing:** The Cup and Xfinity teams are at the 1.5-mile Fontana, California track. The trucks do not race again until April 2. Sat., Mar. 19; Xfinity Series race 5 of 33; Starting time: 4 p.m. ET; TV: FoxSports1. Sun., Mar. 20; Sprint Cup Series race 5 of 36; Starting time: 3:30 p.m. ET; TV: Fox.

**Racing Trivia Question:** Which Cup team does Ryan Blaney drive for?

**Last Week's Question:** How many crew chiefs has Jimmie Johnson had in his Sprint Cup career at Hendrick Motorsports? Answer: Only one, and that is Chad Knaus.

You may contact the Racing Reporter by e-mail at: hodges@race500.com. NT(Mar16,ZO)CA



Kevin Harvick

### MGC celebrates 30 years on Saturday

The Mountain Gymnastics Center celebrates 30 years in business in March!

Please join us for an Open House on Saturday, March 19th at the Mountain Gymnastics Center from 1-3 p.m.

At 1:30 p.m. the MGC will feature a performance by the Young Harris College Competitive Cheer Team. At 1:45 will be a performance by the Mountain Cheer All Stars.

At 2 p.m. will be a time of reflection. Finally at 2:30 p.m., the Mountain Gymnastics Center Team will perform.

Please celebrate 30 years with Mountain Gymnastics Center on Saturday.

### Bowling scores

Monday Night Ladies: Peggy Kidder 228, Sarah Chumbley 181, Amber Gilbert 184.

Monday Night Men: Ryan West 201, Chris Elinwood 210, 226, Bill Smith 208, Dewey Allen 201, 214, Bonnell Thomas 226, Kevin Mohan 220, 202, Ron Wingate 200, 235, Mike Newsome 226, Joe Teague 208, 234, Derick Rice 210, Ranny Jones 231, Ken Clark 215, Jay Burrell 235, 231, 225, Series 694, Ray Everett 244, 214, Bob Bischoff 243, Greg Whittenburg 243, 230, 221 Series 694.

Young At Heart: Max Puett 210, Ron Wingate 230, Ron Gaucher 226, 211, Anne Sorrelle 189, Paul Napolitano 220, Bob Landis 235, Bruce Burnett 213, Bart Rodgers 201.

Blairsville Youth: Savannah Karisny 149, Ivy Robbins 151, 119, Jared Edwards 141, Michael Fox 197, 164, 155, Jacob Fox 140, 158, Derek Harwood 105, Nick Love 161, DJ Robbins 160, Eric Fox 171, 163. NM(Mar16,ZO)CA

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		

### "Casting for Addison" Bass Tournament fundraiser

A Bass Tournament fundraiser for Addison McClure, the daughter of Nathan and Nioka McClure will be held March 19, 2016 at the Lake Chatuge GMF Ramp, 7 a.m. til 4:30 p.m.

Bass Tournament info: \$75 with \$10 Big Fish Option; 5 fish limit at 14"; Black Bass only; 2 persons in boat; blast determined by registration; payback determined by number of boats registered; artificial lure; 50 yards distance between boats; all state and federal laws apply. No

refunds. All donations are appreciated. 50/50 Pay Payout Tournament; officials decisions are final. Pre-register at C&J Mountain Outfitters, 706-896-7543. Not responsible for accidents.

All proceeds are to help with medical expense for Addison McClure. She was diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL) on November 23, 2015 and is currently undergoing treatments at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston. NT(Mar16,ZO)CA

### Canal Lake Bible Camp: Make a Way with A 5K

Canal Lake Bible Camp: Make a Way with A 5K, sponsored by Zaxby's, in memory of Don Cummings

Canal Lake Bible Camp, located off Pat Colwell Road has been reaching out to children in the Union and surrounding counties for over fifty years. Several years ago the decision was made to offer this camp to the children in our community entirely free of charge. Since then, the number of campers has reached 450 over the period of three weeks. At CLBC children experience awesome food, incredible games and team activities, great teaching, lake time, basketball, volleyball, a pool, water sports, a sling shot course, zip lining, and various other activities. What is most important is that

children experience the love of God and a whole heap of fun in a safe, caring environment at no cost for an entire week!

In an effort to offset the costs associated with a camp of this size, CLBC is hosting their fourth annual 5K with a 1 mile fun run at Meek's Park on May 14, 2016 at 8 AM. Registration for the 5K is \$25. Registration for the 1 mile fun run is \$15. If you register before April 14th you are guaranteed to have a free t-shirt. We encourage participants of all ages and levels of fitness. Awards will be given out to different age and gender categories. Door prizes and goodie bags will also be given out on race day. All proceeds will go directly to Canal Lake Bible Camp. This is a family friendly event and we hope to

see the people of our community spread the word and turn out to support the children of North Georgia who benefit so greatly from the camp. To register you may go to www.active.com and search our run.

This year is special for the Canal Lake Bible Camp team because we are honoring Don Cummings. Don ran at this event every year and usually beat all the young runners. He and his wife along with their two daughters have supported the camp ministry for years through counseling, working in the kitchen or serving at various capacities. Last fall, Don passed away due to cancer. We decided to put this race in honor of his support, servanthood, and the legacy that he leaves behind.