

Senior Night ...continued from Page 14A

games remaining. If they get to 10 wins, that would be a remarkable fifth straight season with double-digit wins.

Union visits Rabun on Tuesday for a 5 p.m. start and then it's off to Oglethorpe County on Friday for a 5:30 p.m. kickoff. On Monday, Union hosts Towns at 5 p.m.

Over the weekend, Coach Hunter took a few moments to talk about each of the three Lady Panther seniors.

Mary Murphy: "The one thing that I'll miss about Mary is her raw foot speed. That's a joke we all share and Mary is a good sport about it. She has been exactly what you expect a senior to be. She practices hard and is a good leader by example, she just wants to kind on the field and will always give you effort no matter what position she plays. She has played forward and mid this season and has two game winning goals on the season. My

favorite memory of her thus far this season was when Camryn didn't tighten the lid on a water bottle and Mary poured pretty much the entire bottle on herself at practice."

Ema Herum: "Ema has really found herself as a player this season. I knew it was always there but she just didn't always unleash it. She got the goal that sent us to kicks vs Jefferson and has played so well as of late. Ema is usually a very quiet senior except for the silly noises she makes constantly and we aggravate her about. Which brings me to my favorite memory of her and that was when she got so mad at me for moving her to left midfield and that anger erupted in a silly noise tirade that no one really understood a word of. But we did laugh which probably only made it worse."

Erin Innis: "Erin will be going on to play soccer next season at Agnes Scott. She has

been a very skilled player from day-one and has played club soccer all through high school. Erin is a gamer and always seems to bring out her best against the best competition. She has been a great distributor of the ball and has played outstanding in midfield all season, both as an offensive threat and even more by defending their best midfielders. My favorite memory of her was she was cramping so bad that I was helping her off the field and she jumped into my arms and I ended up carrying her off while she was eating raw mustard to get rid of the cramps.

Ema Herum and Erin Innis have actually been with me for five years because I let them play JV when they were in 8th grade. We used to call them the babies and they gave me a gift at the end of that season in a little baby sock. I never forgot that and that's why they had the baby socks on their flowers at Senior Night."

Union County High School track program off and running

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
sports@nganews.com

Riding high on the wave of back-to-back State Championships in Cross Country, Union County track was given a trial run last week and took home first place in four events.

Julia Lindsey finished first in the 3200M run and second in the 1600M.

Emma Garrison finished first in the 1600m run and first in the 800m run.

Kim Coyne finished first in the 200m.

Allie Stroman finished second in the 400m.

The girls 4x400 team of Emma Garrison, Stephanie Busse, Julia Linsey and Allie Stroman finished second.

The girls 4x100 team of Madison Rich, Amy Cummings, Allie Stroman and Kim Coyne missed a first place finish by a tenth of a second.

Kim Coyne finished third in the 100m.

Madison Rich finished third in the 200m.

Jacob Kelley finished third in the 100m and third in the 200m.

Jakob Brown was fourth in the 3200m.

Matthew Rich placed fourth in the 800m.

Will Stone came in third in the 400m.

Zach Stone was fourth in the 400m.



Emma Garrison's back-to-back State titles has created an interest in a track program at Union County High School. Photo/Todd Forrest

Chris Thompson finished second in his heat of the 100m

The boys 4x400 team of Zach Stone, Andrew Nelson, Matthew Rich, and Will Stone finished third.

The boys 4x100 team of Nick Rodriguez, Will Stone, Ralston Drake, and Jacob Kelley finished 2nd.

Union County is coached by Assistant Cross Country Coach Shawnetta Reece and will participate in the upcoming Region 8-AA meet in Jefferson.

"We are very fortunate that our track athletes were able to experience at least one meet before our Region competition next Wednesday," Coach Reece said. "A big thanks goes out to our UCHS administrators, athletic directors, transportation department, Mr. Steppe and Dr. Williams for making this happen. One of the downsides to a late start other than the five weeks of missed training is the inability to attend meets. Most schools have their schedules set to full capacity. We will face some tough competition in our region next week. Region 8-AA has some of the best recorded times in the state."



The Lady Panther soccer players embrace following the Senior Night ceremony between games last Friday at Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium. Photo/Todd Forrest

NASCAR 2014

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

"Happy" Harvick two-steps to Darlington win

Kevin Harvick put on a dominating performance Saturday night in winning Darlington's Sprint Cup race, which made him the first two-time winner this season. But it required two green-white-checked restarts before he claimed the victory.

Harvick led 238 laps of the 374-lap race, but on the first g-w-c restart, he found himself in the fifth position, due to a four-tire pit stop.

We had a fast car and all we had to do was keep our heads down and dig all night," said Harvick. "We had four fresh tires, and I knew the restarts would favor us, because they only had two.

"We were able to hang on there at the end and I knew I had that high line - I hadn't showed it to them all night on the restarts and I wanted to save it until the very end. I kind of learned that last night as we were in the Nationwide race. It was a good tool in your tool bag to have there at the end."

Dale Earnhardt Jr. had a fast car, but due to only two new tires on the last two restarts, his car was no match for Harvick's.

"It's a little disappointing to come that close because I know I don't really run that well here and the opportunities to win are going to be very few compared to other tracks," said Earnhardt. "It hurts a little bit to come that close because we worked so hard to try to win races. Running second is great but nobody is going to really remember that. But we're proud of it.

"Sometimes if I admittedly say this isn't my best track, it's easy to sort of back off, but those guys really push the pedal and give me everything I can to give me the best chance to finish as best I can. They did that tonight. That was a great example of that."

Third-place finisher Jimmie Johnson, who started 26th is still winless after eight races.

"Yeah, just very happy to finish there in the top three," Johnson said. "I thought we had a shot at a win. I think if things stayed green after our last pit stop, we had a good chance at it, good shot at it. I'm happy with Chad's decision to go with two, and there were enough cars that took two that it gave us a little bit of a cushion, maybe enough of a cushion to make it four or five laps there."

Matt Kenseth was fourth, while Greg Biffle was fifth, and Kyle Busch was sixth.

Jeff Gordon, who finished seventh took the points lead for the first time since 2009.

"I thought we were a little bit better than him (Kevin Harvick) on certain runs," said Gordon. "But there towards the end,

we kind of started fading. I got into the wall a little bit.

"From there, our night went downhill. We just made some mistakes and got behind. We were the last car on two tires and we just got ate up on those restarts. But...It's not bad to come home seventh. I thought it was going to be worse than that."

Rookie Kyle Larson was eighth, followed by Tony Stewart, and Ryan Newman.

Top-16 leaders after 8 of 36: 1. Gordon-297, 2. Kenseth-296, 3. Edwards-278, 4. Earnhardt-271, 5. Johnson-270, 6. Kyle Busch-269, 7. Keselowski-246, 8. Logano-245, 9. Newman-236, 10. A. Dillon-235, 11. Biffle-227, 12. Stewart-224, 13. Vickers-224, 14. Larson-223, 15. Hamlin-223, 16. Bowyer-219. Note: NASCAR has said there will be at least 16 drivers in this year's Chase.

ELLIOTT GETS SECOND NATIONWIDE WIN

For the second time in two weeks, young Chase Elliott stole the show as he won Friday night's Nationwide race at Darlington for his second consecutive victory.

Elliott led three times for 52 laps of the 147-lap race, but had his work cut out for him as the race neared its completion. There was a caution with only five laps remaining. Most of the leaders pitted, and when the green flag was given indicating two laps, he was fifth.

Elliott Sadler was the leader, but he was unable to hold off the hard-charging 18-year-old from Dawsonville, Georgia.

The JR Motorsports driver worked his way through traffic and finally passed Sadler, who seemed to get loose coming off Turn 2 on the final lap.

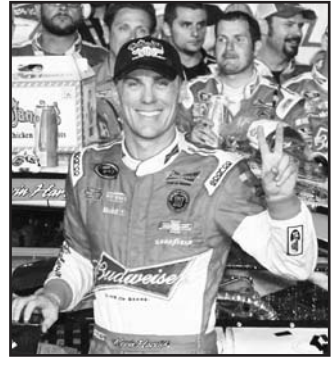
"It was just crazy," Elliott said. I didn't know what to expect starting that far back. I knew the guys on two tires were going to be a little slower than those on four. It happened to work out, and I was able to move through the traffic.

"I watched Elliott go into a couple of the corners, and I knew that if I caught him, I would have to pass on the outside. He got a little loose in two and gave me the outside, and that's where I wanted to be anyway."

It was Elliott's second straight win after winning at Texas last week. He's also the youngest driver to win two Nationwide races in one season, at 18 years, 4 months, 14 days, and the youngest to win at Darlington.

Elliott Sadler, who finished second only took two tires during the last pit stop.

"It was a great call," Sadler said. "Two tires were the way to go. It gave us the track



Happy Kevin Harvick wins at Darlington

position we needed. My guys did what they do best and got me out of the pits. We just got very loose there in one and two and just tried to catch the car. Chase did a good job getting on the outside."

Matt Kenseth was third, followed by Kyle Busch, Joey Logano, Kyle Larson, Kevin Harvick, Regan Smith, Trevor Bayne, and Ty Dillon.

Top-10 leaders after 7 of 33: 1. Chase Elliott-271, 2. Smith-258, 3. Sadler-251, 4. T. Dillon-248, 5. Bayne-241, 6. Scott-225, 7. Gaughan-215, 8. Kwasniewski-200, 9. Buescher-195, 10. Reed-172.

PETTY ADJUSTING TO LIFE WITHOUT WIFE.

Richard Petty was not at Darlington this past week.

He was at home mourning the death of his wife instead of his familiar spot at the racetrack. Lynda Petty died last month after battling cancer for several years. She was 72.

"He's doing pretty good," said son Kyle. "He's used to going to the racetracks and being at the racetracks alone, but he's not used to being at home and being alone. So I've stayed with him some, and my sisters have stayed some. It's just going to take time. They were together 57 years and even though he spent 50 of those 57 years on the road, according to him, at race tracks, it's been a lot harder and a lot tougher (than he thought)."

"My mother had been really sick for almost five years, so she fought pretty hard."

Petty has said that he will return to the track, sometime after Easter.

Weekend Racing: NASCAR will not hold any races next weekend, because of the Easter Holiday. The next racing weekend will be April 25th and 26th at Richmond, featuring the Sprint Cup and Nationwide teams.

Racing Trivia Question: Where is Jamie McMurray's hometown?

Last Week's Question: How many Grand National championships did Rex White win? **Answer:** Only one in 1960.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at hodges@race500.com. NT(Apr16,C)1ac



Interested in hiking? Looking for a place to start? Mountain High Hikers, Inc. is offering monthly hikes for the beginner hikers. Led by experienced hikers these hikes are easy but interesting. The trails we hike are in the mountains of North Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee. There is no charge for these hikes.

The next scheduled hike is April 24, 2014 at the Flat Creek Loop Trail in the Aska Adventure Trail Area near Blue Ridge. Meet at Food Lion Parking Lot in Blue Ridge at 9 a.m. Hike leader is George Owen at 706 897 3366.

You can also visit us at our Website for future events: <http://www.mountainhighhikers.org/>.

VFW Golf League news

For the 2nd week in a row Danny Barrett's team won the VFW competition.

The team of Danny Barrett, Vince Cooper, Bart Rodgers and Chuck Woodworth, combined to shoot 8 under for 18 holes, at Chatuge Shores. Again this week Barrett had another eagle, 2 this season.

Until next week, hit 'em long and straight.

Butch Patterson,
VFW golf chairman
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Gary Brown bowls perfect 300



Seven years ago Gary Brown rolled his first 300 game. On March 24, 2014 he repeated perfection in the Monday Night Men's League.

Fitness Fun for 21st Century students



21st Century Elementary students participated in a Fitness Fun program. The students learned how to identify the heart rate intensity that is necessary to increase aerobic capacity. They used basketballs to increase their motor skills. As they went through this program, they learned to function individually and as a team member.

Trout stocking sites week of April 7-11, 2014

Fannin: Big Creek, Hemptown Creek, Toccoa River, Toccoa River Tailwaters of Lake Blue Ridge, and Rock Creek
Lumpkin: Etowah River and Niblewill Creek
Murray: Holly Creek
Union: Cooper Creek and Toccoa River
Note: Information is subject to change. 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.

UNION COUNTY LADY PANTHERS SOFTBALL CAMP

APRIL 26TH 2014 10:00-1:00

Fundamentals of throwing, hitting, fielding and baserunning

Location: UCHS Softball/Baseball Complex

CAMP GRADES 1ST-8TH

CAMP COST: \$25.00



SEND FORM TO:

Camp Director: Jessica Stewart
Mail to: 165 Elementary way Blairsville, Ga 30512
(706) 897-7372
jstewart@ucschools.org
ordrop off form at Union County Elementary School

BRING TO CAMP:

Glove
Bat/Helmet- optional
water bottle
tennis shoes and cleats
\$ for concession-optional

"Registration will also be available the day of camp starting at 9:00am"

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

GRADE _____ EMAIL _____

PARENTS/GUARDIANS _____ CELL PHONE # _____

1. _____

2. _____

T-SHIRT SIZE: (CIRCLE ONE)

YOUTH: S M L ADULT: S M L XL

I certify that my dependent as listed above has had adequate physical exam and is physically able to participate in the camp activities. I authorize the coaching staff of the Union County Panthers camp to supply any treatment, which they deem necessary due to an accident, injury, illness that occurs to my dependent.

Parent _____

Date _____