

Union basketball photos from the first half of 2015-16 season



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Candler Colwell scored a pair of baskets in the fourth to give him a total of 8 points.

The only other Panther to reach the scoring column was Mancuso, who had 2 points in the third period.

Shook stuffed the stat sheet with 9 boards, 4 steals, and 2 blocked shots to compliment his 15-point outing.

Crawford Colwell continued his solid all-around play. This time he hauled in 7 boards, snagged a pair of steals and blocked a shot. Once again, Candler Colwell led the team in assists with four while matching his brother with 2 steals.

Baenninger shared the team lead with 4 assists while knocking down Union's only two shots from beyond-the-arc.

The Eagles were led in scoring with 20 from junior

Kaden Moore.

**Panthers 44
Hayesville, NC 63**

A 16-6 Hayesville run in the third quarter overwhelmed a Panthers' squad that scratched and clawed to remain within 10 points of North Carolina's 8th ranked Yellow Jackets.

The outburst left Union on the wrong end of insurmountable 48-30 score with 8 minutes to play.

Hayesville leapt out to a 19-8 advantage after a quarter but the Panthers battled their way back to remain within 10 points for the majority of the second and third quarters.

At the break, Union was still within striking distance at 32-24, but the Yellow Jackets found another gear in the latter

stages of the third period.

The Panthers were unable to threaten as Hayesville maintained a cozy margin throughout the final stanza.

However, the Yellow Jackets would fall in the Championship Game of the tournament to Lumpkin County, 46-43.

Baenninger and Crawford Colwell led Union with 15 points and 5 rebounds each vs Hayesville but as a team, the Panthers were just 1-for-14 from long distance with junior Parker McCombs hitting Union's only trey.

Candler Colwell had 2 points and 6 boards, Shook scored 5 points with 3 boards, Mancuso added 2 points, senior Lance Rich recorded 2 steals and senior Matthew Rich had 2 assists.

Hayesville's Zach Cottrell scored 19 points.



Andrew Brown (25) and Parker McCombs (3) defend a Hokes Bluff ball handler. Photo/Todd Forrest

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Tenn., 39-37. A 12-7 first quarter advantage turned into a 21-16 disadvantage at the break.

Trailing by as many as seven, Layne Colwell and Coyne hit treys in the third period to bring Union within two at 30-28 entering the final frame.

Daniel and Coyne knocked down threes while Layne Colwell added a pair of baskets to give the Lady Panthers the slight edge, 11-7 over the final 8 minutes, despite a horrid 1-for-10 performance at the foul line during the fourth quarter.

A basket by Lawn in the third quarter was the only other points scored by Union.

Layne Colwell finished with 8 boards, Fair grabbed 6 boards with 2 steals, and Daniel had 5 boards and a game-high 5 steals.

Coyne led the team with 3 assists and 4 blocked shots, while Busse added 3 blocked shots.

**Lady Panthers 50
Piedmont, AL 22**

With 17 points from Daniel and 10 from Busse, that was all the offense the Lady

Panthers would need.

Layne Colwell would contribute 8 points, Coyne scored 6 points, Lawn hit a trey for 3 points, and Fair, Dockrey, and Jordan Rogers added 2 points each.

Union led 17-4 after one quarter and 26-8 at the half.

The lead stretched to 38-14 entering the fourth.

Busse's 12 rebounds gave the senior a double-double. Layne Colwell dished off 5 assists for a game-high, Fair's 3 steals were tops in the larceny category and Busse was four blocks short of a triple-double with six.



Coach Tucker and Coach Dockrey (far right) during a timeout at Battle of the States. Photo/Todd Forrest



NASCAR 2016

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Winners and Losers of 2015

While there are many drivers and teams that could be considered "winners and losers" during the 2015 racing season, Joey Logano, Matt Kenseth, and Kevin Harvick had to be three of the biggest losers.

Logano's problems started during the Hollywood Casino on Oct. 18 at Kansas Speedway.

With four laps remaining, Kenseth and Logano were racing for the lead. As they approached slower lapped traffic, Kenseth tried to block Logano, but Logano tapped Kenseth's No. 20 in the left rear, sending Kenseth into a slide and bringing out the caution flag.

Logano went on to win the race, while Kenseth finished 14th.

"It's just good hard racing," Logano said of the incident with Kenseth. "He raced me hard, so I raced him hard back. The fact that we're the only team that can relax now (with Talladega looming) is going to pay big dividends going into Martinsville. To make a lot of these guys nervous going into Talladega is part of the strategy."

However, Kenseth viewed the incident much differently.

"I pulled up in front of him (to block Logano on the high line of the track), and he lifted my tires off the ground and wrecked me," Kenseth said. "I won't talk to Joey. I don't have anything to talk to him about really. I mean, you make decisions every minute behind the wheel. To me, strategically, that doesn't seem like such a great decision for him. But that's how they wanted to win. I'm one of the only guys that hasn't been into it yet with Joey. I always raced him with a ton of respect. I actually have been one of his biggest fans. I'm not anymore."

Logano was already guaranteed his spot in the next round of the Chase after his previous victory, a week before at Charlotte.

Kenseth's team arrived at Kansas knowing they needed to win.

The incident left Kenseth 12th, the last spot of the remaining Chase drivers and put him in a must-win situation at Talladega the following week, if he was to advance to the next round of the Chase. He did not win, and was eliminated from the Chase.

Kenseth's anger apparently seethed until the Martinsville race, when it reached a boiling point.

During the early part of the Martinsville race Logano's teammate, Brad Keselowski got into Kenseth, damaging his car on a restart. This aggravated Kenseth even more.

During lap 454 of the 500-lap race, Logano was leading. After passing Kenseth on the outside, Kenseth moved up the track and into the rear of Logano's No. 22. Kenseth continued to push Logano into the wall, further damaging his car.

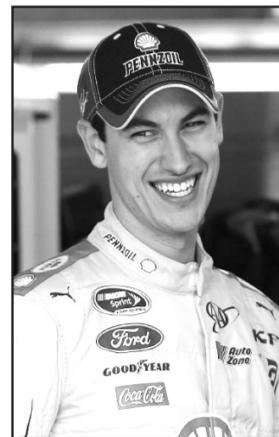
Logano was out of the race and so was Kenseth.

"It's a chicken-you-know-what move to completely take out the leader when your race is over," Logano said. "We'll move on."

Kenseth said the incident was "definitely my fault".

"I got into him," Kenseth said. "The right front was dragging down there ... and man (I) couldn't get it to turn and collected him."

"I know it's got to be disappointing for him. It's a tough



Joey Logano

sport: some days you're the bat and some days you're the ball. I was the ball a few weeks ago and I was the ball again today, so that part of it is never fun."

His deliberate wrecking of Logano drew him a two-race suspension from NASCAR. Kenseth said he would have handled the payback differently had he known he'd draw such an unprecedented penalty.

But in a telephone interview with The Associated Press, Kenseth said he would do it again.

"I really stand by my actions," he said. "I feel like there's a breaking point. It wasn't just about being mad, it was about getting this fixed. It was time to make it stop."

Neither Kenseth nor Logano recovered from the two separate incidents and did not make the final Chase round.

Kevin Harvick finished second in the points behind Kyle Busch. Most drivers would consider it a great year, but for the Harvick team it was nothing short of a bitter disappointment. Harvick and his team thought they would win a second consecutive Sprint Cup championship. He had three wins, but a couple accidents and bad pit stops cost him positions. He was in contention for his second championship going into the final race of the season, but did not have the car to out run Kyle Busch.

Despite finishing second he had race winnings of over \$9-million, more than any other driver.

Clearly the biggest winner of the 2015 season was Kyle Busch. He missed 11 races at the beginning of the season due to a wreck at Daytona that left him with a broken ankle and foot. He won five races and the 2015 Championship.

One of the biggest success stories of the season was that of Martin Truex Jr. and his "Little David" team. Truex's Furniture Row Racing of Denver, Colorado is a single car operation that lacked funding, engineers, and other technical know how available to the multi-car teams.

Still Truex managed to finish fourth in the Chase with one win and 22 top-10s.

In addition he was named the 2015 Colorado Professional Athlete of the Year by Mile High Sports Magazine.

"I am deeply honored to be recognized in the home state of our Furniture Row Racing," said Truex. "Though it will be showcased as an individual honor, the

Mile High Sports award would never have been possible if it weren't for the talented and dedicated group of people at our Denver shop for giving me fast race cars throughout the season."

**MARVIN PANCH
PASSES AWAY**

Marvin Panch, a hard-charging NASCAR driver died last week. Panch will always be remembered as the driver that took Smokey Yunick's 1959 Pontiac and won the 1961 Daytona 500. The win infuriated Pontiac executives, because they wanted the 1961 model driven by Fireball Roberts to win. Pontiac personnel refused to stand in victory lane with Panch, saying, "We want people to buy our new cars, not the old ones."

It would seem like California would be an awful long distance for a Wisconsin native to begin his racing career. But that's where it all started for him. Panch was born May 26, 1928 in Menomonie, Wisconsin, a small town about 20 miles west of Eau Claire.

"I had a good friend that was in the Merchant Marine and sailed out of Oakland," said Panch in a 2015 interview. "He was ready to go back out on a ship and he asked me to ride with him to the west coast. When we got to Oakland, my friend wanted to sell his car and we worked out a deal and I bought it."

Panch built a 1950 Mercury and asked a local driver, Loyd Reagan to drive it for him at Balboa Stadium. Reagan did real well in Panch's car, but one night he didn't show up.

"I wanted to race, so I decided to give it my best shot," continued Panch. "I finished third and from then on, I was the driver."

He won a championship on the West Coast and entered five NASCAR races, before Bill France Sr. talked him into coming east and racing with NASCAR. His first race was at Darlington. He finished 28th out of a 59-car field.

Panch went on to claim 17 NASCAR victories, but one of his most cherished wins was the 1966 World 600 (now the Coca Cola 600) at Charlotte.

"Richard Petty had an old Plymouth setting in the yard, and Dale Inman (Petty's crew chief), asked me if I would like to run it," said Panch. "The car didn't look too great, but since I didn't have anything to drive, I took it."

"That car turned out to be one of the best cars I've ever driven."

"A lot of people thought I got out of racing too early. But I had decided that when I turned forty, I would retire. My last race was at Charlotte in that Petty Plymouth."

Racing Trivia Question: Who was the first NASCAR champion?

Last Week's Question: Where was the first official NASCAR race held? While Bill France Sr. had promoted several races before forming NASCAR, the first official NASCAR race was held on the old Daytona Beach/Road Course on February 15, 1948. The race was won by Red Byro in a Raymond Parks Ford.

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