

Union County competes at Hawaiian Luau Swim Meet

Union County High and Middle Schools attended a swim meet this Saturday at Ruby Fulbright Aquatic Center in Clarksville, GA. We had several top 10 finishes and many Middle School records (indicated with an *). Please take a moment to congratulate these swimmers!

200 Yard Medley Relay

8th Place (HS): Gavin Thompson, Jeremy Herum, Adian Francis, Tyler Harkins
2nd Place (MS): Jack Wiarda, Hunter White, Brian Williams, Steven Williams

100 Yard Individual Medley

6th Place (MS): Hunter White *
2nd Place (MS): Grace Weldon *

50 Yard Freestyle

4th Place (MS): Brian Williams *
6th Place (MS): Steven Williams
10th Place (MS): Hunter White
5th Place (HS): Kaiya Wilkes
10th Place (HS): Leannah Gambrell
1st Place (MS): Grace Weldon *
9th Place (MS): Megan Wiarda

100 Yard Freestyle

9th Place (MS): Nathan Cobb *

500 Yard Freestyle

6th Place (HS): Katie Yaboni

200 Yard Freestyle Relay

10th Place (HS): Jeremy Herum, Tyler Harkins, Gavin Thompson, Aidan Francis
2nd Place (MS): Jack Wiarda, Steven Williams, Hunter White, Brian Williams
6th Place (MS): Alden Wilkes, Sloan Sutton, Payton Ivester, Nathan Cobb
8th Place (HS): Savannah Damon, Megan Foster, Leannah Gambrell, Kaiya Wilkes
9th Place (MS): Allison Vincent, Hannah Patterson, Katelynn Rash, Brittany Pendley

100 Yard Backstroke

4th Place (MS): Steven Williams *
10th Place (HS): Ariel Caputo-Sullivan
6th Place (MS): Allison Vincent *

100 Yard Breaststroke

7th Place (MS): Aliceyn Covington

"Jingle Bell" Swim Meet results

Results from the December 4th Habersham "Jingle Bell" Swim Meet for the UC High School boys & girls swim teams. Way to represent, Panthers!

Men:

200-yd Medley Relay – Top Ten Finish (9th Place)
200-Freestyle Relay – Top Ten Finish (6th Place)
200-yd Freestyle:
7th Place Finish by Gavin Thompson (9th Grade)
13th Place Finish by Tyler Harkins (9th Grade)
200-yd Individual Medley:
5th Place Finish by Aidan Francis (10th Grade)
50-yd Freestyle (53 Swimmers):
22nd Place Finish by Ean Harkins (9th Grade)
33rd Place Finish by Tyler Harkins (9th Grade)
100-yd Freestyle (34 Swimmers):
6th Place Finish by Aidan Francis (10th Grade)
9th Place Finish by Jeremy Herum (11th Grade)
16th Place Finish by Ean Harkins (9th Grade)
21st Place Finish by Gavin Thompson (9th Grade)
32nd Place Finish by Josh Jones (11th Grade)
100-yd Breaststroke:
12th Place Finish by Jeremy Herum (11th Grade)

Women:

200-yd Medley Relay – Top Ten Finish (10th Place)
200-yd Freestyle Relay – Top Ten Finish (9th Place)
50-yd Freestyle (49 Swimmers):
20th Place Finish by Ariel Caputo-Sullivan (10th Grade)
24th Place Finish by Leilani Schroeder (9th Grade)
28th Place Finish by Megan Foster (11th Grade)
32nd Place Finish by Savannah Hill (10th Grade)
100-yd Butterfly:
4th Place Finish by Leannah Gambrell (10th Grade)
10th Place Finish by McKenzie Hooper (10th Grade)
100-yd Freestyle (32 Swimmers):
4th Place Finish by Kaiya Wilkes (9th Grade)
500-yd Freestyle:
5th Place Finish by Leannah Gambrell (10th Grade)
11th Place Finish by Katie Yaboni (11th Grade)
100-yd Backstroke:
9th Place Finish by Kaiya Wilkes (9th Grade)
14th Place Finish by Ariel Caputo-Sullivan (10th Grade)
17th Place Finish by Savannah Damon (10th Grade)
100-yd Breaststroke:
12th Place Finish by Megan Foster (11th Grade)
18th Place Finish by Leilani Schroeder (9th Grade)
22nd Place Finish by McKenzie Hooper (10th Grade)

Team Scores:

Men: 7th Place Overall
Women: 7th Place Overall
Overall Combined: 7th Place

Shockers win 2nd place at the ISA World Series



(L-R) back - Bethany Manders, Kaelyn Jones, Aubrie Banton, Rebekah Chambers, Jessica Lara-Noyola, Ellie Brey, Tori Tracy; front - Avary Smith-Foot, Caley Davis, Jaycee Seabolt, Sierra Burnette, Lexi Sisum, Adalee Burnette

Shockers won 2nd place at the ISA World Series held in Chattanooga, TN. Shockers won 6 games while losing 2. Both losses were to the eventual champions. They played 5 games in a row without a break and didn't complain and didn't quit. They showed more heart, determination, grit and maturity than you can imagine. Every one of them was about to collapse but you

couldn't tell it when they were on the field. They never quit. They gave one of the best teams in the country (Force Elite – Champions) all they wanted. Force Elite – Champions beat us 2 out of 3, but it was only by a couple of runs and who knows how it would have went if Shockers had been fresh or had a few calls not went against them. They battled at the plate every pitch.

They played great defense and our pitching shut down some very explosive teams.

We (coaches and parents) are all very proud of each and every player. This is a great group of girls and a great team.

Shockers would like to thank all the businesses and people of the community for their support making this possible. NDec16Z19CA

Bowling scores

Monday Night Men: Ernest Rice 245, Mickey Whatley 204, 230, Joe Teague 244, Derrick Rice 253, 206, Mel White 206, Doug Tanner 231, 203, 208, Ken Clark 227, Jay Burrell 268, Ray Everett 209, Taz Matetzschk 225, BJ Gilbert 247, 227, 258, Series 732, Greg Whittenburg 218, 211.

Monday Night Ladies: Dee Tyler 200, Joyce Trenton 188, Monita Rodgers 192, Inez Bergstrom 170.

Young At Heart: Bruce Burnett 203, Bart Rodgers 202, 202, Stanley Tyler 213, Bob Landis 203, 227, 215, Ron Wingate 209.

Thursday Night Fun:

Tim McVay 214, Doug Roberts 256, 236, Stanley Tyler 265, Roy Johnson 217, Joe Chubberly 219, Bonnell Thomas 211, 257, Bob Bischoff 205, Bonnie Magar 170. NDec16Z23CA



On Saturday, December 19, 2015 at 1 p.m. at Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium (Union County High

School Football Field), local area FCA will be putting on an All-Star Game for 10 of North Georgia's high school teams.

The East-West Classic will feature a team from the East made up of seniors from Union County, Towns County, Fannin County, Gilmer County, and Pickens County against a team from the West made up of seniors from Lumpkin County, Stephens County, Rabun County, Rabun Gap, Habersham, and White County.

There will be a \$5 charge at the gate for tickets. For more information visit 515fca.org and click the link for the East-West Classic. NTDec16Z31CA

NASCAR 2015

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Scott Replaces Hornish at RPM

Brian Scott's family has bought him a Sprint Cup ride with Richard Petty Motorsports.

Scott the former Truck and Xfinity Series driver will replace Sam Hornish next year in the No. 9 RPM Ford.

Scott, 27, has competed fulltime in the Xfinity Series the past six seasons, the last three with Richard Childress Racing. In 208 starts, Scott has 20 top-five and 77 top-10 finishes and won five poles. His best finish in the series standings was fourth in 2014.

He will join Aric Almirola in the RPM Sprint Cup Series lineup. The 2016 season will mark Scott's first full-time Sprint Cup Series schedule, where he will have the opportunity to compete for the Rookie of the Year. Scott will make his debut at the Goodyear tire test at Homestead-Miami Speedway Monday, December 14.

"I am thrilled to go Sprint Cup Series racing full time next year and to do it with such an iconic team," said Scott. "When you think NASCAR racing, you think Petty. I'm glad to now be a part of that legacy. I had a lot of fun competing in the Xfinity Series for the last seven years, and I'm excited to take the next step. I ran some races in the Sprint Cup Series the last few years and learned a lot. I feel like we are in a good position to compete for the Rookie of the Year next year and continue the consistency that RPM built over the last few years."

It might be worth mentioning that Scott was able to oust Hornish from his driving position not because of superior driving skills, but because he brought a sponsor with him.

You see, Scott's family owns a big share of Albertson's grocery supermarket chain.

It's something like a self-sponsorship deal.

Not taking anything away from Brian Scott's driving skills, but this is a perfect example of the type money game that exists in NASCAR. Big money sponsors are hard to come by. All the teams will tell you, that if you've got a sponsor or can bring the money, they'll provide you with a ride.

The best driver does not always get the best ride.

BUESCHER TO DRIVE NO. 34 CUP CAR

Roush Fenway Racing has announced an enhanced technical alliance with Front Row Motorsports that will include engineering, equipment and driver support in 2016. As a key part of the deal, Xfinity Series Champion and Roush Fenway driver Chris Buescher will drive the No. 34 Sprint Cup Ford.

Buescher, in only his second season of full-time NASCAR racing in 2015, won

the Xfinity Championship and added to his list of accomplishments that already included becoming the youngest driver to ever win an ARCA title in 2012.

He scored his first NASCAR win last season at Mid-Ohio and followed up his rookie-year performance with wins at Iowa and Dover this season en route to the championship. Buescher never ranked lower than third in the driver championship standings, and the Prosper, Texas native completed the season with zero DNFs (Did Not Finish). He finished inside of the top-20 in all of the 33 races on the season, completing 99.9 percent of the laps during the 2015 campaign, while leading a total of 263 laps.

UPDATE ON KEVIN SWINDELL

Kevin Swindell talked about his day-to-day physical therapy and progress while recovering from a World of Outlaws sprint car crash at Knoxville, Iowa in August, 2015. He has undergone several neck and spinal cord surgeries since then.

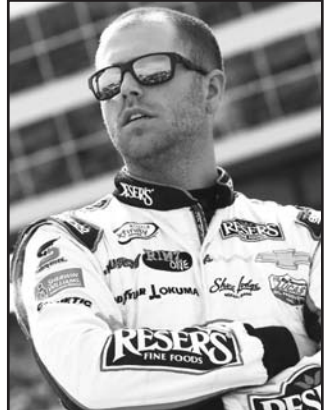
"You could say I'm semi-paralyzed from the waist down," Swindell said. "I can voluntarily kick both legs outward to a straight position. I can also lock out my knees enough to stand with a walker. I haven't gotten any movement back in my ankles or feet to this point, but the doctors and therapists say that the upper leg comes back before the lower. Right now I go to therapy for two hours, three days a week. I also just added an extra hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays to try and get as much as I can. I spend 30 minutes or so standing with the help of my therapist."

In addition to the physical therapy the 26 year-old receives electrical shock therapy.

"They place electrode pads on each muscle group of my legs," he continued. "This helps them contract to strengthen them. It also serves as a method to try to activate the nerves, and encourage them to wake up. I can't say this doesn't suck, because it does.

"Though with the help of my fiancé, family, and a lot of great friends there hasn't been much that I haven't been able to do just three and a half months after breaking my back in two places and going through 16 hours of surgery.

"I'm really looking forward to heading to PRI in Indianapolis this week. I'm hoping to spend some time meeting with people to discuss how we can prevent what happened to me from happening to others. We've spent a lot of time worrying about our necks in sprint cars. It's time to think about our lower back and realize that



Brian Scott at Texas Motor Speedway in 2015.

the driver is truly the only thing there is to give when a car lands flat on the frame the way I did. I had every piece of equipment to the newest standards you can get. From a HANS device connected to the best Arai helmet to a full containment Butler-built seat with an insert under me. I had everything. Yet one of the softest flips I've probably ever taken is the only one that's ever hurt me."

Swindell has competed primarily in USAC and WO competition. He has won 77 races in various dirt racing series including the Chili Bowl Nationals. But he has also run 30 NASCAR races during the past five years.

He made his NASCAR Xfinity Series debut at New Hampshire driving for Baker Curb Racing. He also ran two more events that year but had DNF's in those as well.

In 2011, Swindell drove the No. 16 Ford for Roush Fenway Racing in the Nationwide race at Dover filling in for Trevor Bayne. He qualified an impressive 5th and ran very well until being taken out nearly halfway in a controversial incident with Alex Kennedy. After an accident, Kennedy pulled across the racetrack while attempting to rejoin the field, leaving Swindell with nowhere to go and triggering a major accident.

In 2012, he ran 8 ARCA Racing Series events and won his first career ARCA victory at Chicagoland Speedway, leading every single lap from the pole. He finished a career best 22nd in points that season. He also ran two Xfinity Series events with Biagi-DenBeste Racing late in the season, finishing ninth at Texas Motor Speedway, his first career top-ten finish, and finishing 21st in the season finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Racing Trivia Question: Which Cup team does Jamie McMurray drive for?

Last Week's Question: How many Cup championships did Richard Petty win? Answer: Seven.

You may contact the Racing Reporter by e-mail at: hodges@race500.com.

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