

Coming This Week

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- Off the Porch with Dick Jones

SPORTS

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tvillesports@yahoo.com

SUBWAY FRESH FIT 600

Tire call propels Newman to victory

BY REID SPENCER
NASCARMedia.com

AVONDALE, Ariz. — It was a game of numbers — two and four.

Capitalizing on a late caution that extended Saturday's Subway Fresh Fit 600 three laps past its scheduled distance of 375 laps, Ryan Newman and crew chief Tony Gibson snatched victory from Jeff Gordon, Jimmie Johnson and Kyle Busch with a two-tire call under the final caution.

Both Busch and Johnson took four tires on Lap 373, under caution for Scott Riggs' blown tire in Turn 4 one lap earlier. Gordon, who took two tires and left pit road with the lead, spun his tires on the decisive restart on Lap 377, allowing Newman to surge into the top spot.

After two circuits under green at the flat

one-mile track, Newman crossed the finish line .130 seconds ahead of Gordon to win his 14th NASCAR Sprint Cup race and his first since the 2008 Daytona 500—a 77-race drought.

Johnson charged from seventh to third during the green-white-checkered-flag finish. Mark Martin, also on two tires for the final restart, ran fourth, one position ahead of Juan Pablo Montoya. Matt Kenseth, Carl Edwards, Kyle Busch, Clint Bowyer and Joey Logano completed the top 10.

Johnson extended his lead in the series standings to 36 points over Kenseth in second and to 96 over third-place Greg Biffle, who finished 22nd Saturday.

"I've got to throw Gibson under the bus — he wanted to go four, and I said, 'Just give



GETTY IMAGES

Ryan Newman celebrates in Victory Lane after his win in the desert.

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CALENDAR

TODAY

BASEBALL
Thomasville
@ Salisbury
4:30 p.m.

BASEBALL
E. Davidson
@ W. Davidson
7 p.m.

BASEBALL
Ledford
@ Asheboro
7 p.m.

GOLF
SW Randolph
@ E. Davidson
4 p.m.

TENNIS
Ledford
@ SW Guilford
4:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL
Salisbury
@ Thomasville
4:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL
W. Davidson
@ E. Davidson
7 p.m.

SOFTBALL
Ledford
@ Asheboro
5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

SOCCER
Thomasville
@ Salisbury
7 p.m.

SOFTBALL
N. Davidson
@ E. Davidson
7 p.m.

TENNIS
Thomasville
@ W. Davidson
4 p.m.

TENNIS
E. Davidson
@ C. Davidson
4 p.m.

GAME REPORT DEADLINES:

Monday-Friday
9 p.m.

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HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Pitch unkind to Lady 'Dogs

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Thomasville allowed West Davidson striker Mo Yarboro to score five goals, as the visiting Green Dragons walloped the Lady Bulldogs, 6-0 in Central Carolina Conference play.

The first 20 minutes were brutal for THS, with Yarboro scoring four of her goals during that stretch.

Her first tally came around 10 seconds into the game when she took the kickoff, dribbled down the field and booted the ball in.

She was at it again at the 10 minute mark, breaking away on the left side for a goal.

Joslyn Spires had the best scoring opportunity for THS moments later, but her shot was safely defended by the West goalie.

Yarboro picked up the first half hat trick with 22:30 still to play, and added one more a minute later to make it a four-goal night.

West added one more goal before the half.

Thomasville played considerably better in the second half, limiting West to a single goal scored off the foot of Yarboro.

"We start out flat and get deflated so easily," said Thomasville coach Huey Turner. "If we take away the first 10 minutes of a game, we will be all right."

Thomasville falls to 0-3 in the CCC and is currently 2-7 overall.



TIMES PHOTO/ZACH KEPLEY

Thomasville striker Heather Smith chases after a loose ball against West Davidson on Monday.

VIEWPOINT



ZACH KEPLEY
Sports Editor

More than just a green jacket for Mickelson's

There have been plenty of feel-good moments throughout the years in sports, but perhaps none as tear-jerking as Phil Mickelson's Masters win on Sunday at Augusta National.

Lefty already had two green jackets, but this one did more than just place him in rarefied air with some of the tournament's greatest players — it represents hope, and a realization that there are things far greater than the game of golf.

Mickelson's wife, Amy, was diagnosed with breast cancer last year, making the past few months some of the most difficult for the family.

Golf was the last thing on Phil's mind for a while, but the Masters is golf's grandest stage, and what better place to bring awareness to cancer than there.

With a pink ribbon on his cap throughout the tournament, Mickelson made a steady climb up the leaderboard, but Amy was not on course to see it.

Beginning the final round of competition one stroke back, Mickelson made a charge on the back nine that is one for the ages.

He pulled off a miraculous shot at No. 13 out of the woods with a 6-iron to make birdie, moments after rolling in a crowd-roaring putt at No. 12.

Sportsman Division grows at Bowman Gray

TIMES STAFF REPORT

As Bowman Gray Stadium prepares to kick-off their 2010 racing season on April 24, the complexion of the Sportsman Division may be changing.

Judging by pre-season registrations and by the attendance at the GRIZZLY Pre-Season Practices, the Webb Heating & A/C Co. Sportsman Series may have 30 or more cars vying to make a 24-car field.

The quantity of cars is due in large part to

the relatively low cost of competing in the Sportsman Division.

"The Sportsman Series is really one of the most affordable classes of racing right now," said Gray Garrison, promoter of Bowman Gray Stadium Racing. "Sportsman cars can have economical 'crate' motors and we also run an affordable tire. Many drivers feel they can be competitive and still keep their costs reasonable."

To set the field of 24 cars for the open-

ing night 40-lapper, the Sportsman Series will be qualifying the previous day. The 14 fastest qualifiers will make the field, with 10 provisional spots being given to drivers who were in the top 20 in 2009 points standings and were unable to enter the lineup on qualifying time. If there are any remaining spots, they will be given to the remaining competitors in order of qualifying time. Then, the entire field of 24 cars will draw for starting positions.

That first qualifying lap of the season will be crucial, especially for new drivers to the division who need to turn a fast lap in order to make the field. Joseph "Bobo" Brown will be one such driver to jump behind the wheel of a Sportsman car this season. Brown won three races last season in the 104.1 WTQR Street Stock Series and finished an incredibly close second-place in the final points standings.

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