# Sports

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#### Vengeful Harvick wins again

Following Harvick's win at Las Vegas, he was assessed a penalty for two violations found during teardown inspections at the NASCAR R&D Center. A brace that supports the rear window failed and did not meet specifications for keeping the rear window glass rigid in all directions, at all times. Additionally, the rocker panel extension was not aluminum. Kevin Harvick won the race, but will not get the benefits of that win for the NASCAR Playoffs (a total of seven playoff points for winning the race and both stages). Harvick also won at Atlanta, which means he still is qualified for the postseason on the basis of that Atlanta win.

Harvick was not a happy man going to Phoenix as he indicated with this statement: "I've been mad as all get out because this team does a great job. This organization does a great job and we've got fast race cars. And to take that away from those guys just really (mad me mad) last week. To come here to a race track that is so good for us is a lot of fun and everyone was just determined this week and we just wanted to just go stomp them. We didn't stomp them, but we won. That's all that really matters. Just proud of this team. Put a fire in our belly."

When a team wins early in the season, it is not surprising when they get penalized for rules violations. With so many rules mandated for the cars, teams get as close to tolerant levels as they can in order to get an advantage. Sometimes they exceed those levels and get penalized; it's the risk they take, but they feel it's worth it. They still have the early victory to get them into the playoffs.

Going to Phoenix, his successful track, Harvick failed to dominate the race, but he still won. Leading just 38 of 312 laps in Sunday's TicketGuardian 500 in Phoenix, Harvick held off a slew of contenders to win for the third straight weekend. This was his record-extending ninth win at the one-mile Arizona track. Harvick, Kyle Busch and Denny Hamlin kept the race exciting over the last 23 laps as they threaded their way through lapped traffic, dueling for the win.

After NASCAR's penalty for a failed rear brace at Las Vegas, Harvick dropped back to third in the standings, 17 points behind the top spot. But yet another victory gave him the lead right back. His margin is 12 over both Kyle Busch and Martin Truex Jr. with Joey Logano, Ryan Blaney, Denny Hamlin, Brad Keselowski, Kyle Larson, Clint Bowyer and Aric Almirola rounding out the top 10.

Stewart/Haas Racing had all four of its cars finish in the top 10, proving they are the team to beat this year.

## Deminant pitching

### Hollingworth shuts out Stone

BY JEFFERY SIMMONS

Sports Editor for the Southern Standard (McMinnville, Tennessee)

All the Pioneers needed was some home cooking. A night after opening the season with a road loss at White County, the Warren County High School baseball team bounced back in a big way with a 10-0 victory over Stone Memorial at Patrick Ramsey Field.

Tyler Hollingsworth tossed a gem, throwing six shutout innings and striking out nine while allowing just two hits. The senior allowed just two runners to reach scoring position, but Stone Memorial never had a player reach third. Hollingworth retired the last 10 batters he faced, including striking out the side in the fifth.

"Tyler threw the ball well. I couldn't ask for anything more than that," said coach Trice Powers, who earned his first win with WCHS Tuesday. "He was economical with what he did – the pitch count was pretty low.

Consistency was the big thing. He threw strikes and I hope we can get that out of him every

Hollingsworth also got plenty of run support, though most of it came in the late innings. Warren County carried a 2-0 lead into the bottom of the fifth, but exploded for three runs in the fifth and ended the game with five more in the sixth.

Hollingsworth helped his own cause in the bottom of the second, breaking the home team into the scoring column with a RBI double to bring in Jack Keele. Hollingsworth was able to swipe third and score on Braden Bottoms' groundout to give the Pioneers a 2-0

The Pioneers didn't get the offense cranked back up until the fifth inning. Free passes ignited the rally, with lead-off Brandon Hennessee drawing a walk and Cole Estes reaching after being hit by a pitch.

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### Whiles leads Lady Pioneers



Jeffery Simmons photo

Ashton Whiles was an ace for the Lady Pioneers Tuesday. Whiles went the distance against Coffee County, propeling Warren County to a 3-1 victory over the Lady Raiders.

**BY JEFFERY SIMMONS** 

Sports Editor for the Southern Standard (McMinnville, Tennessee)

Two games weren't going to define the Warren County High School softball season, at least not the first two games.

Yet after starting with back-toback wins, including Tuesday's 3-1 win in its home opener over Coffee County, Lady Pioneer softball coach Gooby Martin knows his team will have a target on its back.

"We knew before the year that these first two games would be tough, but they wouldn't make or break us," said Martin. "We have to continue to improve each game. We still have a lot of work to do, but this has been a good start. I'm proud of the girls and their hard work."

Junior Ashton Whiles pitched a gem against Coffee County, going the distance and allowing just one run while scattering five hits. After the Lady Raiders got on the board in the first, Whiles allowed only three runners to reach second and none made it to third.

Coffee County jumped into the lead in the first on a Lauren Tomberlin RBI single, bringing around Katie Rutledge after she reached on a single and advanced on a sacrifice.

Warren County didn't surge into the lead until fourth, when the big bats in the middle of the lineup showed up in a major way.

With one out and a runner on second, senior Kyra Hillis sent a liner sailing to the left-center gap. Elia Atterson, who entered as a courtesy runner after Whiles walked, sped around the bases to knot the score.

Hillis was tagged out on the next pitch trying to get to third on a Rhealee Johnson groundball, but Bri Young kept the inning alive.

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