

## THE ART OF RACING

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## Harvick, Busch on top again

After both practices for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Gander Outdoors 400 race in Pocono, all the talk was about a Kevin Harvick run-away. He was extremely fast and showed it by winning the pole position for the race. Kyle Busch started second, giving the front row to two of the "big three."

Then everyone had to go through post-qualifying and 13 teams had their times disqualified for various reasons. Harvick and Kyle Busch, along with seven other playoff-eligible teams were among the 13, and all had to start in the back of the field. This is just a good indication all the teams are doing everything possible to either win, or get more valuable points, as the regular season nears its conclusion.

Harvick and Busch are both in the playoffs, and the two of them have the most playoff points, but the winner of the regular season is awarded an additional 15 playoff points.

The race started with Daniel Suarez and Denny Hamlin taking over the front row. Everyone was keeping an eye on Harvick and Busch to see how long it would take them to get into the top 10. Harvick passed 11 cars on just the first lap with Busch right on his heels. By lap 13, Harvick was running ninth and Busch 12th. They finished the first stage second and fourth, respectively.

Harvick took the lead on lap 112, early in the second stage, and eventually won Stage 2. Midway through the final stage, Harvick made contact on pit road with his teammate Aric Almirola, and after several stops for repairs, he was put back to 25th. He eventually made his way back to finish fourth.

Busch seemed well on his way to victory when a crash with six laps to go put the field under caution. The leaders stayed on the track while others pitted for new tires. The race went into overtime and Busch managed to scoot away while Suarez and Eric Jones were battling for second.

The race was exciting at the beginning as Harvick and Busch threaded their way through traffic to get to the front. Once they were there, the race turned a bit hum-drum until the last 30 or so laps when drivers started jockeying for the finish.

The win for Busch was his sixth of the year, once again tying him with Harvick for top honors. Busch still leads the point race, but Harvick gained more points because of his stage win and now trails Busch by 48 points. Martin Truex Jr., the third member of the "big three," and Joey Logano trail Busch by 129 and 201 points, respectively.

Sunday's race is in Watkins Glen, a road course, so a specialist like A.J. Almindinger is hoping to break into the win column.

## Bash brothers



Kaden Jordan, left, and Devin Jordan are set to hold down the left side of the Pioneer offensive line. Coach Tom Moore believes the line will be the strength of the team.

## Jordans lead Pioneer OL

BY JEFFERY SIMMONS  
Sports Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Pinpointing the strength of the Pioneer football team was easy for coach Tom Moore. He went with his strongest guys.

"Our offensive line has been a strength since the spring," said Moore at Thursday's Noon Rotary meeting. "We have experience coming back and several talented players."

Being strong in the trenches has always been Moore's goal. He should get his wish this fall, with seniors Devin Jordan and Austin Jakes returning to lead an experienced unit.

A former quarterback, Jordan

steadily added strength to a 6-foot-4 frame during his time with the program. Still agile, his versatility should be a big key for the Pioneer offensive line. He's projected to slide into guard this year after making the majority of his starts at tackle last year.

Jordan will have plenty of chemistry on the left side, which will be tasked with protecting the blindside of quarterbacks Bryson Elrod and Clay Thompson. Moving into the starting position at left tackle is Devin's younger brother Kaden Jordan.

Jakes is making a similar transition on the right side, sliding in from tackle to guard.

He'll likely be flanked by Dillon Haley, who made a handful of starts last fall. Junior Noah Martin will be in the middle of the line at center.

Ben Matheney believes his unit can be the backbone of the program this fall.

"We have more returning starters than other positions, so the expectations have been really high," said Matheney, the offensive line coach. "I have been pushing them really hard this summer and they have responded very well. I believe they will step up to the challenge and have success this year."

Continued on 2B

## 14 DAYS TO KICKOFF



Jeffery Simmons photo  
Pioneer coach Tom Moore spoke about his young team, which will start eight sophomores, at Thursday's Rotary meeting.

## Moore believes in young Pioneers

BY JEFFERY SIMMONS  
Sports Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Leading into his fourth year, Tom Moore had three keys for the Pioneer program leading into this fall. He shared them Thursday while speaking at Noon Rotary.

"There's three things we have to do to be successful. We have to be better in the kicking game, get in shape and show up," said Moore. "Showing up is tougher than you'd think. We have to have kids show up for practice. If we have 4-5 miss one day, we have to teach it again the next day."

With a capacity crowd on hand, Moore explained his three keys for the season, which is just two weeks away from beginning in DeKalb County. Being better in the kicking game, including the coverage aspect, has been at the forefront of Moore's to-do list this fall.

Continued on 4B

## Kicking off

BY JEFFERY SIMMONS  
Sports Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

With an infusion of talented freshmen joining some talented upperclassmen, Todd Willmore believes his Lady Pioneer soccer team

has the right mix to compete. Time will tell if he's correct.

The Warren County High School girls soccer team features 12 freshmen on its 25-player roster and many will see action early. Their impact is already being felt on the practice field.

We have a really good group of freshmen," said Willmore. "All of them will have an opportunity before their careers are over to make significant contributions to our program."

Continued on 2B



Jeffery Simmons photos  
Freshman Katie Toney, above, should see immediate playing time for the Lady Pioneers this fall. At left, Savannah Cox chases a pass from Sam Ramsey in practice. The duo return after earning all-district honors last fall.



## A BBQ Competition and so much more!

August 10 & 11 at the Civic Center Complex

### FRIDAY

Rib Sampling 6pm  
Corn Hole Tournament 6pm  
Kan Jam Tournament 6pm  
Youth Grilling Competition 6pm  
Home Run Derby 7pm

### SATURDAY

Disc Golf Tournament 8am  
Kickball Tournament 8am  
Best of the Butts Charity Luncheon 11am

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