

THE ART OF RACING



Theme race a delight

One of the great weekends in NASCAR is the Labor Day weekend in Darlington. In 1948, a retired racer named Harold Brasington bought 70 acres from farmer Sherman Ramsey, and built the Darlington speedway. Because of a promise he made to farmer Ramsey of not disturbing a minnow pond, the track had an egg-shaped look with one corner narrower and more steeply banked than the other.

Over the years several modifications were made including the addition of lights, but the basic track remains one of the most difficult tracks to get around. It is nicknamed "The Lady in Black" and "The Track Too Tough to Tame" by many fans and drivers. Drivers hitting the wall are considered to have received their "Darlington Stripe" thanks to the missing paint on the right side of the car.

Last Sunday, the Bojangles' Southern 500 did not disappoint racing fans because of the throwback theme. Many of the cars honored drivers of the past by making their cars look like their cars. The No. 24 Jeff Gordon car of 20 years ago was voted "Best in Show" by the fans.

Kyle Larson was the dominant car for most of the race, leading all but 83 laps of the 367-lap race. Winning both stages, he looked like he would cruise to victory until a number of cautions near the end of the race helped Brad Keselowski beat Larson out of the pits and hold on for the victory.

Keselowski had a great weekend by winning his first Southern 500 Sunday, completing a sweep after having won the NASCAR Xfinity race the day before.

"The Southern 500 has always been a major deal," Keselowski said. "They've made it even bigger yet."

Only five lead changes occurred during the race and only two of them were on-track passes, both by Larson. Joey Logano finished second, completing a Team Penske sweep.

The "big three" were not as dominating as they have been in past races, but they all had decent finishes. Kyle Busch made contact with Joey Gase that damaged his car, but managed to finish seventh. Kevin Harvick gained four points on Busch by finishing fourth. Martin Truex Jr. was penalized early for an uncontrolled tire and spent nearly the entire race trying to get back on the lead lap. He finally got the lap back and finished 11th.

Both Busch brothers, Harvick, Truex, Logano, Keselowski, Larson, Clint Bowyer, Ryan Blaney, Denny Hamlin, Chase Elliott, Aric Almirola, Austin Dillon and Erick Jones have locked themselves into the playoffs.

Jimmie Johnson and Alex Bowman currently round out the top 16.

Pioneers return home

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

Friendly confines finally await the road-weary Pioneers.

The Warren County High School football team ends its long absence from Nunley Stadium Friday night when Shelbyville comes to town for homecoming.

"We haven't been at home in a long time. We didn't even have a preseason scrimmage at home," said Pioneer coach Tom Moore. "We're excited. We'll have our people at home and be in familiar surroundings. It could be good for us."

The Pioneers haven't seen the lights of their home field since Oct. 20 of last year. After splitting its first two road games, Warren County felt the struggle of weeks of travel last week, falling 42-3 in its region opener against Cookeville.

Shelbyville (1-1) comes off a bye week, getting more rest before the out-of-region clash with the Pioneers. The teams met last year, with Warren County staying close for a half before the Eagles stormed to a 49-28 victory.

Armed with potential all-state quarterback Grayson Tramel, Shelbyville presents the best passing attack the Pioneers have seen this season. Moore remembers well how his team performed last year and is hopeful it will carry over this season.

"Last year, it was one of our better games," said Moore. "Sometimes the best defense is keeping them off the field. We controlled the ball, especially in the first half. We got some stops as well. We didn't give up the long ball until late."

Continued on 2B

SHELBYVILLE
EAGLES
CLASS: 5A REGION: 5

@

WARREN COUNTY
PIONEERS
CLASS: 6A REGION: 3

PIONEER SPOTLIGHT



Jeffery Simmons photo

Contrasting styles will be on display Friday night at Nunley Stadium. While Shelbyville airs it out, the Pioneers are run heavy - led by running back Eric Haywood. The senior has been a workhorse for the Pioneers, racking up 387 yards through three weeks.

AREA TEAMS IN ACTION

- (Using state AP rankings)
- No. 4 Blackman at Smyrna, 7 p.m.
 - White County at Cookeville, 7 p.m.
 - Watertown at DeKalb County, 7 p.m.
 - Tullahoma at Franklin County, 7 p.m.
 - Cannon County at Moore County, 7 p.m.
 - Upperman at Livingston Academy, 7 p.m.
 - Grundy County at Bledsoe County, 7 p.m.

SERIES HISTORY

EAGLES LEAD 16-8

FIRST MEETING:
Shelbyville won 25-12 (1970)

LAST MEETING:
Shelbyville won 49-28 (2017)

WHO TO WATCH



Photo courtesy of Gary Johnson
Shelbyville Times Gazette

Shelbyville's impressive aerial attack is triggered by QB Grayson Tramel. Tramel led the TSSAA in yardage last year, including a state-record 606 yards in one game. Tramel had 310 yards and four TDs in last year's meeting.

CURRENT STANDINGS

CLASS 6A, REGION 3

	REGION	TOTAL
T1. Blackman	1-0	3-0
T1. Cookeville	1-0	1-1
T1. Riverdale	1-0	1-2
T4. Oakland	0-0	1-1
T5. WARREN CO.	0-1	1-2
T5. Coffee Co.	0-1	0-3
T5. Siegel	0-1	0-3



Jeffery Simmons photo

Marah Wanamaker and the Lady Pioneers are still in search of their first district victory.

District drought

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

District wins continue to elude the Lady Pioneers.

Warren County fell at home Tuesday to visiting Rhea County 3-1, dropping the team's overall record to 8-11 and 0-5 in district games.

"We are so close. We just can't get over that hump," said coach Katie Rogers, who saw her team fight off a sweep with a third-set victory before succumbing to the Lady Eagles. "I've said all year with us being so young, each and every game is a new learning experience for us. In this match and other close ones we've played, we needed to learn how to win."

"Other teams aren't just going to hand us wins. We have to work for each and every point to learn how to win games like this."

Rhea County took control by taking the first two

sets 25-21 and 25-18 before the Lady Pioneers flipped the script in the third set. Warren County fought back with a 25-21 victory, though it only served to prolong the match.

The Lady Eagles finished it off with a 25-13 victory in the fourth set, clinching the match and a third win over Warren County this season.

Rogers has had to mix and match with her team this fall, especially after losing defensive ace Emily Mikkola to a hand injury before the season even started. Mikkola's absence has been missed throughout the season, but perhaps no more than against Rhea County Tuesday.

Warren County struggled to make clean hits off the serve, leading to aces or sending the Lady Pioneers scrambling on the return.

Continued on 2B

WATERPAWS: A Doggy Pool Party

Presented by and

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\$4 per dog

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when accompanied by a dog

Dogs must have proof of current rabies vaccination and show no sign of aggression. For complete rules/info call HAWC at 931-743-6012 or visit their Facebook page.