

Nascar: Martinsville



Clint Bowyer celebrates with his wife, Lorra, and children, Cash and Presley, after winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Martinsville Speedway.

Bowyer snaps 190 race losing streak

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — When snow at Martinsville Speedway gave NASCAR a rare day off, Clint Bowyer loaded his car with kids and drove them to North Carolina for a day at the Hall of Fame.

As Bowyer returned to the track for Monday's rescheduled race, he told his 3-year-old son he wanted to take a picture with him in victory lane.

Cash Bowyer told his father he wanted a checkered flag. Both father and son got their wish. Bowyer snapped a 190-race losing streak dating to 2012 with a dominating victory at Martinsville Speedway.

"For whatever reason, it felt right driving up here. It's such a cool place to be able to drive up through the countryside on a two-lane road and think about the race," Bowyer said.

"He's really proud of that checkered flag!" Clint Bowyer said as the toddler waived the flag, and then leaned his head on his father's shoulder.

Bowyer then went into the stands to greet the fans who returned to Martinsville two days after a snowstorm pushed all track activity to Monday.

No. 14 Ford. He finally figured it out on the short track in Virginia and won for the first time since his victory at Charlotte in October 2012.

Bowyer had led just 145 combined laps the last four years and bettered that Monday with 215 laps led and his first career Martinsville victory.

It was the ninth career victory for Bowyer, but first since he was a legitimate title contender in 2012 before the bottom fell out.

He was snared in a cheating scandal with Michael Waltrip Racing, that team never recovered and folded, and Bowyer has been trying to find his footing since.

He thanked Gene Haas and Stewart for bringing him to SHR. "To give this old dog a fresh chance and fresh blood with a new opportunity — finally to get the 14 in victory lane is just a weight off the shoulders," Bowyer said.

"You start to question if you can get it done or not." Bowyer began his celebratory burnout before he completed a cool-down lap, and then climbed on the hood of his cars with his arms raised in victory.

He jumped into the arms of his SHR crew, and then was met by his son, who had never before seen his father win a Cup race.

Cash Bowyer exchanged high-fives with the SHR crew then sat on top of the winning car. Later, in victory lane, Clint Bowyer hugged the Martinsville signature trophy grandfather clock, chugged several beers, and let his son soak in his first post-race celebration.

"I wanted that damn clock," Bowyer said. "How are we going to get it home? What do you do? I'm going to ratchet strap it to my wife's SUV. We're going to be the Clampetts with our trophy ratchet strapped to the roof of the SUV, but it's coming home."

Saturday Rondup

Bucks win twice to start spring break tournament

EAST OREGONIAN — The Pendleton Buckaroos began their spring break week with a pair of tough games at the Happy Valley Tournament on Monday, but in both the Buckaroos came out on top. Pendleton began its day with a 3-2 victory over McMinnville and finished with a 8-2 win over Clackamas at Hood View Park.

Lauren Richards pitched both games for the Buckaroos (5-1) and had a really solid day with a combined 22 strikeouts and only seven hits, four runs and four walks allowed. She helped herself out against Clackamas by smacking a big double in the second inning.

Against McMinnville, the game was tied 2-2 in the sixth inning when international tiebreak rules had to be enforced because of a time limit. That meant the Bucks began the sixth with a runner on second base, Aspen Garton, and Garton was bunted over to third by Rylee Gentner and then scored the winning run one batter later on an error by McMinnville's third baseman. Kalan McGlothan was Pendleton's top hitter in that game, going 3-for-3 at the plate.

Then against Clackamas, Garton blasted a three-run home run — her fourth of the season and fourth in the last four games — as part of Pendleton's seven-run second inning to grab the advantage in the game. Kirah McGlothan had a triple in the game and Kila Solomon finished 2-for-3.

Pendleton finishes up the tournament on Tuesday with a game against La Salle Prep at 10 a.m. and a game against Madison at 3 p.m.

Game 1, Game 2 score sheets for PHS, MHS, PHS, and CHS.

HERMISTON BULLDOGS — At Milwaukie, the Hermiston Bulldogs finished up their first day at the Happy Valley Tournament on Monday by splitting their two games. The Bulldogs started the day with a 9-2 victory over Molalla and then wrapped up the day with a 9-1 loss to Hillsboro, which marked Hermiston's first loss of the season.

The Bulldogs (4-1) finish up the tournament on Tuesday with a pair of games against Newberg at 10 a.m. and then against Clackamas at 12:30 p.m.

MAC-HI PIONEERS — At Newport, the Mac-Hi Pioneers continued their hot start to the season with two victories at the Battle

at the Beach tournament on Monday. Mac-Hi defeated the host Newport by a 9-1 score and then ended the day by thumping Marshfield 15-1.

The Pioneers (4-1) next play on Friday to open up its own tournament in Milton-Freewater.

From Saturday Baseball

HERMISTON — One day removed from its 13-3 victory over Lakeridge, Hermiston went right back to work on Saturday, and this time in better conditions.

Under the afternoon sun at Armand Larive Middle School, the Bulldogs held their own against a tough opponent in the Kennewick Lions, but came up short in a 8-2 Lions' victory.

"Kennewick capitalized on our errors," head coach Kevin Moore said of the loss. "When a team gives you outs, you better take advantage of it and unfortunately that's what happened to us."

After a scoreless opening inning for both teams, the Braves (5-1) got out to an early lead in the second when Kaleb Stevenson hit grounded out for the team's second out but not before Easton Stevens scored for the 1-0 advantage.

The Bulldogs (2-2) answered with two runs of their own, a RBI single off the bat of Brylee Duffloth and a sacrifice fly from Jordan Ramirez to bring home Caden Schwirw. However, Kennewick struck for two more runs in the fourth and added five more runs over the final two frames to keep the Bulldogs away.

Wyatt Noland, Daniel Gossler and Duffloth all fared well at the plate despite Hermiston's loss. All three batters went 2-for-3 and each notched at least one single. Lukas Tolan was given the loss after going four innings allowing three runs on seven hits with a long strike out and one walk.

The Bulldogs will return to the diamond Thursday in the Volcano Stadium Tourney at Salem-Keizer Volcano Stadium.

STANFIELD 14-16, WESTON-MCEWEN 7-3 — At Stanfield, the Tigers swept the Weston-McEwen TigerScots in Saturday's doubleheader, 14-16 to 7-3.

In Game 1, Weston-McEwen scored six runs in the third inning to take a 7-4 lead. However, the TigerScots couldn't hold it as the Tigers came back and scored 10 runs over the fourth, fifth and sixth innings run away with the lead.

Regional and National Semifinals baseball game results.

At Columbus, Ohio National Semifinals Friday, March 30

At Philips Arena, Atlanta Regional Championship Saturday

At TD Garden, Boston Regional Championship Sunday

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For the Tigers offense, Brody Woods was 2-for-3 with three RBI and two runs scored, Justin Keeney was 2-for-4 with a triple, two runs and two RBI, and Shayne Keltz was 2-for-3 with two RBI. TJ Smith earned the win on the mound throwing five shutout innings of relief, striking out six and allowing just two hits.

For Weston-McEwen, Garrett Shell had a team-best two hits with a double, adding two runs scored and two RBI.

In Game 2, Stanfield (3-3) scored seven runs in the first three innings and another in the fourth to put the Tigers a pair of runs away from ending the day early.

Michael Connell and Brody Woods led the Tigers' offense with three hits apiece, with Connell contributing a double, two runs and two RBI and Woods with two triples, two RBI and one run.

Woods also got the win on the mound, recording 10 strikeouts with just three hits, two walks and two runs allowed in 4 1/3 innings.

For Weston-McEwen, Parker Munck had two hits to lead the team.

Game 1 and Game 2 score sheets for W-M, SHS, and W-M.

UMATILLA 6, LOST RIVER 4 — At John Day, the Umatilla Vikings trailed 4-2 as they came to bat in the top of the sixth inning but rallied for four runs and hung on to beat Lost River 6-4 at the Iron Triangle Tournament on Saturday.

In the sixth, back-to-back singles from Uriel Garcia and Seth Cranston set up an RBI single from Kole Keller to cut the deficit to 4-3. A few pitches later, Cranston stole home to tie the game at 4-4. But the tie score didn't last long, as a groundout by Josh Brown scored Keller to put the Vikings (4-1) in front 5-4 and an RBI single from Noah Holford brought in an insurance run with a 6-4 lead.

Cody Samson had a stellar day on the mound, tossing 6 1/3 innings with 12 strikeouts while allowing six hits and four runs. He nearly threw a complete game, but allowed a triple and a walk to Lost River (1-3) in the seventh to end his day. Cranston came on in relief and induced a pop fly out and earned a strikeout for the save.

Cranston was 3-for-3 at the plate to lead the Vikings, hitting a solo home run in the fourth inning. Moises Garcilazo, James Wilson, Samson and Holford each had two hits

MLS Eastern Conference soccer scores and standings.

Saturday, March 31 New York at Orlando City, 10 a.m. Los Angeles FC at LA Galaxy, 12 p.m.

Monday's Games Florida 3, N.Y. Islanders 0 Carolina 4, Ottawa 1 Buffalo 3, Toronto 2

Tuesday's Games Carolina at New Jersey, 4 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Ottawa, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Results New York City FC vs. New England 2, tie Portland 1, FC Dallas 1, tie Columbus 3, D.C. United 1

Friday, March 30 Real Salt Lake at Toronto FC, 5 p.m.

for the Vikings.

UHS Softball game scores.

SOFTBALL PILOT ROCK ROCKETS

The Pilot Rock Rockets hosted the Rocket Invitational on Saturday and welcomed Enterprise, Lost River and Vernonia.

The Rockets faced the Enterprise Outlaws and the Lost River Raiders for a doubleheader and handily defeated both teams.

First against Lost River, Pilot Rock's hitting was on display as the Rockets won 10-3. In Game 2, the 11-1 win moved their record to 3-1 overall.

MAC-HI 2-13, BANKS 4-9 — At Seaside, the Mac-Hi Pioneers split a doubleheader with the Banks Braves on Saturday, dropping the opener 4-2 and winning the closer 13-9.

The Pioneers managed just five hits in the first game, led by Ashlyn Marly with an RBI and Graci Bullock with a triple. In Game 2, the Pioneers trailed 7-6 as they came to bat in the seventh inning but exploded for seven runs in the frame to steal the win.

The seven-run inning was highlighted by Graci Bullock's grand slam, her third extra-base hit of the day. Ashlyn Marly also homered in the game and Faith Kelly had a team-best four hits.

Tennis

KENNEWICK — Both the Hermiston boys and girls tennis teams played future Mid-Columbia Conference foe Kennewick, but it was the boys that would make the trip to the Tri Cities to face the Braves.

After coming off a five-plus hour day Friday when the Bulldogs picked up their first win of the season, they dropped Saturday's match 6-2.

Hermiston got its only wins in doubles play, and one was by forfeit due to Kennewick only fielding a 10-man team.

Matt Eckhard and Austin Garcia defeated the Braves' duo of Wesley Chen and Erik Vettergren 6-2, 7-5; and Alan Zepeda and Josue Cardenas won by forfeit but managed to get time on the court in after going against Noah Durst and Zarryn Duony and won 6-4, 4-6, 6-10.

The Bulldogs struggled in singles play and were swept by the Braves. Jason Morris and Eli Munoz were the only players to win sets again their respective Kennewick opponents. Morris fell 0-6, 1-6 to Tan Nguyen and Munoz 3-6, 3-6 to Darren Thompson.

Local slate

PREP BASEBALL Tuesday Umpqua Valley Christian at Pilot Rock, 10 a.m.

PREP TRACK AND FIELD Saturday Mac-Hi at Holder Relays (Yakima), 10 a.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL Wednesday Yakima Valley at BMCC (DH), 1 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL Thursday Carroll at EOU (DH), 11 a.m.

Basketball NBA Eastern Conference Wednesday x-Toronto 54 20 730 --- x-Boston 51 23 689 3

PREP SOFTBALL Tuesday Hermiston vs. Newbert (at Milwaukie), 10 a.m.

Saturday Pilot Rock vs. Bonanza (at Union), 9 a.m. Weston-McEwen vs. Colton (at Union), 11 a.m.

PREP TRACK AND FIELD Saturday Mac-Hi at Holder Relays (Yakima), 10 a.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL Wednesday Yakima Valley at BMCC (DH), 1 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL Thursday Carroll at EOU (DH), 11 a.m.

Basketball NBA Eastern Conference Wednesday x-Toronto 54 20 730 --- x-Boston 51 23 689 3

PREP SOFTBALL Tuesday Hermiston vs. Newbert (at Milwaukie), 10 a.m.

Dallas 22 51 .301 37 1/2 Memphis 20 54 270 40 Phoenix 19 56 253 41 1/2

Monday's Games Charlotte 137, New York 128, OT Detroit 112, L.A. Lakers 106 Philadelphia 123, Denver 104

NCAA Men's Tournament EAST REGIONAL At TD Garden, Boston Regional Championship Sunday

MIDWEST REGIONAL At CenturyLink Center Omaha, Omaha, Neb. Regional Championship Sunday

WEST REGIONAL AT STAPLES CENTER, Los Angeles Regional Championship Saturday

SOUTH REGIONAL At Philips Arena, Atlanta Regional Championship Saturday

No. 1 Notre Dame 84, No. 2 Oregon 74 Regional Championship Monday

LEXINGTON REGIONAL Regional Championship At Lexington, Ky. Sunday

FINAL FOUR At Columbus, Ohio National Semifinals Friday, March 30

At Philips Arena, Atlanta Regional Championship Saturday

At TD Garden, Boston Regional Championship Sunday

At Columbus, Ohio National Semifinals Friday, March 30

At Philips Arena, Atlanta Regional Championship Saturday

Auto Racing

- NASCAR Cup Series STP 500 Results Monday At Martinsville Speedway Martinsville, Va.