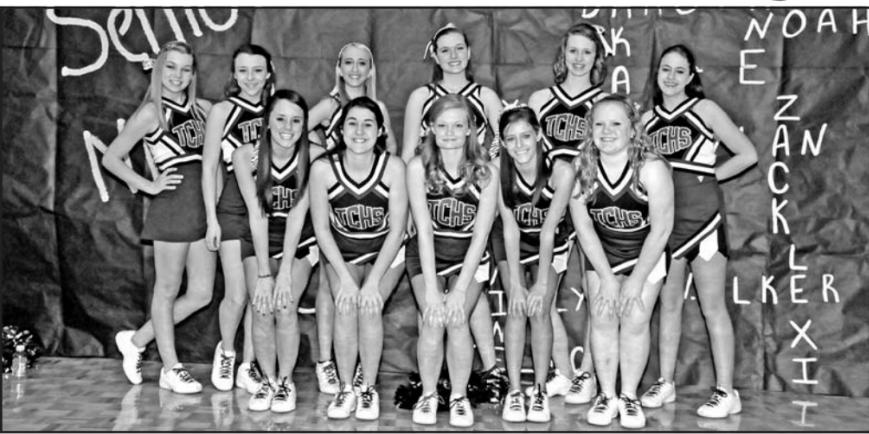


Towns County 2011 Senior Night



Towns County Indians battle at the Eight Annual King of the Mountain Tournament



Zach Stroud battled back in the consoles to claim third place. Photo by Charles Duncan.

The Towns County Indians battled through injuries and accomplished their goal of finishing 10th in a 20-team field in the Eighth Annual King of the Mountain Tournament.

Junior Tyler Hoffman took home silver at 170 pounds and senior Zach Stroud claimed the bronze at 152 pounds.

Stroud was cruising to a finals appearance but he was upended by eventual champion Wesley Faulkner of Banks County. Stroud defeated Pickens County's Blake Buchanan to claim the bronze.

One notable absence at the KOM: senior Timmy Collier.

Collier is battling back from an injury and isn't expected back on the mats until after the New Year arrives.

Indians Head Coach Jeff Stowers said there were some surprises at the 2011 KOM, namely, the third place team finisher.

"Cherokee, NC surprised everyone," Coach Stowers said. "Those kids got after it; I'm real proud of them and their coaching staff. They've come a real long way in the past five years. They were the biggest surprise here."

Banks County took home the Duals Championship, with Lumpkin County finishing second ahead of Cherokee, NC.

As for the Indians, Coach Stowers set a goal of a Top 10 finish for his squad.

"Given the injuries, we gave it all we had," he said. "We finished in the Top 10 and that was our goal. There were 20 teams here and that's a lot of wrestling in two days."

"We had some kids that probably could have wrestled better, but we had some kids that wrestled their tails off," Coach Stowers said. "Austin Stephens, I could not be happier with a wrestler, than I am with Austin Stephens. He wrestled better in the last two days than he has wrestled in his life."

"He's come alive and it shows, and before we get to the state tournament, Austin Stephens is going to be one of the better wrestlers on our team," Coach Stowers said.

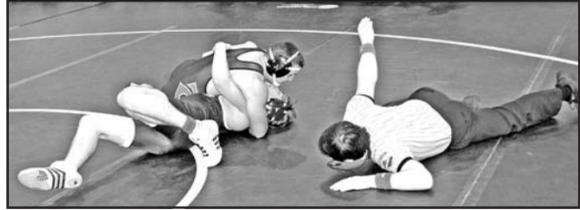
Stroud, who acknowledged that Faulkner had his number, said he was pleased to battle back to claim the bronze.

"He's quick, he's a really good wrestler and he's quick on his feet," Stroud said. "He got me off my feet and got me out of my game. He was the No. 1 Seed coming in and he's a good wrestler."

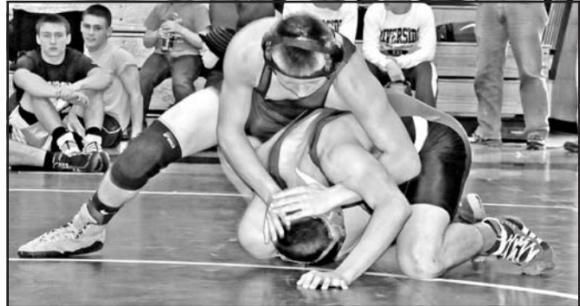
Stroud, a senior, said the Indians will now look to prepare for Region Championships, the state tournament and making their mark in Class A Wrestling.

"We've got some really good wrestlers on this team," Stroud said. "You have to hand it to Tyler Hoffman, he works his tail off. Timmy Collier is the best wrestler on this team and I hate it that he missed this his senior year."

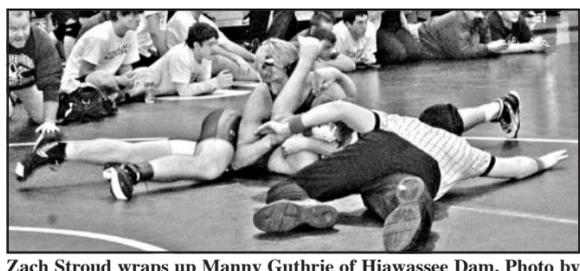
"Personally, I want to make it to the state tournament and place, and hopefully everything will work out for myself and my team," he said. "The younger guys and the older guys are really going to have to step it up with some of the injuries that we've got for us to be the best that we can be."



Tyler Hoffman wraps up Quinn Borland of White County. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Vonya Baldwin takes on Fannin County's Zach Loetscher. Photo by James Reese.



Zach Stroud wraps up Manny Guthrie of Hiwassee Dam. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Wesley Bloodworth duels Fannin County's Adam Hataway. Photo by James Reese.

TCMS Boys and Girls collect wins on TCHS court

By James Reese
Towns County Herald
tcherald@windstream.net

The Towns County Middle School boys' and girls' teams played in unfamiliar territory on Saturday.

They were playing at home, but they were playing on the court they will soon become accustomed to playing on in the future.

Due to the King of the Mountain wrestling event taking place at the Middle School Gymnasium, the scheduled Saturday morning Middle School games were held at the Bill P. Kendall Gymnasium.

It was a good omen for both teams.

The boys looked to retain their recent surge of momentum as the girls looked to get back on track following a road setback over the Thanksgiving Holiday break.

The Towns County Middle School Lady Indians jumped out to a 10-0 lead ambushing the Tallulah Falls Lady Indians en route to a 57-17 blowout.

Brooke Smith denied multiple Tallulah shots in the paint and led the way in the scoring column with a game high 13 points. Emory Patton and Jocelyn Byers followed for the Lady Indians contributing 8 points each respectively.

Kayley Pugh led Tallulah Falls with 9 of the TF Lady Indians 17 points – all from behind the 3-point line.

The Towns County Indians boys' team notched their third win, but had a bit of a challenge from the Tallulah Falls Indians taking a 45-23 physical victory. Willem DeVries led all scorers with 12 points for the Towns County Indians and Nick Britton pitched in 11 points for the Tallulah Falls Indians.

The Middle School teams returned to the middle school gym on Monday to take on the visiting White County Warriors. Game results were unavailable at press time.

At 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8th the Middle School teams will look to avenge earlier season losses dealt at the hands of the Rabun County Wildcats.



Alex Dayton puts up two of his 12 points against Tallulah Falls. Photo by James Reese.



Savannah Dyer passes inside for the Lady Indians. Photo by James Reese.



Brooke Smith (11) leads the way for the Lady Indians. Photo by James Reese.



Major Moss pulls down a rebound against Tallulah Falls. Photo by James Reese.

Upward Indoor Soccer evaluations

Registration for Upward Indoor Soccer is now open through December 16th for boys and girls in grades Kindergarten through 6th Grade at www.hopb.org or at www.fumcunioncounty.org. If you register before December 16th, the price to participate will be \$50.

Evaluations will be held on Tuesday and Thursday, December 6th and 8th, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the House of Prayer Church Family Life Center. Registrants are encouraged to come any time during those hours. Practices will begin the week of January 9th, and games will be on Saturdays beginning on January 28th and running thru March 3rd.

For more information, contact either House of Prayer Church office at (706) 745-5925 or First United Methodist Church office at (706) 745-2073. Form and registration fees may also be dropped off, Monday through Friday, at First United Methodist's business office weekdays 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., or the House of Prayer Family Life Center 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

About Upward Sports
Upward Sports, the world's largest Christian sports league for children, provides a fun kids sports experience based on healthy competition. Last year, more than 550,000 K5 through sixth-grade kids had a great basketball, soccer, flag football or cheerleading experience through one of our 2,400 leagues or camps.

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Tree...continued from page 1A

bers include Rolando Fernandez on trumpet, Jeremiah Kersting, on the trumpet, Chris Calloway on the French Horn, and Patrick Young on the tuba.

They also heard from the children themselves,

members of the Towns County Elementary School Chorus. The children sang a medley of Christmas Carols that included *Silent Night*.

After the tree was lit and the songs were com-

plete, they retired to City Hall for an evening of refreshments and watching their children's faces glow as they chatted with Santa Claus.

The Christmas Season is in full swing in Young Harris.

No Heat...continued from page 1A

anywhere from the low 20s to the low 30s over the next seven days.

Winter is just around the corner and here's hoping that Democrats and

Republicans don't use low income heating assistance dollars as a political bargaining chip.