

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians, Lady Indians enter postseason with momentum

By Shelly Knight
Staff Writer
Towns County Herald

Last Friday Feb. 7 was a big night for Towns County basketball.

In a grueling physical battle, the Lady Indians took on the Washington-Wilkes Tigers and came out winners by a final score of 61-51, moving one step closer to a State playoff berth.

"I couldn't be more proud of the way they fought tonight," said head coach Alan Rogers. "They take it to another level every time we come out on the court. They keep rising and rising. They come and work every day at practice and that's where it starts for us. They never quit," said Rogers.

"We got off to a big early lead and then they made another run back at us. Ava Thompson had three 3-pointers in the first quarter and the team just went off. Washington Wilkes came back like a good team does but we never gave up the fight," said Rogers.

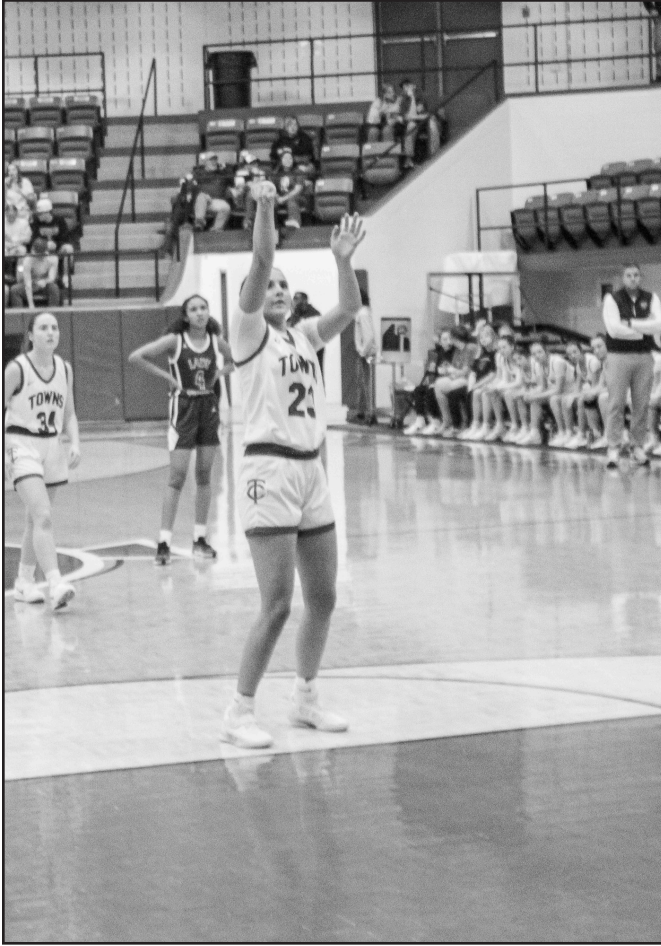
For the first time all season, senior Kaleigh Beaver fouled out late in the fourth quarter after battling like a warrior.

"Kaleigh had 12 rebounds and 12 points. She had a great game and did a lot of things for us.

"Scotlyn Fain, man, what a game. She worked her butt off. She scored 14 points. Ansleigh Hardin handled the ball and the pressure well for us.

"Natalie Barnes. I'll tell you what, man. She struggled mightily in the first half, but she stepped up huge - huge in the second half. She scored 6 points.

"Look, I want to throw this out there. I want to give those kids that don't get in the game a lot the credit they deserve. They come and they battle that group of the first five or six every day at practice and they make each other better. And that victory tonight was just as much the bench as it



Junior Scotlyn Fain, who scored 14 points vs Wilkes, earned praise from her coach after the game. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

was our starters. They stay the whole game, they're cheering for their teammates, they're positive, they're calling the cuts - man I just love this group of girls. They are amazing," said Rogers.

The girls need a win Tuesday night to return home for the region semifinals on Thursday, Feb. 13.

The Towns County boys built on that winning momentum and attitude against Washington-Wilkes in an one-sided 87-54 victory that same night.

Freshman Tucker Engert scored 26 points followed by Dustin Barrett with 20 points and Cruz Kitchens with 14 points. But the whole team stepped up. Jonas rouse scored 11 points, Mason Pierson scored 9 points. Both Baylor Rogers and Sawyer Cunningham scored 3 points. John Durham scored 2 and Sam Sarafin

scored 1 point.

"A great win," said head coach Brian Hunnicutt. "They locked us up as the 3-seed in the region tournament. Which is huge. That was our goal. After we lost to Greene the second time, it was out of our hands, so we wanted the next best thing which was the 3 seed. We will have to play this team again on Tuesday to determine whether we go to the state tournament, but that will be down in Warren County. It'll be a lot tougher cause we'll have to travel three hours.

"But this was a big win. This was the kind of win that sends a message that hopefully we're ready to play the type of basketball we need to in order to reach the State tournament."

When asked if anyone stood out to him, the coach responded, "The whole team.



The TCHS student section pays homage to Towns County Indians basketball coach Brian Hunnicutt during last week's victory. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Dustin Barrett unbelievable job. Cruz Kitchens, Jonas Rouse, Sam Sarafin, Mason Pierson - I mean really all of them. This was the whole team. When you score that many points and hold a team down by almost 30, it a collective effort. We passed well, we rebounded well, just a great effort by all

the guys. "Now we have to do the hardest thing in basketball, and that is to beat this team three times, and this time back-to-back. It's very hard because they will be highly motivated. We're going to have to play as if we want to get back to Towns County. We make it to the state

tournament I think it's going to be six years in a row," said Hunnicutt.

"The thing about basketball is it all comes down to one game, and for us that's Tuesday night. We gotta play big boy ball to make it back home," said Hunnicutt.

Towns County Recreation Department Senior (60+) 3 on 3 Basketball League

The Towns County Recreation Department is starting a Senior (60+), 3 on 3 league. Thursday Mornings at 9 AM. \$40 per person.

The number of games are to be determined by the number of teams in the league.

Sign-up individually, but the teams can be made. Please email tcrecchris@gmail.com for more details. T(Feb12,A2)JH



Shop with a Cop Bass Tournament Fundraiser

Shop With a Cop Bass Tournament Fundraiser on March 29th at Ledfords Chapel Boat Ramp. Entry fee: \$70 prior to March 29th or \$90 at the ramp. Register by emailing Bronson.Kirby@andrewsnc.gov. T(Feb12,A2)JH

Towns County Baseball 2025



Day	Date	Team	Place	Time
Mon	2/10	Union County	Home	5:30
Thurs	2/13	Rabun County	Away	5:30
Mon	2/17	Rabun County	Home	5:30
Fri	2/21	Lumpkin County	Away	5:30
Mon	2/24	Union County	Away	5:30
Wed	2/26	Greene County	DH	Away 4:00-6:00
Tue	3/4	Hayesville, NC	Home	5:30
Thurs	3/6	Hiwassee Dam, NC	Home	5:00
Sat	3/8	Burke County	DH	Home 12:00 / 2:00
Mon	3/10	Andrews, NC	Home	5:30
Wed	3/12	Hayesville, NC	Away	4:30
Thurs	3/13	Murphy, NC	Home	5:30
Tue	3/18	Washington-Wilkes *	Home	5:30
Fri	3/21	Washington-Wilkes *	DH	Away 5:00 / 7:00
Tue	3/25	Lincoln County*	Away	5:30
Fri	3/28	Lincoln County*	DH	Home 5:00 / 7:00
Tue	4/1	Lake Oconee Academy*	Home	5:30
Fri	4/4	Lake Oconee Academy*	DH	Away 5:00 / 7:00
Mon	4/7	Murphy, NC	Away	5:30
Wed	4/9	Gilmer County	Home	5:30
Mon	4/14	Hiwassee Dam, NC	Away	4:00
Thurs	4/17	Andrews, NC	Away	4:00



2024-25 Soccer Schedule

Date	Opponent	Team	Place	Game Time
Thurs Feb 13	Chestatee (JV game)	Girls & Boys	Away	5:00/7:00pm
Mon Feb 17	Thomson High School	Girls Only	Away	5:30pm
Fri Feb 21	Gilmer County (JV game)	Girls & Boys	Away	5:30/7:30pm
Mon Feb 24	Banks County	Girls & Boys	Away	5:00/7:00pm
Thurs Feb 27	Commerce	Boys Only	Home	5:30pm
Fri Feb 28	Greene County*	Girls & Boys	Home	5:30/7:30pm
Tue March 4	Chattooga High	Girls & Boys	Away	5:00/7:00pm
Fri March 7	Washington-Wilkes*	Girls & Boys	Away	5:30/7:30pm
Mon March 10	Kings Ridge Christian	Boys Only	Away	7:30pm
Tue March 11	Pickens County (JV Game)	Boys Only	Away	5:30pm
Thurs March 13	Lincoln County*	Girls & Boys	Home	5:30/7:30pm
Tue March 18	Crescent High, SC	Girls & Boys	Away	6:00/8:00pm
Wed March 19	Prince Avenue Christian	Boys Only	Home	6:00pm
Fri March 21	Lake Oconee Academy*	Girls & Boys	Away	5:30/7:30pm
Mon March 24	Pickens County (JV Game)	Boys Only	Home	5:30pm
Mon March 24	Hayesville, NC	Girls Only	Away	4:00pm
Tue March 25	Hart County	Girls & Boys	Home	5:30/7:30pm
Thurs March 27	Blue Ridge Early College	Girls Only	Away	4:30pm
Mon March 31	Chattanooga Central	Boys Only	Away	5:30pm
Tue April 1	Tri-County Early College, NC	Girls Only	Away	6:00pm
Tue April 1	Gilmer County (JV Game)	Boys Only	Home	6:00pm
Thurs April 3	Banks County (SR Night)	Girls & Boys	Home	5:30/7:30pm
Tue April 8	Treutlen County	Boys Only	Away	7:00pm
Wed April 9	Colleton Prep, SC	Girls Only	Away	5:00pm
Thurs April 10	Whale Branch, SC	Girls & Boys	Away	5:30/7:30pm
Fri April 11	New Hampstead	Boys Only	Away	5:00pm
Tue April 15	Abbeville High School, SC	Girls & Boys	Away	5:30/7:30pm
Fri April 18	Pickens County	Boys Only	Away	7:30pm

Girls Head Coach: Clay Livingston
Boys Head Coach: Art Cartee
Principal: Bryan Thomason
Boys Asst Coach: Mathew Morton
Athletic Director: Jim Melton