

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians record falls to 0-3 following 60-7 loss at Union County

By Chad Stack
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Staff Writer

Blairsville - The Boys in Blue traveled to Union County on Friday, Sept. 6, to try and avenge last year's 45-7 loss to the Panthers in Frank McClure Memorial Stadium.

Towns County won the coin toss and elected to receive the ball, with junior wideout Garrett Oakes and senior wideout Andrew Conrad back deep to receive the kick.

Oakes stepped up to the 25-yard line to field the kick, but he had to fall on the ball at the 5-yard line to prevent a turnover when he couldn't get a clean catch.

The first play from the line of scrimmage saw sophomore quarterback Kyle Oakes pulling the ball back on a zone-read for a four-yard gain. The next play, senior tailback Dakota Edge accepted the handoff for about a yard.

Facing a third and five, Oakes dropped back to pass, and the Panthers got called for defensive pass interference, giving the Indians 10 yards and a fresh set of downs at the 25-yard line.

After a delay of game penalty and three plays with no gain, the Boys in Blue were forced to punt the ball away from their own 20-yard line.

Oakes quick-kicked the ball for about 20 yards, and the Panthers scored on a 32-yard carry from junior running back Jonah Daniel to give them a 7-0 lead just four minutes into the first quarter.

Garrett Oakes cleanly fielded the next kickoff for a 15-yard return and an Indians first and 10 from the 20-yard line.

Edge took the handoff for six yards, keeping the Indians ahead of the chains on first down, and quarterback Oakes ran another keeper for eight yards and another Towns County first down. After a three-yard carry from Edge, Oakes and Edge fumbled on the exchange the very next play for a loss of three yards and back to square one.



Quarterback Kyle Oakes hands off to Dakota Edge during the first half vs Union. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Oakes was hurried from the pocket all night, but as usual, he made a smart play on the third and 10 by throwing the ball away, and he subsequently quick-kicked again for 34 yards.

Defensively, Garrett Oakes made an excellent play on the Panthers' next possession, breaking up a pass on the ensuing drive for a Union County second and 10.

After two Panther penalties, they were able to score on a 36-yard touchdown pass, and following the point after

attempt, the Panthers took a 14-0 lead with 2:42 left in the first quarter.

The Panthers struck one more time in the first quarter to take a 21-0 lead with just over a minute left before the start of the second quarter.

Then, just 36 seconds into the second quarter, the Panthers tacked on another 7 points with a 14-yard screen pass, taking a 28-0 lead.

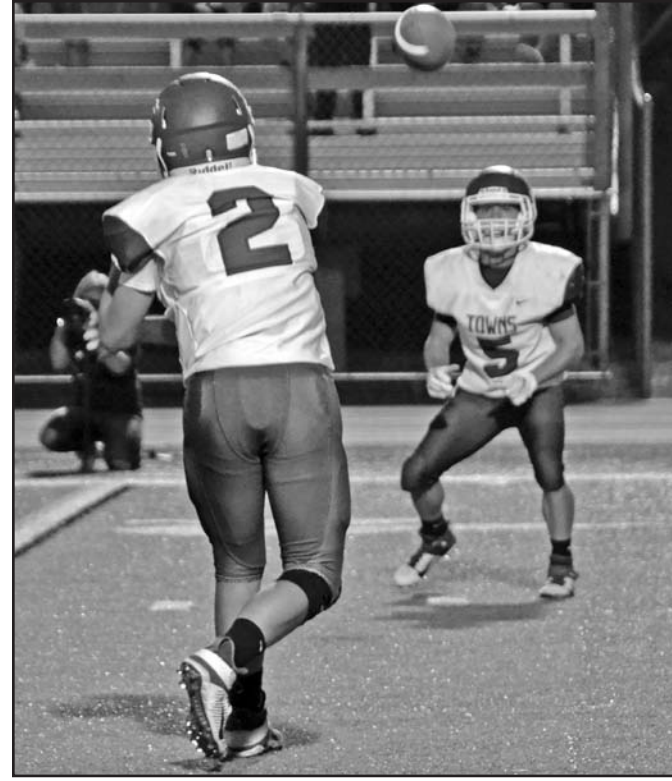
Union County went on to score three more touchdowns before the end of the first half to take a 48-0 lead.

Midway through the second quarter, the Panthers went 70 yards for a touchdown but missed the extra point to increase their lead to 54-0.

After another Indian three-and-out, Garrett Oakes almost intercepted a pass from Panthers backup quarterback sophomore Logan Helcher.

All evening, the Boys in Blue struggled to put together a positive drive. They would get a first down, and the Panthers would force them to punt the ball away.

But following 60 unan-



Kyle Oakes fires a pass to Garrett Oakes. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



The Indians swarm a Panther ball carrier. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

sured points from the Union County Panthers, the Indians finally caught a break with a big play of their own – a 52-yard completion from QB Oakes to his brother Garrett.

As a result, Oakes was able to run a quarterback keeper up the middle for a touchdown scamper of his own with 2:50 seconds left in the game.

Edge finished the night with 10 rushes for 23 yards and a catch for one yard.

Kyle Oakes went 7-of-13 for 65 yards through the air and had 14 carries for two yards

and a touchdown.

Garrett Oakes hauled in six catches for 64 yards and played great on the defensive side of the ball.

Sophomore Dade Joyner played outstanding on defense and was selected as the Defensive Player of the Game with a couple of tackles for losses.

The Indians have the week off before they begin region play at home when they host George Walton Academy on Friday, Sept. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

Towns wins big against Prince Avenue; two more Lady Indians get home runs

By Chad Stack
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Staff Writer

Towns County Softball started off last week with a regional matchup on the road to take on Providence Christian in Lilburn on Tuesday, Sept. 3, and they finished the day beating the Lady Storm 18-0.

Junior Kennedy Henson pitched a no-hitter on 30 pitches and was a single batter walked away from throwing a perfect game that day.

The Lady Indians continued region play at home against Prince Avenue Christian on Thursday, Sept. 5, at Lowell Nicholson Field, where the chemistry between pitcher Henson and senior catcher Sophia Shook continued to grow.

"Kennedy has started to round into shape in the circle, and she and Sophia are starting to understand better what (Assistant Coach Chris) Vardo is asking of them," Head Coach Clay Livingston said.

After pitching a no-hitter on Tuesday, Henson stepped into the circle Thursday ready to help the Lady Indians to a win over Prince Avenue Christian.

Henson continued her dominance on the mound, throwing 104 pitches through seven innings and only giving up two earned runs.

Towns County took a two-run lead in the bottom of the first, which started with base hit single from Henson.

After Shook walked, junior Abby Mauldin stepped to the plate and crushed a ball for an RBI single.

Sophomore Rylie Livingston followed up with an RBI double to score the second and final run of the inning.

The Lady Indians would go on to score three more runs to take a five-run lead before the Lady Wolverines could put up three runs of their own.

Henson went a perfect 2-for-2 at the plate, and freshman third baseman Jenna Durham went 1-for-3 with an RBI. She also made a great defensive play in the top of the



Moss prior to belting an inside-the-park homerun. Photo/Facebook

second, fielding a ground ball to make a throw to first base for the first out in the inning.

Junior Rylie Livingston went 2-for-3 at the plate with two RBIs, and junior Abby Mauldin finished 1-for-3 with an RBI.

Shook ended the day going 1-for-2 with an RBI of her own.

Next up, the Lady Indians traveled to Chestatee for a doubleheader on Saturday, Sept. 7, to take on the Fannin County Lady Rebels and the Chestatee Lady War Eagles.

Towns County went 1-for-1 Saturday, taking another game from Fannin County by beating the Lady Rebels 4-3 in the first game of the doubleheader.

Henson pitched seven innings, retiring nine batters and only allowing two earned runs.

She went 1-for-2 at the plate with a solo home run –

Henson's first of the season and the team's second after Shook hit a two-run homer against Prince Avenue Christian on Aug. 27.

Junior Jayce Young finished 2-for-4 at the plate with an RBI, and Livingston went 2-for-4 with two RBIs of her own.

The Lady Indians lost a hard-fought game in the second match of the doubleheader Saturday, falling to the Lady War Eagles 7-8.

Henson pitched another seven innings, retiring 12 batters but allowing five earned runs.

Mauldin was 2-for-4 at the plate with three RBIs, and Livingston finished 1-for-4 with two RBIs.

Sophomore Alisa Moss went 1-for-4 at the plate and hit a terrific inside-the-park home run.

The Lady Indians have significantly improved over



Junior Abby Mauldin stretches for a put out at first base vs Prince Avenue. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

the last seven games, going 4-3 to bring their regular season record to 5-6 and 3-4 in the region. They are currently tied for the fourth spot with Prince Avenue Christian.

"These girls are exactly who I thought they were and exactly why I was so excited about coaching them," Livingston said. "They just keep grinding away and getting better. We had a little bit of a let-down this weekend, dropping one to Chestatee High School 7-8, but they fought until the last out was recorded."

Added Livingston, "Coaches Chris Vardo and Zeke Gribble have done a great job with the girls in the cage. We just have to keep learning and apply what we learn in live at-bats. We feel good about where we are."

"It should be an interesting finish to the season. I think the Prince win lifted the girls' expectations. I think they be-

lieved they could before, and now they know they can."

The Lady Indians will travel to Elbert County for a non-region game on Wednes-

day, Sept. 11, before hosting Rabun County at Lowell Nicholson Field on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 10 a.m.

Register now for Youth Basketball

Towns County Recreation Department Basketball Registration 8U (ages 6-8), 10U, and 12U age groups. Registration now through October 5th. Late Registration October 6 - 12th \$15 Late Fee. \$60 with multi-sibling discount! Register in person or online at townscountyrec.com 706-896-2600.

Towns County Recreation 3 vs. 3 Basketball Tournament Saturday, October 12th, 2019 10 a.m. tentative start time. Male and Female Divisions: Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12, Adult Division. Register and pick up information in person at Towns County Recreation Department! \$100 Entry per

team/3 to 4 player roster (all must be in same age/gender division). Prizes will be awarded based on number of entries and other proceeds will help fund and create Towns County Recreation Department Scholarships. Call 706-896-2600 or visit our Facebook page for more information. T(Sep11,F)SH

