

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians sprint past Southeast Whitfield County of Dalton

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The youthful Class A Towns County Lady Indians varsity basketball team continued an impressive season with their third victory in decisive fashion last Tuesday over Class AAAA Southeast Whitfield County High School of Dalton in the Towns County gym.

The Lady Indians completed the 2017 portion of regular season play with a 3-6 record after coming within six seconds of one victory and hanging within striking distance in three other games until the final two minutes in three other games against higher classification public schools and they hold a 2-0 record in Region 8A play.

Lady Indians 61, SE Whitfield 43 – The Lady Indians got a 3-0 lead on a trey by junior Taylor Cornett at the 7:27 mark of the first quarter and overcame a following 7-0 run by the Lady Raiders for an 11-11 standoff after one quarter.

Six straight points on a field goal by sophomore Sophia Shook and four for six free throw shooting by freshman Kennedi Henson got



The Towns County Lady Indians in action during their recent win over SE Whitfield. Photos by Lowell Nicholson

the Lady Indians a 9-7 lead at the 1:54 mark and Shook's second field goal at thirty seven seconds got them the aforementioned 11-11 tie at quarter's end.

Freshman Vanessa Floyd wrapped field goals around a Lady Raiders basket for Lady Indian leads of 13-11 and 15-13 by the 4:50 mark of the second quarter and they would not trail again as they gradually extended the lead with a 19-9 finish for a 32-22

lead at intermission.

The remainder of the quarter was highlighted by three field goals and two for two free throw shooting by Shook for eight points and a three point play and another field goal by Cornett for five points.

Two treys by Southeast at the 6:24 and 5:55 marks of the third quarter had the Lady Raiders within 34-28 but the Lady Indians struck back with a vengeance. Two



The Towns County Lady Indians in action during their recent win over SE Whitfield. Photos by Lowell Nicholson

free throws by Henson, a field goal by Cornett, a three point play by Henson, and two treys by senior Madison McClure accounted for a 13-0 Towns run in just two minutes and eighteen seconds between the 5:16 and 2:58 marks for a sudden 47-28 Indian bulge which became 50-32 entering the fourth quarter.

McClure included five for six free throw shooting in contributing seven points and Henson included a trey among

four points in fourth quarter play as the Lady Indians closed out the 61-43 victory.

Four Lady Indians contributed double figures to the victory with Henson leading with 17 points and followed by McClure with 14, Shook with 12, and Cornett with 10.

Leading in assists were Henson with 6, McClure with 3, and junior Kristen Byers with 2 while Floyd led in rebounds with 4 and was fol-

lowed by the quartet of Cornett, junior Kenzlee Denton, Henson, and McClure with 3 each. The Lady Raiders were led in scoring by junior McKenna Lentych with 17 points and senior Lauren Allen with 12.

The very quick Lady Indians sank an outstanding twenty three of thirty four free throw attempts compared to just nine for thirteen for the Lady Raiders.

Indians take hard fought victory over Southeast Whitfield

By Jerry Kendall
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The Towns County Indians varsity basketball team no doubt entered their home court game against Southeast Whitfield County High School of Dalton last Tuesday with a bit of anxiety after learning that an injury to top flight inside power player Logan Cowart sustained three days earlier in an all star football game at Fannin County proved to be more serious than initially believed to be the case. Initially, Cowart was informed that he would miss just a week of playing time but later learned after further evaluation that he had a stress fracture in his foot and will miss around four weeks of playing time.

This becomes the second year in a row for the Indians to suffer the results of an injury to a top notch player after two year starter Adam Barrett sustained a very serious ankle injury in a pre season game and missed all of last season except for a courtesy start in the final home game and then game action in the Indians' final game at Calhoun County after being cleared for action. The 6'4" Cowart was averaging 15.1 points and leading the Indians in rebounds for the initial seven Indians games before being sidelined for the Indians' win over Fannin following completion of the football game.

Class AAAA Southeast



Towns County junior Will Travis goes up for two of his 11 points vs SE Whitfield on Tuesday. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Whitfield entered the game against the Indians with a 4-5 record against a quite challenging schedule of Class AAAA and AAA opponents and one against undefeated Class AA Chatooga. And they feature a starting front line of 6'6", 6'5", and 6'3" players but the Indians were up to the challenge in finding a way to take a 48-41 victory in a hard fought defensive battle. The Indians completed the week with a 6-3 overall record, including 2-1 in Region 8A.

Indians 48, SE Whitfield 41 – The Indians overcame a

slow start as a put back basket by junior Will Travis got them within 4-2 at the 4:49 mark and they overcame a 9-2 deficit at 2:55 in edging to within 9-7 after one quarter on a trey by freshman Kolby Moss at 2:35 and Travis' second basket at fifty one seconds.

The visiting Raiders then opened the second quarter on an 8-1 run for their biggest lead of 17-9 by the 4:52 mark but the Indians outscored the Raiders 18-4 during the final 4:21 of the quarter for a 26-21 lead at intermission. The stunning

run included a 13-0 Indians finish the final 2:44 which was triggered by a basket by junior Brett Denton and followed by two field goals for four points by senior Evan Berrong and a trey by Travis at thirty six seconds for a 22-21 Towns lead. Senior Zach Davenport then extended the margin with two free throws at 18.5 seconds and added a steal near mid court and layup at the buzzer for the five points advantage.

The Raiders edged to within 26-23 with two early third quarter free throws but a

three point play by Davenport at 5:47 got the Indians a 29-23 lead and he added two more field goals as the Indians led by scores of between four and seven points until a trey by senior Bradley Benson at thirty two second had them ahead 38-31 entering the fourth quarter.

Neither team entered the scoring column for nearly three minutes at the start of the fourth quarter with the Raiders striking for two free throws at 5:04 and a trey at 4:20 in edging to within 38-36. After the Raiders matched a free throw by

Travis for a 39-37 Towns lead at 2:57, Davenport sank two free throws at 2:45 for a 41-37 Indians lead.

The Raiders struck back with two field goals for a 41-41 tie at 1:42 but Moss nailed his second trey of the game from the left wing at 1:21 and that would turn out to be the game winner as the Raiders would not be able to dent the scoreboard again. Davenport made it a two possession game with a free throw at 33.5 seconds for a 45-41 Towns lead and he then sank three of four free throw attempts at 11.3 seconds when a Raiders substitute was assessed with two technical fouls and an ejection giving the Indians a 48-41 victory.

Davenport led the Indians in scoring with 19 points with other leaders being Travis with 11 points, Moss with 6, and Berrong with 5.

Junior Trent Bradshaw and Davenport tied for the lead with 3 assists each and Moss followed with 2 while Davenport and Travis tied for the lead in rebounds with 6 each and Bradshaw followed with 3. The Raiders were led in scoring by 6'5" junior Jarred Wright and junior Zac Cole with 11 points each. Excellent free throw shooting, including eleven for thirteen accuracy by Davenport, proved to be decisive in the game as the Indians sank sixteen of twenty four attempts in the game as compared to just eight for nineteen for the Raiders.

2017 24th Annual CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT BATTLE OF THE STATES

DEC 27-28-29, 2017

CONSOlation BRACKET

DAY 1
12/27/17

Lumpkin Co., GA

DAY 2
12/28/17

1 10:00 AM

Murphy, NC

DAY 2
12/28/17

7 4:00 PM

Darlington School, GA

DAY 3
12/29/17

5 10:00 AM

2 4:00 PM

Union Co., GA

9 10:00 AM

12 7:00 PM

CHAMPION

Hokes Bluff, AL

3 1:00 PM

Polk Co., TN

6 1:00 PM

Hayesville, NC

8 7:00 PM

4 7:00 PM

Towns Co., GA

10 1:00 PM

11 4:00 PM

3rd Place

W5 W6 L7 L8

Bottom Team in Bracket is Home Team and Will Wear White Uniforms

WINNERS BRACKET

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