

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Indians get wins over Commerce, Prince Avenue; fall to late run at Lakeview

By Jerry Kendall  
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The Towns County High School Indians Varsity Basketball Team faced three Region 8-A opponents last week and came away with impressive victories over Commerce at home on Tuesday and at Prince Avenue Christian School near Athens on Saturday but fell to a late scoring surge by Lakeview Academy in Gainesville on Friday.

The week's work leaves the Indians with an overall 7-9 record against a very challenging schedule, including 3-2 in the region.

**Indians 76  
Commerce 53**

Against Commerce, the Indians pretty much held the upper hand over the Tigers from start to finish but were forced on occasion to respond to mini runs by the Tigers as they led 14-7, 33-18, and 53-40 at the quarter breaks in taking a 76-53 victory.

They built a 12-3 lead by the 3:28 mark of the first quarter on four points each by juniors Adam Barrett, Will De Vries, and Major Moss but the Tigers pulled to within 12-7 on two field goals by the 1:21 mark.

A 14-2 run highlighted by six points by DeVries and four by sophomore Evan Berrong between the thirty seconds mark of the first quarter and 2:36 of the second gave the Indians a 26-9 advantage but the persistent Tigers pulled to within ten points on three occasions by the 2:41 mark of the third quarter with senior Jake Pyrlik ending each of those challenges with field goals.

The Tigers then got within single digits by a 49-40 score at the 1:06 mark of the third quarter but a putback basket by freshman Will Travis and two free throws by Major Moss the final fifty one seconds had the Indians ahead 53-40, setting the stage for seven different Indians entering the scoring column as they broke away for the 76-53 victory against the Tigers who were still seeking their first win of the season by week's end.

Top quarterly individual



Major Moss goes up for two vs Commerce Photo/Lowell Nicholson

scoring totals for the Indians included six points in the first quarter and seven in the second by De Vries; four in each of the first two quarters, nine in the third, and six in the fourth by Moss; six by Pyrlik in the third; five by sophomore Zach Davenport in the fourth; and four each by Adam Barrett in the first, Berrong in the second, and sophomore Bradley Benson in the fourth.

Moss took scoring honors for the Indians for the game with 23 points with other leaders being De Vries with 17, Pyrlik and Barrett with 8 each, and Davenport with 7.

Leaders in assists were Davenport with 5, sophomore Cole Ledford with 4, and Moss with 3, according to your reporter's tally.

Jair Heredia and senior Logan Jackson led the Tigers in scoring with 12 and 10 points respectively.

**Indians 53  
Prince Avenue 47**

**Bogart** - The Indians and their followers could be excused for being a bit uncertain about

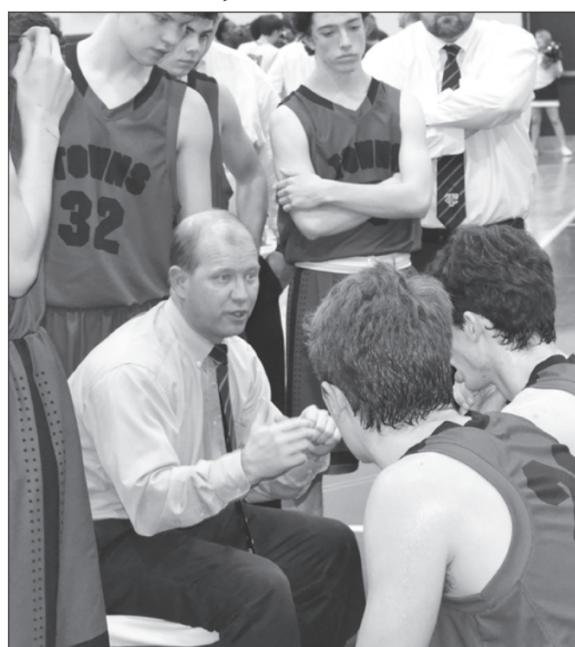
their trip to Prince Avenue Christian School in Bogart, near Athens, on Saturday night without the presence of starter Zach Davenport and the fact that the Wolverines sported an 8-3 record with the three losses having been to Lakeview Academy, Class AA Washington-Wilkes, and Class AAA Dawson County.

The Indians would get quality playing time from those starting the game and those coming off the bench, however, and steadily pulled away in the fourth quarter in taking the measure of the home standing Wolverines by a 53-47 score.

The Indians took early leads of 2-0 on a field goal by Adam Barrett, 4-3 on a basket by Will De Vries, and 7-4 on a trey by Colton Shook as they led 14-8 by quarter's end with Barrett including a trey among seven points for the Indians.

Points were hard to come by for the Indians in the second quarter but they still maintained a lead until two free throws at the 4:03 mark gave the Wolverines a 19-18 lead.

A basket by Barrett got the Indians back in front 20-19



Coach Benson huddles the Indians at Lakeview. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

at 3:34 and that lead held up until Prince sank a trey near the half minute mark for a 22-20 lead at halftime.

A trey by Shook got the Indians ahead 23-22 barely a minute into the third quarter and two free throws by De Vries got them a 25-25 tie at 5:32 but the Wolverines reclaimed the lead and held a 34-29 advantage by the three minutes mark of the quarter.

The Indians struck for seven straight points between the 2:44 and nineteen seconds marks, however, on deuces by Major Moss and De Vries and a trey by Moss for a 36-34 lead they would not relinquish.

The Wolverines sank a free throw with 6.7 seconds left for just a 36-35 Towns lead entering the fourth quarter but an old fashioned three point play by Will Travis and a second basket by Travis wrapped around a Prince free throw had the Indians ahead 41-36 less than three minutes into the quarter.

Barrett then matched Wolverine baskets with field goals of his own at 4:23 and 3:58 for a 45-40 Towns lead.

And after the Wolverines got within 45-42, the Indians struck for six straight points for a 51-42 advantage by 1:16 on a field goal by Travis, two free throws by DeVries, and the Indians' final basket of the game

by Barrett.

The Indians sank two of four free throw attempts the final 45.1 seconds while the Wolverines reduced the final margin of victory for the Indians to 53-47 on a deuce and trey which were lightly contested the final nineteen seconds of the game.

Travis wound up with seven points and Barrett six in the fourth quarter with five of their total of six baskets coming off three alert passes by Moss and two by DeVries.

The Indians had a nicely balanced scoring attack for the game with leaders being Barrett with 18 points, De Vries with 13, Shook with 8, Travis with 7, and Moss with 6.

They had a very impressive sixteen assists, as tallied by your reporter, with Moss leading with 10 and De Vries and Cole Ledford following with 2 each.

The Wolverines were led in scoring by seniors Duncan Taylor with 13 points and Andrew Medina with 9.

**Indians 39  
Lakeview Academy 60**

**Gainesville** - The Indians had a tough challenge on Friday in Gainesville when they faced the quick and physical Lakeview Academy Lions, who improved to a 13-3 record, including 5-0 in Region 8-A, by week's end.

All three losses have been to higher classification schools with just five of the wins to date being against Class A competition.

The Indians would trail for most of the first two and a half quarters but by no more than seven points on two occasions late in the second, including by a 26-19 score at intermission.

They got a 2-2 tie on a Will DeVries basket, an 8-7 lead on Zach Davenport's second deuce of the quarter, and a 10-9 lead on a second De Vries field goal in first quarter action and trailed by just an 11-10 score at quarter's end.

The Indians then used a field goal by De Vries and a trey by junior Colton Shook following a Lakeview basket for a mini 5-0 run and a 15-13 lead by the 6:14 mark of the second quarter but the Lions would hold the 26-19 lead by intermission.

The Indians stung the Lions with an 8-0 run in less than two minutes at the start of the third quarter on a deuce by De Vries and treys by Davenport and De Vries for a 27-26 lead with Major Moss adding a free throw at 5:25 for a 28-26 advantage they would hold until the 4:28 mark when the Lions tied the score.

It would then be past the mid point of the quarter at 3:35 before the Lions would take a 30-28 lead they would never relinquish and they finished the game on a 34-11 run for the 60-39 victory.

Scoring leaders for the Indians were Davenport with 14 points, De Vries with 13, and Adam Barrett with 4 with Davenport missing several minutes of playing time for taping after sustaining a thumb injury which would sideline him for the Prince Avenue game the next night.

Leaders in assists for the Indians were Moss and Cole Ledford with 4 each and Barrett with 2. Lakeview was led in scoring by junior Tre Gober with 17 points, sophomore Evan Pitts with 12, and senior Daniel Fadool with 10. Pitts is the nephew of Towns County Deputy Sheriff Donnie Jarrard who serves as the Towns County Schools Resource Officer and travels with the Lady Indians and Indians to road games.

## Lady Indians rebound for victory at Prince Ave following losses to top teams in 8-A

By Jerry Kendall  
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The Towns County High School Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team came alive in a big way last Saturday night in Bogart, near Athens, as they took the measure, in perhaps their best performance of the season, of the Prince Avenue Christian School Lady Wolverines by a 52-41 score for their third victory of the season.

The Lady Indians had been victimized in losses at home on Tuesday and in Gainesville on Friday by Commerce, last year's Region 8-A Tournament Champion, and Lakeview Academy, the regular season Region 8A Champion from last year, with both teams returning much of their fire power from last year and currently being undefeated this year in region play.

**Lady Indians 52  
Prince Avenue 41**

**Bogart** - The Lady Indians' game at Prince Avenue was a real battle all the way to the start of the fourth quarter with just four ties but thirteen lead changes involved, including four in each of the first three quarters.

Further, there were no more than a three points lead for the Lady Indians and a brief six points lead at the start of the third quarter for the Lady Wolverines until the Lady Indians broke away in the fourth quarter for the 52-41 victory.

Despite the numerous lead changes, the Lady Wolverines held leads at each of the first three quarter breaks of 10-9, 23-19, and 35-34 with Lady Indian highlights in those quarters being five points in the first by Savannah Dyer, seven in the second by Madison McClure, and eight in the third by Jocelyn Byers.

Byers actually included three treys among eleven of thirteen points scored by her team between the fifty one seconds mark of the second quarter and the 3:21 mark of



Kristen Byers with a layup at Lakeview. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

the third as the Lady Indians rallied from a 21-16 deficit for a 29-29 tie.

The Lady Indians used the Byers individual run as a springboard for the late game heroics which would propel them to victory.

A coast to coast run by McClure got them a 31-29 lead at 2:52 of the third quarter and a trey by Madison Landress a 34-33 lead at the 1:14 mark before the Lady Indians dominated the fourth quarter.

A long deuce by Landress just twenty two seconds into the fourth quarter gave the Lady Indians a 36-35 lead they would not relinquish as they opened the quarter with a 10-0 run for a 44-35 lead by the 3:46 mark.

The remainder of the ten points run was achieved by a free throw and field goal by Dyer and a coast to coast run for two points and a trey by McClure.

When the Lady Wolverines used a trey and a free throw to edge to within 44-39 at the 2:47 mark, McClure and Landress responded with drives to

the basket for two points each, giving the Lady Indians a 48-39 lead at the 1:42 mark that they extended for the 52-41 victory on two free throws each by McClure and Byers.

McClure totaled nine points and Landress four in the decisive fourth quarter run.

The Lady Indian victory was led by McClure with 18 points, Byers with 13, Dyer with 10, and Landress with 7 with Byers and McClure leading six Lady Indians with at least one assist with 2 each.

The Lady Wolverines were led in scoring by senior Jordyn Smith with 17 points and sophomore Kalin Cartey with 13.

The Lady Wolverines saw their record fall to 6-9, including 1-4 in the region, with the loss, while the Lady Indians improved to 3-13 against a quite challenging schedule, including 2-3 in the region.

**Lady Indians 35  
Commerce 63**

Against Commerce, a field goal by senior Savannah



Jocelyn Byers at the free throw line vs Commerce. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Dyer gave the Lady Indians a 2-2 tie barely a minute into the game but the Lady Tigers went on a 20-3 run the rest of the quarter for a 22-5 lead which became 32-14 by intermission as the two teams played to a virtual standoff in the second quarter.

Senior Jocelyn Byers included three treys among a team leading seven points for the Lady Indians in first half play with Dyer close behind with six points on three deuces.

The Lady Tigers again had the upper hand in the third quarter, holding a 50-21 advantage entering the fourth when they closed out a 63-35 victory.

Byers included two treys among ten last half points and junior Madison Landress sank a pair of deuces for four points for the Lady Indians the last two quarters.

Byers led the Lady Indians in scoring for the game with 17 points and was followed by Dyer with 8 and Landress with 4 while junior Kristen Henson led in assists with 2, accord-

ing to your reporter's tally.

Sophomore twins Mya and Asia Jones led the Lady Tigers in scoring with 13 and 12 points respectively. The Lady Tigers completed the week with a 9-4 record, including 3-4 against higher classification schools as they, like the Lady Indians and Indians, are isolated from other

Class A public schools.

**Lady Indians 31  
Lakeview Academy 79**

**Gainesville** - At Lakeview, The Lady Indians took early 2-0 and 4-2 leads on field goals by freshman Kristen Byers and Savannah Dyer and they edged to within 7-6 at the 4:35 mark of the first quarter on a basket by Kristen Henson.

But the Lady Lions broke away for a 20-7 lead after one quarter and led 38-17 at intermission and 68-25 after three quarters in taking a 79-31 victory.

Dyer and Byers scored four points each in the second quarter and Byers five in the third as the top individual point totals by quarter as eight Lady Indians entered the scoring column.

Scoring leaders for the Lady Indians for the game were Kristen Byers with 11 points, Dyer with 6, and Madison Landress with 4 while Jocelyn Byers and sophomore Madison McClure led in assists with 2 each. The Lady Lions were led in scoring by junior Hanna Grogan and senior Halee Cash with 16 and 12 points respectively.

The Lady Lions completed the week's play with an 11-5 record with all five losses being to out of state or higher classification schools but including seven wins against these type schools.



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