

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians breeze past Athens Christian and Athens Academy

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team continued their good fortune in the new year by extending their winning streak to three games with a road win at Athens Christian on Friday night and then a home court victory over Athens Academy on Saturday.

The two wins extend their overall record to 9-7 and their record within Region 8A to 6-1. Athens Christian entered their game with the Lady Indians with a 7-2 record while the season has been a struggle to this point for Athens Academy with an 0-8 record entering the game.

**Lady Indians 60
Athens Christian 41**

Athens Christian gained an early upper hand on Friday night in Athens when they took leads of as much as 6-1 less than two and a half minutes into the game and 11-5 with less than a minute to go in the first quarter.

The Lady Indians used a trey by Bailey Sutton with forty four seconds on the clock as a trigger, however, for a 6-0 finish with a drive for two points and two free throws by Eryn Cochran completing a 7-point quarter and giving them a sudden 12-11 lead they would never relinquish by quarter's end.



Sophomore Jocelyn Byers fights for two in the paint. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Misty Lindemuth sank two free throws just eight seconds into the second quarter, giving the Lady Indians an 8-0 run in just 52 seconds of playing time back to that 44-second mark of the first and setting the stage for a second quarter which pretty much turned into a free throw shooting contest with both teams falling into a bit of foul difficulty.

A trey near the mid point of the quarter by Jocelyn Byers

for the Lady Indians turned out to be the only field goal in the quarter for either team.

The Lady Indians also got the best of the free throw shooting competition as well in sinking six of eight attempts to just 5-for-11 for the Lady Eagles as the Lady Indians led 21-16 at intermission.

The Lady Indians then opened the third quarter with a 14-2 run by the 4:02 mark and



Junior Misty Lindemuth gets to the basket for two. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

led by as much as 40-20 before settling for a 42-26 advantage entering the fourth quarter and they finished off a 60-41 victory with fourth quarter leads ranging from as little as 44-31 barely a minute and a half into the quarter to as much as 60-35 less than two minutes from the end.

Scoring leaders by quarter the last half included 7 points by Cochran and four by Savannah Dyer in the third and five each by

Carlie Albach and Kelsie Cowart and four by Misty Lindemuth in the fourth.

Cochran led the Lady Indians in scoring for the game with 16 points with other leaders being Lindemuth with 8; Albach, Cowart, and Sutton with 7 each; and Madison Johnson with 5 while Cochran led in assists with 7 and was followed by Lindemuth with 4 and Albach with 2 according to your reporter's tally.

**Lady Indians 65
Athens Academy 19**

Two free throws by Kelsie Cowart barely half a minute into the game got the Lady Indians a 2-0 lead they would never relinquish against Athens Academy on Saturday night as they took an early 8-0 lead and followed a trey and deuce by the Lady Spartans for an 8-5 score by holding a 16-6 lead by the first quarter break.

Seniors Eryn Cochran and Cowart took the scoring lead with six points each in first quarter action.

It didn't get any better for the Lady Spartans as the Lady Indians held leads of 35-11 at halftime and 53-19 after three quarters in taking the 65-19 victory.

Cowart contributed six more points in the second quarter, junior Karlie Albach nine on three treys in the third, and junior Madison Johnson five points and sophomore Jocelyn Byers four in the fourth in representing top individual quarterly scoring production.

For the game, Albach and Cowart led in scoring with 12 points each and were followed by Cochran with 11; Johnson with 7; Byers, junior Misty Lindemuth, and sophomore Brooke Smith with 6 each; and senior Mckenzie Moss with 5 while leaders in assists were Lindemuth with 6 and Cochran with 3 according to your reporter's tally.

Short handed Indians fall to Athens Christian and Athens Academy

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

It didn't take long after the return of Dallas Manus, the team's leading scorer as a freshman and sophomore, from injury to the Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team for them to receive another injury setback, this time in the person of this year's leading scorer Trace Moss.

The junior sharpshooter was sidelined for at least last week's game at Athens Christian on Friday and their home game against Athens Academy on Saturday. On a positive injury note, however, freshman Will Devries is recovering a bit ahead of what was expected from a broken arm and should return to action with the team later this month.

The Indians fell victim to Athens Christian, the state's second ranked Class A team and a state Class A Private final four participant last year, in Athens on Friday before rebounding to lead for much of the game and remain within striking distance until the final four minutes when they fell at home to a late scoring run by Athens Academy on Saturday.

**Indians 30
Athens Christian 90**

It's always difficult for a veteran team to face an ultra quick and talented second ranked team in the state, but even more so for a team with injured players and as much youth as the Indians and that proved to be the case in Athens on Friday. The Eagles started five juniors who would combine for 80 of the Eagles' 90 points in the game with the top three scorers combining for 71 of the points.

The Indians, on the other



Junior Boone Moss fires away at Athens Christian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

hand, used just one senior, two juniors, one sophomore, and six freshmen with junior Trace Moss, the team's leading scorer, and freshman Will Devries sidelined by injury. All ten Indians dressed for the game saw extensive action and played hard throughout the game with the experience of on the job training of facing the quickness of their opponent, which is impossible to duplicate in practice, sure to help them as they establish themselves the remainder of this season and in future years.

Athens Christian opened the game with an 18-0 run which was interrupted by a 5-2 Indians run on a Dallas Manus trey at the 3:57 mark of the first quarter and a put back basket by Jake Pylrik for a 20-5 score but the Eagles led 29-6 after one quarter. The Indians opened the second with a 6-2 run

on two baskets by Boone Moss and one by Manus for a 31-12 deficit, but the Eagles finished the quarter on a 21-0 run for a 54-12 lead at intermission.

With Athens Christian leading 80-17 entering the fourth quarter, the Indians outscored the Eagles 13-10 in the fourth with highlights including a 3-point play among five points for Adam Barrett and a 3-point play among four for Garrett Bradshaw.

Boone Moss led the Indians in scoring for the game with 9 points with other leaders being Adam Barrett with 7 and Manus with 5 while Major Moss led in assists with 3 according to your reporter's tally.

**Indians 44
Athens Academy 57**

The early season was quite



Freshman Darringer Barrett takes flight. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

a struggle for the traditionally strong Athens Academy Spartans with five straight losses at the start but they entered the game against the Indians on an upswing on Saturday after having won five of their last six games. Included among their recent successes was a 52-49 home court victory over Lakeview Academy on Friday night for a 5-6 record entering the game.

The Indians managed an early 2-2 tie on two free throws by senior Garrett Bradshaw, a 7-5 lead on a trey by junior Dallas Manus, and a 9-7 lead on a basket by freshman Major Moss by the 3:43 mark of the first quarter but the Spartans used their second and third treys of the quarter to advantage in taking a 15-9 lead by the quarter break.

As they had done against Commerce just 8 days earlier in

the third quarter, however, the Indians owned most of the second this time, outscoring Athens Academy 19-3 by the 1:03 mark for a 28-18 lead over the stunned Spartans, who recovered a bit with a 4-1 finish for a 29-22 Towns lead at intermission.

Bradshaw came up with two old fashioned 3-point plays in less than a minute at the start of the quarter, on a drive for the basket and then a put back bucket, for a 15-15 tie with freshman Adam Barrett scoring 6 of the next 8 Indian points for a 23-18 Indian lead and Major Moss scoring the next five for the aforementioned 28-18 Towns lead.

The scoring pace for the Indians slowed during the third quarter with the Spartans edging to a 35-35 standoff with 1:25 on the clock but a Boone Moss free throw 17 seconds later had the In-

dians back in front 36-35 entering the fourth quarter.

The first half of the fourth quarter was a real battle between the two teams with a free throw by Manus getting the Indians a 37-37 tie at 6:22 and two free throws by Adam Barrett and a basket by Bradshaw having them within 42-41 with 4:24 remaining.

But the Spartans extended their lead with three drives to the basket for field goals with the third being a three point play between the 4:05 and 2:51 marks for a 49-41 lead and they put the game out of reach with 8-for-10 free throw shooting the final two minutes of the game for the final 57-44 margin of victory.

The Indians were led in scoring for the game by Bradshaw with 12 points, Major Moss with 11, Adam Barrett with 9, and Manus with 7 while leaders in assists were freshman Darringer Barrett, Manus, and Major Moss with 2 each according to your reporter's tally.

When all was said and done, the Indians had been victimized by the scoring exploits of Eric Williams, the Spartans' junior superstar who has been a force for his team since ninth grade. Williams scored 39 of the Spartans' 57 points with three treys and 16-for-19 free throw shooting included. This was not out of the ordinary for Williams who also scored 39 in an overtime win at Class AA Oglethorpe County and is averaging 27.1 points per game through 12 games.

He completed an incredible weekend, worthy of mention in an opponent's newspaper report, against the Indians after scoring 36 in the aforementioned 52-49 win over Lakeview on Friday, giving him 75 of his team's 109 points scored in two nights.

Rogers rules at 120-pounds; TCMS fourth at King of the Mountain

By Todd Forrest
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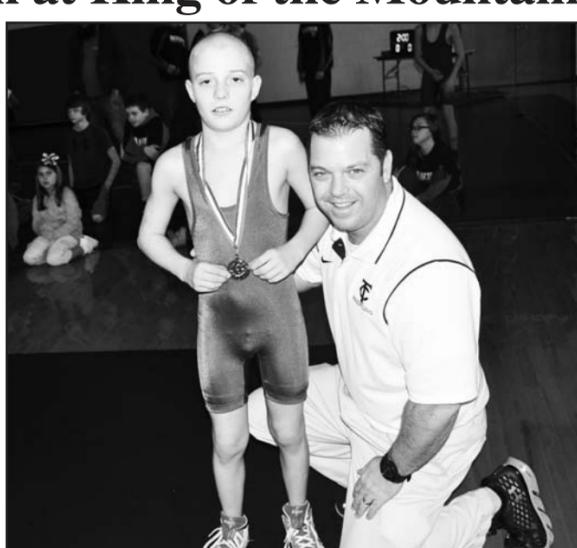
Blaine Rogers took home gold in the 120-pound B-Division at last weekend's 10th Annual King of the Mountain.

The Indians placed fourth overall with 69 points - 17 ahead of fifth place Franklin County and 16 back of third place Union County.

Far West Middle School (Robbinsville, NC) ran away with the tournament, racking up 150 points. Lumpkin County was a distant second at 98 points - 13 ahead of Union.

Rogers' journey to the mountaintop began with a win over Hayden Walters of White County. He then finished off Dawson County's Eli Cowart, and before he could be crowned king, he had to go through Dawson County again. This time it was Anthony Cox but when the smoke cleared, Rogers' arm was raised and went home wearing gold.

Kaine Hoffman (98 pounds) and Logan McClure



Coach McClure and Rogers show off their bling. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

just missed out on the gold, placing second in their respective weight classes.

Michael Moss came in third at 72 pounds and 160-pounder Harold Cox also took third.

Daniel Crowder placed fourth at 285 pounds while others who finished in the Top six were: Alex Barrett at 84 pounds, Dylan White at 120 pounds, and Dalton Key

at 136 pounds.

"We had a couple of kids who I thought should of been in the finals but Cox and Key lost to two tough kids," Towns Wrestling Coach Jeff Stowers said. "Overall, I think we wrestled pretty well coming off of Christmas break, and hadn't practiced a whole lot. I'm not ecstatic about our performance but I'm okay with it."

Towns County JV sweeps 'The Gap'

By Jerry Kendall
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Staff Writer

The Towns County Lady Indian JV's Basketball Team took early control of their home game against the Woody Gap Varsity Lady Falcons of Suches on Thursday and coasted to a 54-10 victory in their only game last week.

It was the Lady Indians' second victory of the season over Woody Gap and in taking the win, the Lady Indians improved their season record to 4-3.

The Lady Indians sprang out to an 18-3 first quarter lead and led 30-4 at intermission and 44-8 after three quarters in taking the 54-10 victory.

The Lady Falcons actually drew first blood with a field goal for a 2-0 lead just twenty five seconds into the game but the Lady Indians responded quickly in taking control of the game. They got a tie on a drive for the basket by Kirsten Ledford at the 6:02 mark of the first quarter and took a 4-2 lead they would never relinquish when a steal by Ledford led to a Madison Landress field goal just thirteen seconds later.

Kristen Henson took the lead in the second and third quarters when she included two treys for six points in the second and a trey and deuce for five in the third while Taylor McCarter chipped in four points in the third.



Towns County's JV teams swatted the Falcons. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

and individual players not having to sit out quarters for varsity availability.

Freshmen Major Moss and Will Devries did not play in the game as Moss is a full time varsity player and Devries is sidelined by a broken arm. Some good news is that Devries is ahead of schedule in recovering from his injury and expects to return to action later this month.

Taylor took the scoring lead for the Indians for the game with 16 points with other leaders being Darringer Barrett with 9, Adam Barrett with 8, and Moss with 6 while Darringer Barrett led in assists with 7 and was followed by Kobe Denton with 3 and Moss with 2 according to your reporter's tally.

This was also their second victory over the Falcons with the significance being that the Indians could use all players dressed for the game as much as needed with no Indian varsity game to follow



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