

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

www.townscountyherald.net • E-mail: tcherald@windstream.net

Lady Indians fend off Hiwassee Dam

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team played host to the Hiwassee Dam, NC, Lady Eagles and came away with their ninth victory of the season without a loss.

The Lady Indians built a huge lead through nearly three quarters and withstood a rousing, last ditch rally by Hiwassee Dam in taking a 73-64 victory.

The Lady Indians had punished the Lady Eagles with ten 3-point baskets for nearly half of their points in a 64-51 win at Hiwassee Dam just ten nights earlier but sank just one trey on this evening as they found a variety of ways to take the ball "in the paint", or near the goal for those not familiar with the term.

In the early going, steals played a big role in layups for points followed by pinpoint, and sometimes spectacular, passing by Lady Indians point guard Eryn Cochran setting up baskets by post players Kellsie Cowart, Dadrrian Blythe, and Emily Anderson who combined for twenty nine points on this evening.

The Lady Indians got off to a 7-0 start by the 6:36 mark of the first quarter on a three point play by Cochran and two field goals by Stephanie Patton but the Lady Eagles rallied for a 7-7 tie at 4:37.

Steals and field goals by Bailey Sutton and Patton at 4:08 and 3:58 gave the Lady Indians an 11-7 lead they would not relinquish but it required an 11-1 finish the final 2:56 of the quarter triggered by a three point play by Anderson to give them a 24-12 lead at the quarter break.

Patton used three steals



Coach Jim Melton instructs his team during the fourth quarter of their win over Hiwassee Dam. Photo/Lowell Nicholson.

The Lady Eagles opened the second quarter with a 5-0 run for just a 24-17 Towns lead but the Lady Indians struck for fourteen straight points, including six in a row by Cowart, between the 6:34 and 2:27 marks for a 38-17 lead which was 42-22 by intermission.

Blythe matched Cowart's six points during the quarter with Cochran assisting on all six field Lady Indian field goals in the quarter.

The Lady Indians continued the onslaught in the third quarter when they extended their lead to 58-30 by the 2:02 mark with highlights including a trey and three point play among eight points by Patton and a three point play among five points by Cochran.

The Lady Indians were within two points of a mercy rule shortened fourth quarter but the momentum suddenly shifted from the Lady Indians to the Lady Eagles who went

on an 8-1 run the final fifty one seconds for just a 59-38 deficit entering the fourth quarter.

Cochran opened and ended a modest 8-5 Lady Indian run with field goals for a 67-43 Towns lead by the 6:06 mark of the fourth quarter but the Lady Eagles returned to the momentum they had at the end of the third quarter with a 20-5 finish the final 5:37 of the game for a final Lady Indian margin of victory of 72-63.

The Lady Eagles run was aided by a most uncommon occurrence of the Lady Indians sinking just three of nine free throw attempts down the stretch.

A balanced scoring effort for the game was led by Patton with 21 points, Cochran and Cowart with 12 each, Blythe with 10, Anderson with 7, and Sutton with 6. Cochran finished with a whopping 10 assists with Patton following with 2 while Cowart led in rebounds with 9 and was followed by Anderson with 5.

Indians pick up second win against Eagles

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

After leading briefly at the start of their game at Hiwassee Dam just ten days prior, the Towns County Indians saw everything pretty much fall apart in that game as the Eagles ran away with a 51-32 victory.

It proved to be a different story on the Indians' home court however, as they led the Eagles for most of the first three quarters and bent but didn't break by restoring order after the Eagles rallied from behind to lead or hold ties for more than five minutes from the 1:38 mark of the third quarter until past the mid point of the fourth.

Ryan Tallent came up with a steal and gave the Indians a 2-0 lead just eleven seconds into the game and a long field goal from just inside the 3-point line by Trace Moss at the 5:20 mark of the first quarter got them a 4-3 lead. They would hold the lead for nearly 20 minutes of playing time, including by as much as six points in the first quarter and nine in both the second and third but as few as one in the first and third. Tallent and Moss led the Indians with six and five points, respectively, in first quarter action as they held a 14-9 lead on a put back basket by Tallent as time expired.

Five different Indians put points on the scoreboard in both the second and third quarters with four by Boone Moss in the second leading the way as the Indians led 27-20 at intermission and 32-23 on an old fashioned three point play by Trace Moss by the 5:36 mark of the third quarter. After the Eagles struck for eight quick points by the 4:06 mark for a slender 32-31 Towns lead, baskets by Slade Davenport and Dallas



Trace Moss hauls in a rebound in Towns' win over Hiwassee Dam. Photo/Lowell Nicholson.

Manus gave the Indians some breathing room for a 36-31 lead at 3:02. The Eagles responded, however, with another run, this time of nine straight points, for a 40-36 lead by the 58 second mark but a trey by Aaron Dodson as time expired had the Indians within 40-39 entering the fourth quarter.

The Indians found themselves trailing by one to three points for most of the first half of the fourth quarter with single free throws by Boone Moss and Garrett Bradshaw giving them 40-40 and 43-43 ties by the 5:02 mark and two charity tosses by Tallent getting them a 45-45 standoff at 4:05. A steal near mid court and drive for two by Tallent just 10 seconds later got the Indians a 47-45 lead they would not relinquish as Dodson's third trey of the game and two free throws by Manus had them leading 52-45 with 2:28 left.

A free throw and field goal by the Eagles had them knocking on the door, trailing by just a 52-48 score with just

1:21 left but Joseph Gibson sank two clutch free throws at 59.6 seconds, Dodson one of two at 44.8, and Manus two of two attempts at 35.4 for a 57-48 Towns lead which became a 60-51 victory. After struggling at the foul line throughout the season and sinking just eleven of twenty four attempts prior to Tallent's game tying tosses, the Indians sank 12 of their last 14 under pressure in assuring the victory. The Eagles probably kicked themselves all the way back home after sinking just 13-of-36 attempts in the game compared to 23-for-38 for the Indians.

Eight different Indians entered the scoring column in the game with leaders being Manus with 13 points, Tallent with 12, Dodson with 10, Trace Moss with 8, and Boone Moss with 6. Leading in assists were Trace Moss with 3 and Manus with 2 while leaders in rebounds were Dodson with 9, Boone Moss with 8, and Tallent with 5.

Late surge propels Murphy past Indians

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Against Murphy, the Indians led for much of the first three and a half quarters but were turned away in the end, largely as a result of turnovers leading to points by the ultra athletic Bulldogs, who came away with a 59-47 victory.

The Bulldogs went on to play a marvelous game in surprising the undefeated Union County Panthers 73-68 in the semi finals on Friday before being overwhelmed 62-22 by the powerful and undefeated Class AAA Dawson County Tigers in the championship game on Saturday.

The first quarter was a classic battle with nine lead changes and the Indians leading 11-10 at quarter's end. A trey by Ryan Tallent more than matched two early Murphy free throws with Dallas Manus and Boone Moss each giving the Indians one point leads on two occasions, including for the 11-10 lead on two free throws by Manus with 7.0 seconds on the clock.

Six different Indians put points on the scoreboard in the second quarter when they led by as much as 17-12 on a Slade Davenport basket at the 4:01 mark but needed a 6-0 run the final 1:58 for a 25-22 lead at intermission after four additional lead changes. Manus took the scoring lead in the quarter with four points on a field goal and two free throws. The Bulldogs failed to dent the scoreboard on an offensive play in the quarter



Dallas Manus leads the Indians with two of his 13 points vs Murphy. Photo/Lowell Nicholson.

but five Indian turnovers led to ten of Murphy's twelve points with the other two coming on a Bulldog putback basket.

The Bulldogs rallied for a 29-27 lead by the 5:22 mark of the third quarter before a trey by Trace Moss gave the Indians a 30-29 lead at 4:55 of the third quarter but turnovers again were costly as the Bulldogs turned four into a 9-0 run for a 38-30 lead by the 3:16 mark. The Indians struck for the final ten points of the quarter, however, for a 40-38 lead entering the fourth quarter. Tallent nailed a pair of treys with a field goal by Trace Moss getting a 38-38 tie and another by Boone Moss giving them the lead.

The Bulldogs forced a 40-40 tie and there were three lead changes in less than four minutes at the start of the fourth quarter with Manus giving the Indians 42-41 and 47-46 leads on a steal and basket at 6:33

and a trey at 4:07 but the trey would be the last Indian points of the game as it turned out. The Bulldogs finished on a 13-0 run the final 3:56 of the game for a 59-47 victory.

When the smoke had cleared there had been just two ties but an incredible twenty one lead changes in the first three and a half quarters with Indian turnovers keeping the Bulldogs in the game as they scored twenty seven of their fifty nine points following turnovers according to your reporter's unofficial tally.

The Indians had a balanced scoring attack with leaders being Manus and Tallent with 13 points each, Boone Moss with 10, and Trace Moss with 7. Leaders in assists were Manus with 4 and Trace Moss with 2 while Slade Davenport, Joseph Gibson, and Trace Moss tied for the lead in rebounds with 4 each.

Early mistakes prove costly against Polk

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The loss to Murphy sent the Indians into a game against Polk County, Tenn., in the second round of the Battle of the States on Friday.

The Wildcats had fallen in a low scoring affair in the opening round when Union County pulled away from a 26-23 lead after three quarter for a 39-29 victory.

The Wildcats included three treys in bursting out to a 10-0 lead before an Aaron Dodson putback basket got the Indians on the board at the 3:02 mark of the first quarter. Dodson added a trey and another deuce in reducing the Polk lead to 15-7 by the 1:05 mark but the Wildcats included their fifth trey of the quarter in a 5-0 finish for a 20-7 lead at quarter's end.

Field goals by Boone Moss and Trace Moss had the Indians within 20-11 less than two minutes into the second quarter but the Wildcats finished on an 11-1 run for a bulging 31-12 lead at intermission.

The Indians opened the third quarter on an 8-2 run highlighted by two free throws and a putback basket by Slade Davenport for a 33-21 deficit but the Wildcats responded



Boone Moss challenges three Wildcats in the final seconds of the first quarter. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

with eight straight points and completed the quarter with a 41-23 lead after a drive for two by Dallas Manus as time expired.

The Indians got the best of the fourth quarter as they embarked on a 15-5 run highlighted by two treys and two free throws for eight points by Ryan Tallent for just a 48-38 deficit with forty one seconds on the clock before three for

four free throw shooting by the Wildcats set their final margin of victory at 51-38.

Scoring leaders for the game were Dodson with 11 points, Tallent with 8, Boone Moss with 6, and Manus with 5 while Manus and Tallent led in assists with 3 and 2 respectively. Leading in rebounds were Boone Moss with 8, Dodson with 6, and Slade Davenport with 5.

Piedmont pulls away in second half

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Indians faced Piedmont, Alabama, in the third round of the tournament on Saturday after the Bulldogs had let as much as a ten point lead in the third quarter get away in a 50-44 loss to Dawson and a 61-49 loss to Gordon Lee.

They battled on nearly even terms for nearly a quarter with the Indians managing brief 4-3 and 6-5 leads on buckets by Boone Moss and Trace Moss and trailing by just a 14-12 score following field goals by Ryan Tallent and Trace Moss by the forty eight seconds mark of the quarter.

The Bulldogs struck for a trey and deuce, however, for a 19-12 lead by the quarter break and gradually extended the margin to 32-22 by intermission.

Manus, who had contributed four points in the first quarter added five in the second and five in the third but the Indians couldn't get any momentum and trailed 62-33 after three quarters as Piedmont closed out a 69-42 victory.

Manus led the Indians in scoring with 14 points with other leaders being Trace Moss with 8 and Tallent with 7. Trace Moss led in assists with 2 and leaders in rebounds being Boone Moss with 10, Trace Moss with 6, and Tallent with 5.



Boone Moss was named to the All-Tournament Team.

Outgunned...continued from Page 8

start of the second quarter without sinking a field goal with the Lady Cats edging to within 20-9 but nine points in barely a minute and a half, highlighted by a three point play and a trey by Patton, gave them a 29-9 lead which became 35-15 by intermission. Patton scored eight points and Blythe four in second quarter action.

Patton's solid first half production continued but at greater heights in the third quarter as she poured in thirteen points and Cochran five as the Lady Indians led 58-25 entering the fourth quarter, resulting in a mercy rule reduction from eight to six minutes for the fourth quarter.

After the Lady Indians took their biggest lead of 60-25 half a minute into the fourth quarter, the Lady Wildcats finished the game on a 19-7 run for a final Lady Indians margin of victory of 67-44. McKenzi Moss provided four of the Lady Indians' nine fourth quarter points.

The Lady Indians had numerous individual contribu-



Karlie Albach goes up for a lay in against Rabun County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

tions within their performance. Included were a team leading 26 points and 5 assists along with 4 steals by Patton, a marvelous all around game by Cochran with a team leading 9 rebounds and 8 steals along

with 11 points and 4 assists; 12 points and 8 rebounds by Blythe, 8 rebounds by Kellsie Cowart, 7 rebounds by Emily Anderson, and 4 rebounds by Misty Lindemuth.