

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Indians wrestling two-for-two last week

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Towns County Indian Wrestling put up some great numbers against Habersham Central and Murphy at home on Tuesday, Jan. 13.

The Indians defeated Habersham Central 42-36, and also beat Murphy 45-33.

"The kids wrestled great against two quality opponents," said Head Coach Jeff Stowers. "Murphy is the No. 1 Team in the Smoky Mountain Conference, and Hab Central is a 6A school with Defending State Champ Andrew Burpee on the squad."

Two weight classes had to be forfeited for the matchups, as Towns County is missing one weight class and has a wrestler who had to sit out from injuries.

"We really didn't know if we were going to be able to pull it off, and our kids just wrestled great," said Coach Stowers. "We

were able to beat Habersham Central first in the first dual of the night. It came down to the last two matches."

Nick Shook got a late pin fall to bring the score to within 1 point, and Daulton Rogers won his match, which secured the victory for Towns County.

"Top to bottom, we wrestled really well," said Coach Stowers.

Habersham Central and Murphy tied, which forced an appeal to criteria comparing the individual team performances during the match. This gave Habersham Central the point they needed to win 37-36.

"We wrestled Murphy, and we really don't match up very well with them," said Coach Stowers. "They've got some pretty good kids that match up with our good kids, and we were kind of afraid that the same thing that happened to us at the Area Duals was going to happen, which is we couldn't get enough bonus points with our

better kids to be able to keep up." But the Indians got on a roll.

"At 138 pounds, Keanu Nguyen pinned his kid," said Coach Stowers. "And Dalton Key goes out there and pins his kid. And then, Dylan Roberts goes up there and pins his kid, and we really just wind up kind of running away a little bit with it. Basically, the same thing happened for us that happened against us last Saturday at the Area Duals."

The Indians' next match is at home against Rabun Gap on Friday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m.

This will be Senior Night and the last home match of the season.

"And then we've got to get ready, because we've got Individual Area not this coming weekend but the next one," said Coach Stowers. "And really, from that point on, it's put up or shut up time, because if you're not in the Top 4, you're going to the house."

## Lady Indians eighth graders go out in style; invent the intentional technical foul

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Late in the fourth period during the Towns County Middle School Lady Indians basketball game against Athens Christian School on Saturday, Jan. 17, the girls received a technical foul – too many players on the court.

Just prior to the foul, members of the crowd called out to the coach: "You've got six!"

Head Coach Shannon Floyd turned to face the fans.

"I know," mouthed Coach Floyd.

The six on the court were the team's eighth-graders, and these girls were playing the last home game of their middle school careers – Coach Floyd wanted to send them off together.

"I was trying to figure out which five get to be out there last – and I couldn't make that decision, not for their last home game," said Coach Floyd.

But working with the official, Coach Floyd came through with this idea, which was something the official had seen before, to purposely take a technical foul.

"I only did that after I spoke to the Athens Christian coach," said Coach Floyd. "I wanted him to know that I was not showing him up or his team up, that it was entirely to bring



Coach Floyd and the TCMS Lady Indians huddle during the fourth quarter of their win over Athens Christian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

those six eighth-graders off of the court as a unit."

The Lady Indians were ahead by double digits at this point, so there was no harm in the play. But with an odd number of player matchups, one Lady Indian needed a job on the court.

"We didn't have a sixth girl to guard, so I told her to guard the official," said Coach Floyd on that particular moment of levity.

After Athens Christian took its shots for the technical, Kristen Byers, Lea Neumyer, Erica Spano, Lexi Ledford, Kenzlee Denton and Maddie Thomas stepped off the court, together

and smiling ear to ear, for their last time playing as middle school girls in Lady Indians territory.

And a younger group of Lady Indians – just five this time – took the court to seal the victory that day with a Towns County win, 46-18.

"I'm excited and also a little sad, in a sense, because we've only got two more games left," said Coach Floyd. "This group of girls has been a lot of fun."

The final two games of the season will be at Athens Academy on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 4:30 p.m., and at Lakeview Academy on Saturday, Jan. 24, at noon.

## TCMS Indians refuse to back down

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

The Towns County Middle School Indians lost 50-36 to Athens Christian School on Saturday, Jan. 17.

"We did a lot of things well," said Boys Basketball Head Coach Darryl McClure. "We moved the ball better offensively, especially in the first quarter. We took good shots, we hustled back down the floor. We held our own on the boards."

And the game was close for a while, with the Indians answering Athens Christian's pressure nearly point for point.

"Probably the best thing that we did was in the third quarter in our press that we got back in the game," said Coach McClure. "And actually, we cut it to 4 points twice, and just had things happen that let it slide back out to a 10-point lead, and then we just never could close it."

One of the areas that the boys will continue to work on is better utilizing the last couple minutes of the game.

"And at the end, we probably should have gotten in what we call red or a 2-minute game earlier, and put them at the free-throw line," said Coach McClure. "But they had a couple of kids we



TCMS takes on Athens Christian last weekend. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

didn't want to put at the free-throw line because they shot so well there, and that's the only ones that handled the ball."

This was the last home game of the year for the Indians, and for the eighth-graders, the last home game of their middle school careers.

"All of them got to play, and that was great," said Coach McClure.

And despite running behind for most of the game, the Indians had some great cheerleaders in both the TCMS Cheerleaders and the Lady Indians, who stuck

around after their game to lend their support.

"It's kind of like when we do something good, on the bench, you notice the entire bench stands up and supports," said Girls Head Coach Shannon Floyd. "It doesn't matter if it's a first string or a second string or a third string that's on the court, every girl encourages."

"And I just believe in that in a team. There's enough criticism in life – we need more encouragement. And so I told the girls that we're going to encourage these boys and let them know we're behind them, too."

## Up and down week... continued from 8A

outscore the Lions by a 17-12 margin. The Lions led 24-10, 46-21, and 58-38 at the quarter breaks before extending the margin to their biggest lead of the game on a deuce and a trey the final 37 seconds in a 77-47 victory.

The Lions extended their overall record to 12-6 and their Region 8-A record to 6-1, good for a tie with Providence Christian for second place behind undefeated Athens Christian.

The Lions opened the game with a 6-0 run less than a minute into the game with the Indians edging to within 6-3 on a field goal by Adam Barrett and to within 11-6 on a trey by Dallas Manus by the 5:24 mark but trailing 24-8 before a late Major Moss drive for two got them within 24-10 by quarter's end.

A Darringer Barrett trey just 15 seconds into the second

quarter reduced the Lakeview lead to 24-13 but the Lions would break away after that for the 46-21 lead at intermission despite two free throws and a field goal by Will DeVries.

The Indians placed five players in the scoring column in the third quarter with scoring leaders being Boone Moss with six points and Dallas Manus with five as the Indians edged to within 58-38 and the senior duo added four points each in the fourth quarter as the Lions pulled away for the 77-47 win.

The Lions featured excellent quickness and athleticism and legendary Fannin County Coach Johnny Farmer once remarked to your reporter that these types of skills make for a difficult matchup due to the opponent not being able to practice against these traits.

The experience gained in games such as this one can be helpful for future games, however, and hopefully this will be the case for the Indians.

Scoring leaders for the game for the Indians were Boone Moss with 13 points, Manus with 12, Major Moss with 6, and Adam Barrett and Darringer Barrett with 5 each while five different Indians contributed assists with Major Moss leading with 8, according to your reporter's tally.

Kobe Denton suffered a shoulder injury of hopefully short duration in the Hebron Christian game and did not play against Lakeview Academy.

SCORING: B. Moss 13, Manus 12, M. Moss 6, A. Barrett 5, D. Barrett 5, DeVries 4, Pylrik 2

## No Greater LOVE 5K and 1 mile Walk to benefit Tricia Spear

Tricia Spear (Humane Society Thrift Shop Manager) has been in the Neurological ICU of Erlanger Medical Center since the beginning of January. She is a great friend to our community and not many have gone untouched by her compassion. Whether volunteering for events, giving up her days off to help at the Farmer's Market, saving a stray animal or helping with the needs of families displaced by a fire, Tricia has always been the one who steps up time and time again to offer assistance to anyone and everyone.

Now it's our turn.

We are hosting the No Greater LOVE 5K and 1 mile Walk on Valentine's Day, Saturday, February 14th at Meeks Park. The money we raise will go towards a Recovery Fund that will pay bills and expenses while she is unable to work. Please consider sponsoring our event and helping us make sure the only thing Tricia needs to think about is getting better.

Ways you can help:

1) Become a sponsor for the event by contacting Colleen



**Tricia Spear**  
Urbanik at colleen-1969@hotmail.com or stop by the Seasons Inn Motel or The Humane Society Thrift Shop (both in Downtown Blairsville) to get a sponsorship form.

2) Register to participate in either the 5K or the 1 mile walk. Registration forms are available at the Seasons Inn Motel, The Humane Society Thrift Shop or online at active.com. You can also register the day of the race. Registration begins at 9 AM and the

race starts at 10 AM. Entry fees are \$25 for 5K and \$20 for the 1 mile walk. Registration includes an event t-shirt for all those who pre-register for the event.

3) Volunteer to help for the event. Please contact Colleen Urbanik at Seasons Inn 706-745-1631.

4) Make a donation to The Tricia Spear Recovery Fund at United Community Bank.

5) Prayers, Prayers, and more Prayers for her recovery.

## NASCAR 2015

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### Busch's ex is a dangerous woman

"She's an assassin and could take me down at any time," the Wilmington News-Journal quoted Kurt Busch as saying about his ex girlfriend.

The courtroom drama between the "Outlaw" Kurt Busch and his former girlfriend Patricia Driscoll took on the theme of a Hollywood soap opera as both Busch and Driscoll accused the other of weird actions.

Busch's time on the stand was spent describing Driscoll as a trained assassin. He claimed she'd help take down drug lords. He said she had shown him pictures of corpses and that the lead character in the film "Zero Dark Thirty" had been based on her. He shared details of her leaving him one evening, dressed in battle-ready boots and gear and returning later that night in a trench coat and nightgown with "blood and other matter" on it.

Driscoll, who is seeking a court order for Busch to stay away from her, told a family

court commissioner that he had choked her and smashed her head into a wall inside his motorhome at Dover International Speedway after she drove from her Maryland home to check on him.

Busch's attorney Rusty Hardin, suggested that whatever happened the night of Sept. 26 could have been prevented had Driscoll left when Busch told her to.

Driscoll disagreed. "I am not to blame for him putting his hands on me," she said.

Driscoll, who was born in 1977, is an American businesswoman and author. A native of El Paso Texas, she now heads a national charity, the Armed Forces Foundation, and a surveillance system company, Frontline Defense Systems, LLC., both based in Washington, D.C. She also serves as President of the Armed Forces Foundation (AFF), an organization devoted to providing financial assistance, morale activities, career and educational opportunities to wounded service men and women and their families.

Busch testified he ended their four-year relationship following a race in New Hampshire, a week before the race at Dover International Speedway, where the alleged altercation occurred. He said the two of them had a discussion en route to Logan International Airport in Boston and in the process he wrecked a rental car.

"She left me stranded at the airport," he continued.

The two had no contact in the week leading up to the Dover race, but Driscoll said she did reach out to Busch's mother and was concerned about his alcoholism and depression. Busch said he did not drink the night of the alleged assault and has avoided alcohol during race weekends for 15 years. That night in Dover, Busch said he had been sleeping when Driscoll arrived unannounced at his motorhome with her nine-year-old son. He said he told her repeatedly



Kurt Busch with ex-girlfriend Patricia Driscoll and her son Houston, prior to the May 25 Charlotte race. Furnished by NASCAR

to leave, but she kept bringing her son in from another room, saying that Busch needed to tell the boy that their relationship was over.

Busch said he was naked during the entire encounter, and finally put his hands on either side of Driscoll's face. "I took my hands and cupped her cheeks. I looked her eye-to-eye. I said, 'You have to leave'. I was diffusing the situation," he told the courtroom.

Busch's motorhome driver and personal assistant to the couple testified Wednesday that Driscoll had instructed him at the beginning of the year to not bring any alcohol on the bus because Busch had a problem. He was the first witness called by Busch's attorneys. Doncheff said he believed Driscoll when she said Busch had assaulted her, but added she had also told him several stories that he thought were exaggerated. He said Busch treated him well but had a temper at times. Busch often deferred decisions to Driscoll, who Doncheff said could be "high maintenance."

But wait. We can expect more mud slinging. Driscoll's attorneys sent out a mass email to the media in which she claimed that Busch's "trained assassin" claims were based on a screenplay that she had been writing, and was only meant to discredit her.

**FFA 'Coon Hunt**

**WHEN: January 31<sup>st</sup>**

**LOCATION: Union County Agriculture Barn  
Blairsville, GA**

**CHECK-IN: 4:30pm-6:30pm**

**WEIGH-IN: Midnight**

**COST: \$15 per dog/ meal ticket provided per dog**

**FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED AT CHECK IN!!**

**500.00 cash grand prize!!**  
Other prizes that will be awarded.

Electric smoker!  
Dog box!  
And many more!!

**For more information call:**  
Austin Dyer (706) 994-1445  
Jake McClure (706) 994-7982  
John Clark Pettit: (706) 273-8457

SPRING SOCCER REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!

Age Groups U6-U16

Register online at [www.mountainsoccer.org](http://www.mountainsoccer.org)

Registration forms are also available to print from the website. Forms can be mailed to P.O. Box 1862, Blairsville, GA 30514.

**Deadline to register is January 31, 2015.**

For additional information please check out our new website at [www.mountainsoccer.org](http://www.mountainsoccer.org) or email us at [musa.soccer@gmail.com](mailto:musa.soccer@gmail.com).