

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians taste victory on Homecoming Night

By Joe Collins
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A solid ground game and some strong defense led the Towns County Indians football team to a 38-6 victory over the North Cobb Eagles on Friday night as the school held its Homecoming celebrations at Frank McClure Stadium.

Senior fullback Wesley Bloodworth had 122 yards on 13 carries and two touchdowns while senior Quarterback Joseph Gibson was 9-of-14 for 167 yards and two scores. He also scored on a well-covered pass play that forced him to tuck the ball and run. Junior Jackson Noblet rushed for 94 yards on eight carries and had a big night on the field defensively. Junior wideout Harrison Hobbs added two more TD's as the Indians dominated the Eagles throughout the night on both sides of the ball. Towns held the Eagles to less than 100 yards of total offense all night.

The game started with the Indians on their own 35-yard line. Bloodworth hit the opening play from scrimmage and moved the ball to the 50-yard line for a first down. The drive then stalled and the Indians had to punt.

A good punt put the Eagles in a hole and their first drive started at the Indians' 1-yard line where a big hit by senior Joseph Foster had stopped the punt return.

TCHS started on their own 45-yard line and two solid running plays from Noblet moved the ball 58 yards and the Indians found themselves on the Eagles 16-yard line. Gibson dropped back to pass and a good coverage by the Eagles forced Gibson to look for running room and he found it. A reverse field move put him on the edge of the right side line and he tucked his head from there and scored with 6:09 left in the first quarter.

The two-point attempt was good by Bloodworth and the Indians led 8-0.

A great tackle on the following kickoff by junior Brett Barrett held the Eagles on their own 39-yardline and a big defensive play from Hobbs on a 40-yard pass attempt by the Eagles helped the defense force a punt. The Indians would now start their next drive from their



TC's Offense breaks the huddle against NCCA. Towns broke the 30-point plateau for the three straight games for the first time since 2008 and second time in team history. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

The next series saw plenty of excitement. Gibson found Bloodworth on a 38-yard pass play and moved the ball to the Eagles 28-yard line. A holding call on the Indians had them facing 1st and 15. Noblet had a big gain of 23 yards and a nice end around by Hobbs put the Indians first and goal from the 7-yard line. From there the drive would fail and the Indians went for a field goal. The kick was pulled left and no points were earned by a solid drive.

The Indians defense stepped up after the turnover with Noblet making a TD saving tackle as junior linebacker John Davis and Foster shut the Eagles down in the backfield. The defensive front line was really solid as the Eagles were unable to move the ball on the ground and had to punt.

Senior Colton Stroud, junior Evan Keyes, junior J.R. Bennett, junior Dustin Brackett, junior Jaryd Gurley and sophomore Kyle Davis all had career nights and made the win easy by playing some incredible front line defense. This kept the ball in the Indians' hands and allowed the offense to work.

Junior Vonya Baldwin made an amazing catch on the Eagles punt and after a good run, the Indians had good field position at mid-field. On a 3rd and 7, Gibson hit Hobbs across the middle to move the ball to the 28-yard line of the Eagles. Hobbs was then called on to carry the ball and the Indians were now on the Eagles 5-yard line. Fullback Bloodworth then



Towns celebrates its victory. Coach Kyle Langford is now tied with Hosea Collins for the most coaching wins in team history. Photo/Lowell Nicholson.

hit the line hard off the left side guard, and by keeping his legs moving scored the touchdown.

Junior Cesear Bustamante made the extra point and the Indians led 15-0.

The defense was strong again on the Eagles next possession and forced them to punt. They tried a fake punt and gained some yardage but not enough for a first down and the Indians started their next scoring drive on the North Cobb 40-yard line.

The first play from scrimmage was a QB keeper up the middle and Gibson picked up the first down. Noblet followed suit and found a hole on the right side of the line and the Indians were 1st and 10 from the Eagles 17-yard line. Bloodworth then powered it in from there for the touchdown.

Bustamante then completed the effort with an extra point and the Indians led 22-0.

A deep kickoff and some hard-nosed defense led to a safety and the Indians now led 24-0 with 3:01 left in the half.

The kickoff after the safety left the Indians with some good field position and they started their next drive from the Indians 49-yard line.

A solid run by Bloodworth left the Indians with first and ten from their own 20-yard line where Gibson quickly hit Hobbs for the score.

Bustamante hit the extra point and the score at the half was 31-0. The Indians defense had shut out the Eagles in the first half.

Towns County kicked off to start the second half and the defense was still red hot. Foster had a big sack on third and five and the Eagles had to punt. A bad snap had the Eagles punter on the run and he managed to hit a line drive that went out of bounds at mid-field. Two



Senior Joseph Gibson hands off to Wesley Bloodworth during the first half of Towns County's win. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Junior Jackson Noblet out runs a North Cobb defender. Photo/Joe Collins

plays later, Gibson hit Hobbs on a post pattern and some great open field running put him across the goal line for the final Indians score of the night.

Bustamante made the extra point and the Indians led 38-0.

The Eagles were able to move the ball on their next series by running a lot of QB keeper plays. They were able to score as the fourth quarter ended but the extra point failed and the Indians still had the lead 38-6.

Davis was able to secure the outside kick, and with solid blocking from the front line and some great running by the backfield, head Coach Kyle Langford's squad was able to run out the clock and win their first game of the 2012 season 38-6.

This proves that if the Towns County Indians football team played a more regional

schedule, they would be in the running for a region championship.

North Cobb came into the game with a 3-3 record and was coming off a big win. They have a lot of talent but the Indians had their best performance of the year and won big.

"They are a good team," said Bloodworth, "but we played really well and I can't wait to get ready for next week and get another win. This feels good."

This win has tied Coach Langford with Hosea Collins for the most football victories as a head football coach in the history of Towns County football. The Indians next game is at home against Saint Francis. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Come out and support the Indians and help them win again.

The Indians are on a roll.

Towns County youth football polishes off 2012 with sixth sweep

By Joe Collins
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The North Georgia Youth Football League local teams finished its regular season Saturday with a three game sweep. The Termites beat Rabun 41-0 to end the season 6-2, the Tiny Mites got by Gilmer 21-6 to also finish 6-2 and the Pee-Wee team defeated Gilmer 41-0 to finish at 7-1. This put them in first place in the league for the nine-year-old group. It was a good day for all the teams.

The Termites took the field against Rabun and a lot was on the line. Braylen Rader was chasing the season touchdown record and the team needed to finish well to help with the playoffs.

"The defense was awesome today and played unbelievably well," said Head Coach Rickey Moss, "The defense shut Rabun down and did not allow them to score."

All eyes were on the offense as the front line took control of the blocking early. Rader was in line to break the all time scoring record for the whole YFL program, 16 years running. He scored his first TD early in the game and his record breaking number 30 came soon thereafter. Jimmy Smith stopped the game and presented Rader with the game ball. Rader broke the record held by Kyle Oakes who had 29. Austin Phillips held the original record with 27.

Jensen Goble also had a good day behind the solid blocking of the offensive line and rushed for 3 TD's and Dawson Smith broke a 57 yard run for another score. Smith also scored all the extra points for the game.

"We played well today and finished strong and I am



Towns County Youth Football pictures by Lowell Nicholson.

proud of the guys. Now it's time to get ready to play some football," replied Moss when speaking of the upcoming playoffs. The Termite Indians will face Dawson County on Nov. 3 at Fannin County High school. Game time is 1:30 p.m.

The Tiny Mites also had a big day as they took the field against Gilmer and won 21-6. Kyle Oakes rushed for more than 300 yards and scored three times while A.J. Miles ground his way over the goal line for all the extra points. The Indi-

ans defense was strong against a good offensive line and held Gilmer to only one TD. Caleb Bradley was the defensive player of the game with 10 solo tackles.

"This is a great win but we have now got to get ready for Johnson in the first game of the playoffs. They are a tough team but I feel like we can beat them if we play well," said a determined Head Coach Patrick Oakes.

The game will be at Fannin County High school on



Oct. 27 at 1:30 p.m. Oakes would like everybody to come and support the Tiny Mites on Saturday.

The Pee-Wee group had already claimed the first place position with their win last week but they really proved to have earned their merit because they dominated Gilmer last Saturday. The defense was as solid as they have been all year and continue to improve on the field while the offensive line held the reins all game by keeping the Gilmer County defense in check in the trenches. Payton Ivester took advantage of the superior blocking and rushed for two TD's and returned a kickoff for another. Colin Crowder followed the solid blocking and rushed for a TD, as did Hayden McClure as he rushed for a 50-yard TD. Garrett Oakes had a super defensive play where he stripped the ball and rushed for a 50-yard TD. Cody Young and Mason Thomas scored the extra points with Thomas' being a pass from Ivester, which was great to see.

"We came out fired up and we punched 'em right in the mouth. Now we got to get

ready for the playoffs," said a confident Head Coach Rodney Thomas about the win.

The Pee-Wee team is in first place in the North Georgia Youth Football League's Pee-Wee division and that is a credit to the talent this team has and to the coaching staff. They have a bye until Nov. 3 and their opponent is still to be determined. Details will be available next week.

The athletes and their parents were invited to the Living Word Revival Center for an awards banquet later in the evening.

A bus driven by Towns County Head Football Coach Kyle Langford left the school at 5 p.m. to transport the players and their families. They were furnished a full meal with all the fixings and the players were presented with an award. Coaches were also honored with a special honor going to Director Jimmy Smith for all his efforts this season, and no school banquet would be complete without Towns County's own Elvis on hand for the entertainment. It was a special time for the players as well as

their families.

Director Smith can't say thank you enough for everything people have done to make this year a successful one.

"It would have been impossible without the help of Commissioner Bill Kendall and his support of the teams," Smith said. "Athletic Director Jonathan Gibson has just been awesome to work with and has been very supportive. He knows a successful football program starts with the little kids. Coach Langford has had as much to do with the success we've seen so far this year as anyone and I want him to know we appreciate what he has done to help out."

"Thank you to our cheerleaders for all their hard work and for being at all the games. That really means a lot. Last, but certainly not least: I want to thank the parents and my coaches. They all worked together this year and it made everything go smoothly. It has been a real pleasure to see these coaches lead their teams to such a wonderful season and I really mean it when I say thank you," he said.