

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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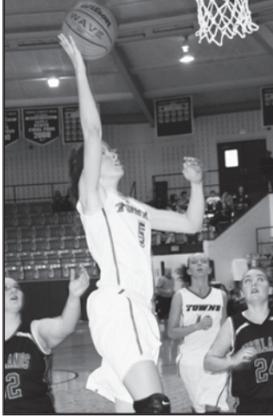
Lady Indians cruise past Highlands

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team got off to a high flying start with a 54-24 home court victory over the Highlands Lady Highlanders from the mountains of North Carolina in their regular season opener last Monday night.

It was a mismatch from the start as the Lady Indians struck for a 22-1 first quarter lead and never looked back in taking the easy victory.

Stephanie Patton poured in 11 first quarter points and Eryn Cochran added 9 for the Towns Ladies. Cochran then added 6 points and Patton her third trey of the game in the second quarter as the Lady Indians held a 36-7 lead at intermission and completed the rout by leading 46-13 after



Stephanie Patton



Eryn Cochran



Kellsie Cowart

Towns County Lady Indian basketball photos by Lowell Nicholson

three quarters in taking the 54-24 victory. The Lady Highlanders had just two scoring runs of note during the game, striking for 6 straight points midway through the third quarter in reducing a 42-7 deficit to 42-13 and sinking seven straight

free throws the final 2:19 of the game in reducing a 54-17 deficit to the final 54-24 score.

Eight of 10 Lady Indians seeing action put points on the scoreboard with leaders being Cochran with 19, Patton with 14, Kellsie Cowart with 7, and McKenzie Moss with 5.

Seven different Lady Indians contributed at least one assist according to your reporter's unofficial tally with the team leaders being Emily Anderson and Alyssa Pyle with 3 points each and Cochran and Bailey Sutton with 2 points each.

Indians fall in season opener to Highlands

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

It turned out to be a tough regular season opener for the Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team last Monday as they fell to defeat on their home court to the Highlands Highlanders of former Indians Head Coach Ryan Potts by a 51-35 score.

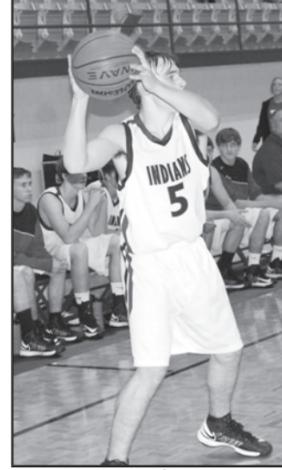
The Indians took a brief 2-1 lead on a field goal by Boone Moss at the 5:50 mark of the first quarter but that would be their only lead of the night as Highlands pretty much controlled the game in avenging a close loss to the Indians in Highlands last year.

The Highlanders held a 5-2 lead after one quarter which became 9-3 by the 5:37 mark of the second before the Indians struck for six straight points and a 9-9 standoff with 3:41 on the clock.

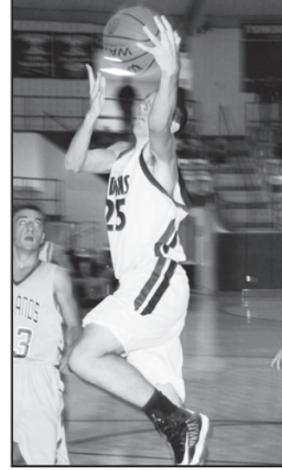
The quick run came compliments of a field goal



Cruz Shook with the lay up



Trace Moss looks for a teammate



Ryan Tallent drives for two

Towns County Indian basketball photos by Lowell Nicholson

triggered by Shook's second basket of the quarter had them within 29-19 entering the fourth quarter. The two teams played on even terms for the first three and a half minutes of the fourth quarter with the Highlanders holding a 37-27 lead but an 11-2 Highlands run between the 4:31 and 2:25 mark put the

game out of reach by a 48-29 score and the eventual 51-35 victory.

Scoring leaders for the Indians for the game were Bradshaw with 10 points, Shook with 9, Tallent with 7, and Boone Moss with 5, with Tallent leading in assists with 2 according to your reporter's unofficial tally.

Towns County High's wrestling season is underway

By Joe Collins
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County High School wrestling team is prepared to get underway on Nov. 27 with their first match in Dawsonville against Dawson County and Pisgah. The team has been working hard and is ready to go.

Head Coach Jeff Stowers is very excited about the outlook for this year's team and is looking forward to the tough schedule his team faces and the upcoming King of the Mountain Tournament on Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st.

"Practice is going very well right now but I am concerned about some of the guys who are still nursing injuries from the fall sports. The team is coming along and we will get a good measure of how far we have come and how far we need to go when we see Dawson County on Tuesday before the



TCHS Wrestling opened on Tuesday, Nov. 27th

KOM," explained Stowers on how the team stands now.

The team is looking forward to the KOM tournament, which has turned into one of the premier early tournaments in the state. There will be 23 teams from North Georgia and Western North Carolina starting on Friday, Nov. 30th and will finish the competition on Saturday, Dec. 1st starting at 9 a.m.

"If wrestling fans want

to see the young talent from the schools in this area then this is the perfect opportunity for them. Nearly every team from the local area is wrestling in the tournament," stated Stowers.

The team is working hard to prepare for the season with a few goals in mind.

"We want to qualify for the State Duals and finish in the top five in Traditionals. This has been our goal since this team

was freshman and we are going to work our butts off to try and make it," declared a determined Stowers.

Seniors Tyler Hoffman and Wesley Bloodworth anchor the team with juniors Austin Stephens and Vonya Baldwin firming up what could be Towns County's best wrestling team ever.

"This team offers different styles of wrestling from funk to raw power and brute strength and it is working hard to achieve the goals we have set for ourselves this year. I hope the community can come out and support these guys and watch them compete," said Stowers.

This season appears to be on track to becoming a very exciting year for the team and could possibly find them at the State Duals in February. The team is strong and has experience in its ranks. Make plans now to come and support the team and see some fast paced action from some solid athletes. Good luck wrestling Indians and enjoy the ride.

TCMS captures Third at King of the Mountain

By Joe Collins
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The 2012 wrestling season has become very successful for the Towns County Middle School wrestling Indians.

With a third place finish at the recent King of the Mountain tournament, the Indians increase their season record to 10-2. The team did very well and brought home 12 individual medals with three being champions of their weight class.

There were 300 bouts throughout the day with the first matches beginning at 9 a.m. and the final being just before 6 p.m. Nick Shook took home the first place medal in the 144-pound weight class while Luke Ledford claimed the 205-pound weight class and heavyweight Ian Thompson finished first overall in his respective class. The matches were very difficult for the guys but they held on and persevered to claim their individual titles.

Nine other team members medalled in their respec-



The TCMS Middle School wrestlers celebrate their third place finish at the King of the Mountain. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

ive classes and they were Logan McClure who finished third in the 91-pound weight class, Dawson Hogsd finished fourth in the 98-pound weight class, Blaine Rogers finished second in the 105-pound weight class, Owen Bouchard finished third in the 120-pound weight class, Russell Cox finished fourth in the 128-pound weight class, Logan Quinton finished fourth

in the 136-pound weight class, Cody Williams finished second in the 136-pound B division, Jonathan Watson finished third in the 144-pound weight class and Harold Cox took fourth in the 160-pound weight class. Head Coach Jeff Stowers said of his team following the KOM tournament, "I think the middle school team has done a great job. The older guys have become very consistent

while the younger guys have stepped up and filled some gaps for us. The KOM was a huge success and the team had a great time."

Stowers has high expectations for his team this year, "Our goal is to win the league tournament. This is a lofty goal considering the team expected to win duals is in our division but we are going to continue to work hard and get better. These are a great bunch of guys and I want the community to know that this group of young men represents them very well. They get complimented often on how they conduct themselves on and off the mat," Stowers said.

The athletes on the middle school team are dedicated and very hard-working and the effort is proving to be fruitful. The next match will be on Nov. 27th at Riverview starting at 5 p.m. followed by the League Duals at Pickens on Dec. 3 starting at 9 a.m. Make plans now to go see a match and find out how exciting middle school wrestling really is.

Joe Collins
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer



Tips from the Range

Avid golfers know the thrill of anticipation. It is exciting to know that a round of golf is scheduled for Wednesday or that the gang is getting together on Saturday morning for a skins game. We know that our skills will be challenged in one of the most demanding arenas in sports, and we want to score well and not embarrass ourselves in front of our playing partners. The challenge of trying to control both desires can be overwhelming but the desire to play golf is stronger, so we get our backs up and get ready to go for it. Now what?

There is a phenomenon in golf, in that, we can control how high our score will be, but you can't always control how low it will be. Food for thought!

Preparation will guarantee you a good day on the course if you do it correctly. Keep in mind it is much easier to prepare a round in your mind if you know the course, but you can still be ready when it is time to tee it up, even if it is the first time you are playing a course. You simply take the round that you are going to play and break it up into segments. Know your strengths and weaknesses before you start your attack plans. Use those on the parts of the course you will play, to your advantage. Most courses have the holes drawn out somewhere so pay attention to the layout and how it fits your game, especially if it's your first time there.

When getting ready for that first tee adventure, think about the things you do well and not the things you are scared of. If you hit the 3-wood better than the driver, use that ability to your advantage at the right place on the course. If you play a 9-iron better than a wedge, then find the approach shots that you can play a 9-iron from. Play a club off the tee that will leave you with a 9-iron distance to the hole. Distance is not always the key to scoring lower but proper distance can be. Only plan on

hitting shots off the tee that leave you a comfortable yardage on the next shot. Many times I saw players hitting different clubs off the same tee when I played in competition. It was not uncommon to see one player with a driver and another with an iron on certain par fours. It all depended on how they were hitting the other clubs in their bags. You could rest assured they weren't afraid to play what was better for them, on that hole, on that course, for that day.

A full round of 18-holes can be exhausting both mentally and physically so look at the round as a series of six 3-hole courses. It really helps you to play better if you lower the span of concentration to a shorter goal. Plan on being no more than one over after the first three holes and the same on all the rest of the "three hole" courses. This takes the pressure of expectation off your shoulders and allows you a little break every three holes to re-evaluate your strengths and weaknesses. It is acceptable to change the game plan as long as it is the way you're feeling about how you are swinging the club. You will need to really be in tune with your game to make a change in your attack plan so be careful.

Golf is played one shot at a time and each shot affects the next. A course has many twists and turns and can be played from several different angles so plan your round so that you play from the areas that fit your strengths. If your scared of a shot on a certain hole, plan a shot that you can be comfortable with and that will help you with the rest of the holes. If you start playing badly, shoot for the highest percentage areas and don't keep battling the same bad shot all day, plan your "bale-out" areas for just such an emergency. Take your time and think things through when planning your round. A round of golf should take around four hours and a half, so don't get in a hurry. Plan your shots to play your best and the round will be enjoyable even if the score is not your lowest.

Good luck and I will see you on the course!

TCMS Wrestler of the Week



TCMS' Ian Thompson

Towns County Middle School heavyweight wrestler Ian Thompson is the middle school wrestler of the week following his great performance at the King of the Mountain tournament where he won the first place medal in the 285-pound weight class. Thompson

was able to draw a bye in the first bracket of the tournament but faced three tough bouts to claim the title. His final was against a very good opponent in Zack Johns of Lumpkin County. Congratulations to Ian Thompson on being the TCMS wrestler of the week.

TOWNS CO. WRESTLING			
2012			
Date	Opponent	Location	Time/Leave
11/27	Dawson Co./ Pisgah	Dawsonville	5:00/3:15
11/30-12/1	King of the Mountains	Home	TBA
12/4	Franklin Co.	Carnesville	5:00/2:45
12/7	Union Co., Dawson, Rabun, Hayesville, Hiwassee Dam	Home	4:30
12/11	Smoky Mtn/ Hiwassee Dam	Home	5:00
12/14	White Co.	Cleveland	5:00/3:45
12/18	Riverside, Dawson Co., Johnson	Riverside	TBA
12/20	Oconee Duals	Watkinsville	1:00/10:00
12/28-12/29	Amicalola Classic	Dawsonville	TBA
1/4-1/5	Area Duals	Holy Innocents	TBA
1/7	Robbinsville	Robbinsville	5:00/2:30
1/11	*** Hayesville, Cherokee ***	Hayesville	5:00/3:45
1/11-1/12	State Duals	Macon	TBA
1/15	White Co./Union Co./ Rabun Gap	Home	5:00
1/18	Stephens Co.	Toccoa	6:00/3:15
1/25-1/26	Burnt MTN Classic	Jasper	TBA
1/29	Rabun Co.	Clayton	5:00/3:30
2/1-2/2	Area	Commerce	TBA
2/8/2/9	Sectionals	Mt. Vernon	TBA
2/14-2/16	State Tournament	Macon	TBA

*** This date is tentative depending on our qualification for state duals.