

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Union and Athens Academy break away for decisive wins over Indians

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

In games following very similar patterns, the Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team saw their opponents break away from very competitive first half scores for decisive victories last weekend.

The Indians hosted Class AA Union County on Friday with the Panthers steadily extending a six points lead the final 18 minutes of the game while traveling to Region 8-A foe Athens Academy on Saturday where the Spartans extended a six point lead from the final shot of the second quarter to the end of the game.

Perhaps the Indians and their followers had been spoiled a bit by deadly scoring surges in their early games but this would not happen in these two games.

Maybe the 11-day layoff from game action since their 99-point performance at Dade County contributed to a shortage in production as certainly did the fact that senior Dallas Manus played only sparingly at Athens Academy due to a hopefully short duration injury.

The Indians completed the week with an 0-5 record, including 0-1 in the region, against a very challenging schedule.

**Indians 38
Union County 69**

In the Union County game, the Panthers used a pair of treys to their advantage in building a 12-2 lead by the 4:54 mark of the first quarter



The Indians kept things close against Union County and Athens Academy before both teams pulled away late. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

and withstood a steady rally by the Indians between the 3:11 mark of the first quarter and the 2:47 mark of the second in breaking away to a 34-19 lead at intermission. The Panthers had cooled off considerably for awhile after the hot start but still led 16-7 after one quarter.

The Indians would open the second quarter on a 7-2 run for just an 18-14 deficit on a free throw by Dallas Manus at 5:28 and they would pull to within 20-16 on two free throws by Darringer Barrett at 4:30 and to within 24-18 on two charity tosses by Will DeVries with 2:47 on the clock. But the

Panthers struck for a 10-1 run the final 1:38 of the half for the prominent 34-19 halftime advantage. Boone Moss easily had the most first half scoring success as he contributed six of the Indians' first eleven points.

The Indians more than offset an early third quarter Union County trey with a Boone Moss basket and free throw and a trey by Darringer Barrett for a 37-25 deficit but they could not get any closer than that as the Panthers broke away for a 52-34 lead after three quarters and an eventual 69-38 victory. The scoring highlight of the last



half for the Indians was seven points by Boone Moss in the third quarter.

The Class AA Panthers improved their record to 3-1 with the victory when combined with an opening season 11-point loss to Class AAA Banks County in Philips Arena, a 22-point victory over Class AAA Dawson County, and a two-point home court win over Class AAA Fannin County on a tip-in at the buzzer.

Scoring leaders for the Union County game for the Indians were Boone Moss with 13 points, Darringer Barrett and DeVries with 6 each, and Manus

with 5 while Major Moss led in assists with 3.

**Scoring (vs Union)
POINTS:** B. Moss 13, D. Barrett 6, DeVries 6, Manus 5, Denton 4, A. Barrett 2, M. Moss 2.

**Indians 33
Athens Academy 63**

Athens - As against Union County, the Indians found themselves with an early deficit, this time by an 8-2 score less than 3 minutes into the game but also, as in the early stages of the Union County game, they rallied, this time overtaking

their opponent for a couple of brief periods. They got an 8-8 tie on an Adam Barrett basket, a 10-8 lead on a field goal by Will DeVries, and a 13-10 lead on a late trey by Adam, who had also given them a 2-0 lead in the first minute of play.

The Spartans opened the second quarter on 9-1 run for a 19-14 lead but a Dallas Manus basket and one by Barrett during the final two minutes had them within 24-18 and then 26-20 before what turned out to be the turning point in the game.

The Spartans sank a trey with two seconds left for a more prominent 29-20 lead at intermission and then struck for two treys the first forty six seconds of the third quarter, increasing a very reachable six points lead to a bulging fifteen points lead in just forty eight seconds of playing time.

The Indians then used four for four free throw shooting by Will DeVries to gain a couple of points to a 39-26 deficit by the 3:20 mark of the third quarter but the Spartans ran away with the game after that, finishing on an 8-2 run for a 47-28 lead by quarter's end and an eventual 63-33 victory.

Leaders in scoring for the Indians for the game were Barrett with 13 points, DeVries with 9, and Boone Moss with 5 while Boone Moss led in assists with 3 and DeVries followed with 2. In addition to Manus being limited to brief playing time, Kobe Denton was also on the injury list and didn't make the trip.

**Scoring (vs AA)
POINTS:** A. Barrett 13, DeVries 9, B. Moss 5, Ledford 2, Manus 2, Pyrluk 2

Indian JV plays well in loss to Union, just miss first win at Athens Academy

By Jerry Kendall
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The Towns County Indian JV's Basketball Team was in action twice last week and failed to come away with a victory but outscored the Union County Panthers in two of four quarters and played to a near standoff in another at home while losing a one point decision at Athens Academy in a game not decided until the final buzzer.

**Indians JV 43
Union County 56**

The first quarter against Union was a real battle with six lead changes and two ties and Union holding a 12-10 advantage by quarter's end with highlights for the Indians being treys by Cole Ledford and Colton Shook as four Indians entered the scoring column.

The second quarter turned out to be the deciding factor in the game, however, as the Panthers outscored the Indians 21-2 in taking 33-12 lead to the dressing room at



Against Union, the Indians JV were done in by a 21-2 second quarter. At Athens Academy, Towns led after three. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

intermission. The last half featured a return to form, however, as the Indians outscored the Panthers 15-11 in the third quarter and 16-12 in the fourth as Union prevailed by a 56-43 score.

Colton Shook, who sat out much of the second quarter in foul trouble scored seven points in each of the final two quarters while freshman Zach Davenport, playing only in the fourth quarter to allow extensive action in the varsity

game, contributed five points and Evan Berrong added six points the last half.

Seven of eight Indians seeing action in the game put points on the scoreboard with leaders being Shook with 17 points, Berrong with 8, Ledford with 6, and Davenport with 5. Leaders in assists, according to your reporter's tally were Ledford with 6 and Shook with 3.

**Scoring (vs Union)
POINTS:** Co. Shook 17,



Berrong 8, Ledford 6, Davenport 5, Rogers 3, Reardon 2, Ca. Shook 2

**Indians JV 21
Athens Academy 22**

Athens - In a rough game not often interrupted by whistles by the officials, at least at the expense of the Spartans, the Indians came out on the short end of a resulting very low scoring game by a 22-21 score. The Indians trailed

8-2 after one quarter but just 13-12 at intermission and they led 19-16 after three quarters but the Spartans pulled out the win in the fourth quarter by outscoring the Indians by a 6-2 margin. The Indians got off two field goal attempts for the win during the final five seconds of the game but the shots wouldn't fall for them and the Spartans escaped with the victory.

Incredibly, put back baskets and free throws by

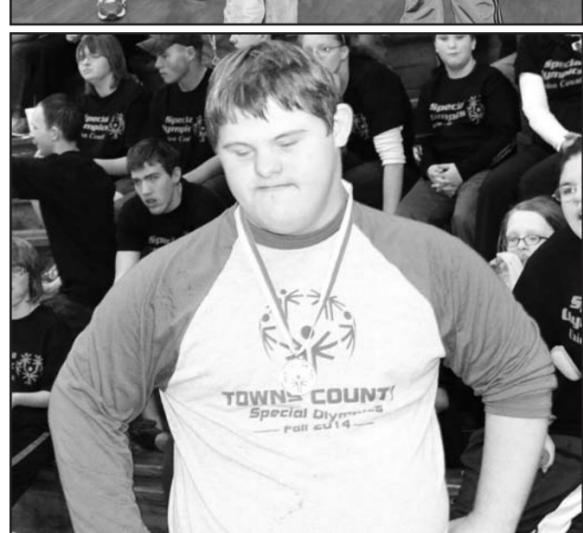
the Spartans accounted for nearly all of their points with the other points coming on a trey in the first quarter. They scored fourteen points on put back field goals, according to your reporter's tally, and sank five of thirteen free throw attempts as compared to just one of five attempts by the Indians. The Indians, on the other hand, collected six assists in a more conventional offensive style while making just one put back basket.

Quarterly highlights included Zach Davenport including a trey among six points in the second quarter when he also assisted on the Indians' other four points and a four points third quarter by Evan Berrong.

For the game, Davenport led the Indians in scoring with 8 points while appearing in just two quarters with other leaders being Berrong with 6 points and Chase Williams with 4 while assists leaders were Cole Ledford with 3 and Davenport with 2.

**Scoring (vs AA)
POINTS:** Davenport 8, Berrong 6, Williams 4, Ca. Shook 3

Galaxy Bowling and Union County Schools host Special Olympic's Fall Games



Photos by Lowell Nicholson