

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians get three region wins, fall to strong Class 3A team

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The Towns County Lady Indians varsity basketball team got two on the court wins and a forfeit in Region 8A last week and gave a topflight Class 3A team with 11 wins all they wanted before falling by just a 6-point margin with all three on court games being on the Lady Indians' home court. They defeated Social Circle on Wednesday in a makeup game twice delayed by COVID-19 issues at Social Circle and then took the measure of Greene County on Friday before a unique situation on Saturday.

Lincoln County, the Lady Indians' scheduled opponent on Saturday, forfeited their Region 8A Public game due to COVID issues in their school with Indians head coach Brian Hunnicutt recruiting Class 3A Rockmart with an 11-6 record for the Lady Indians to have an on-court game prior to the Indians game against Lincoln County on Saturday.

The Lady Indians completed the week with an overall 5-8 record and 4-2 in their region and in third place with the Lincoln County forfeit included in both records. They had won three straight region games prior to a very competitive loss to Rockmart.

Lady Indians 57, Social Circle 49 –The Lady Indians game against Social Circle was quite a battle, with four ties and five lead changes before the Lady Indians took a lead during the first half minute of the third quarter that they would not relinquish but have challenged for most of the remainder of the game.

Two of the ties and three of the lead changes occurred in the first quarter with a field goal by sophomore Sarah Shook getting a 9-8 Lady Indians lead at the 3:38 mark, a trey by senior Kennedy Henson for a 12-9 lead at 2:47, and a free throw at the 0.3 seconds mark by junior Emily Vargas getting a 17-16 lead at quarter's end. Senior Vanessa Floyd took top scoring honors in the first quar-

ter with 11 points on a trey and four deuces while senior Kennedy Henson contributed a trey in the quarter.

Treys by sophomore Tabitha Barnes and Henson wrapped around a Henson deuce appeared to have the Lady Indians in good shape with a 25-16 lead less than two minutes into the second quarter, but the visiting Lady Redskins erupted for a 14-0 scoring run highlighted by four treys between just the 5:46 and 3:59 marks for a 30-25 lead.

It was then Towns County's turn to make some noise, as a free throw by Henson and a trey by senior Macie Walls got the Lady Indians within 30-29 at 1:38 and field goals by Floyd and Shook followed a Social Circle trey for a 33-33 tie at 20 seconds before a late basket by the visitors got them a 35-33 halftime lead.

It required just 26 seconds in the third quarter, however, for Henson to strike for two steals and field goals for the aforementioned lead of 37-35 they would not relinquish. The Lady Indians then followed a free throw by the Lady Redskins with eight straight points and the appearance of gaining control of the game by a 45-36 score with highlights of the run being deuces by Floyd and Henson and a trey by Barnes.

Social Circle responded with six straight points of their own for just a 45-42 deficit at 3:23, but a deuce by Floyd and a trey by Henson had the Lady Indians ahead 50-42 at the 48 seconds mark. It was quite a surprise then that a rather high scoring game turned into a defensive battle with a free throw at 38 seconds by the Lady Skins and a trey by Henson for a 53-45 Towns lead at 7:15 of the fourth quarter being the only points scored between the 48 seconds mark of the third quarter and 2:39 of the fourth.

Each team swapped a pair of field goals with the Lady Indian baskets being by Shook and Floyd the final 2:39 of the game for a 57-49 Lady Indians victory. The Lady Indians were helped immeasurably

during the lengthy late game scoring drought by the Lady Skins sinking just one of 10 free throw attempts after prior six for eight accuracy.

Henson led the Lady Indians in scoring for the game with 21 points and was followed by Floyd with 19, Barnes with 6 and Shook with 4, while leaders in assists were Henson with 8 and Barnes, Floyd and senior Jayce Young with 3 each. Floyd led in rebounds with a whopping 15 and was followed by Barnes and Henson with 3 each, while leaders in steals were Henson with 8, Floyd with 5, and Mauldin and Shook with 3 each. The Social Circle ladies were led in scoring by Peyton Brooks with 15 points and Taylor Favors with 10.

Lady Indians 54, Greene County 40 –The visiting Greene County Lady Tigers got off to a promising start with two free throws and a trey barely a minute into the game at the 6:49 mark of the first quarter, but here came the Lady Indians after that as they quickly took control of the game and coasted to a 54-40 victory not as close as the final score might indicate.

An old fashioned three-point play by senior Vanessa Floyd and a trey by senior Kennedy Henson got the Lady Indians a 6-5 lead at the 4:33 mark they would not relinquish as they used two pointers by Henson and sophomore Tabitha Barnes and a trey by senior Jayce Young in completing a 13-0 scoring run for an eventual 13-7 first quarter lead.

Smooth sailing continued for the Lady Indians in the second quarter as they extended their lead to 27-12 at intermission with second quarter highlights including seven points by Floyd and four by senior Abby Mauldin. It was more of the same in the third quarter as five Lady Indians entered the scoring column with leaders being Henson with six points and the trio of Floyd, Mauldin and Young contributing four points each as the Lady Indians held a 47-23 lead entering the



Lady Indians Senior Vanessa Floyd scored 19 points in the Jan. 20 game against the Lady Redskins on home court. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

fourth quarter. The Lady Tigers closed the gap in fourth quarter action when they included three treys in outscoring the Lady Indians 17-7 for a final Towns margin of victory of 54-40.

Floyd led a balanced scoring attack for the Lady Indians with 17 points and was followed by Henson with 16, Young with 9, Mauldin with 8 and Barnes with 4, while Henson led in assists with 5 and Floyd contributed 2. Floyd led with 15 rebounds for the second game in a row and was followed by Mauldin with 7, Henson with 6, Young with 4 and junior Emily Vargas with 3. Leaders in steals were Floyd with 5 and Henson and Young with 2 each. The Lady Tigers were led in scoring by Chris'Tia Hilsman with 16 points.

Rockmart 62, Lady Indians 56 – A trey by senior Vanessa Floyd gave the Lady Indians a 3-2 lead just half a minute into the first quarter against Rockmart with this occasion being the only Lady Indians lead in the game but with continuous challenges to the visitors into the fourth quarter as will be reported in the following paragraphs.

Floyd provided the Lady Indians' first six points in the first quarter with a late trey by senior Kennedy Henson, having them within 16-9 at quarter's end. The Lady Indians struck for an 8-2 run by the 5:46 mark of the second quarter for just an 18-17 deficit on treys by Henson and senior Jayce Young wrapped around a deuce by Floyd.

As they would do on additional occasions, the Lady Yellow Jackets responded with a free throw and a pair of treys for a 25-17 lead at the 3:58 mark. But as the Lady Indians would also do on additional occasions, they used two treys by sophomore Tabitha Barnes and two free throws by Floyd for an 8-2 scoring run for just a 27-25 deficit with 15.4 seconds on the clock.

Fortunate baskets are all a part of the game, but usually not in the same manner as for the Lady Jackets at the end of the second and third quarters. They ended the second by banking a trey off the backboard, extending their lead to 30-25 at intermission.

The Lady Jackets then opened the third quarter by wrapping treys around a deuce by Young for a 36-27 lead at

the 5:29 mark. The Lady Indians responded this time with an 8-0 run on a trey by sophomore Sarah Shook and a deuce and old-fashioned three-point play by Henson for just a 36-35 deficit at the 1:59 mark.

Rockmart followed with a well-earned trey against tough pressure by the Lady Indians at the 1:36 mark and then had the good fortune of throwing in an off-balance trey at the buzzer for a 42-35 lead entering the fourth quarter.

The Lady Indians then followed a Rockmart deuce with a trey by Henson and two free throws by Floyd for just a 44-40 Towns deficit at the 5:04 mark. A deuce and two trey attempts by the Lady Indians didn't miss by much that would have enabled the Lady Indians to close the gap or take a lead, but the shots wouldn't fall.

The Lady Jackets responded with a deuce and two treys for a 50-42 lead and followed a Henson trey at 2:18 with a field goal and two free throws for a 56-43 lead at the 1:16 mark, but the Lady Indians wouldn't go away quietly.

They finished the game on a 13-6 scoring run, largely by taking advantage of just

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Indians get three wins, lose close one to state ranked South Carolina team



TCHS Senior Hayden McClure gets a jumper off in the Jan. 22 home game against Greene County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

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The Towns County Indians varsity basketball team, ranked third in the state in Class A Public by the Atlanta Journal and Constitution and seventh by the MaxPreps website, were in action four times last week and took three victories with one loss, finishing the week with an overall record of 12-2, including 6-0 and in first place in Region 8A Public with six region games remaining

with five of the six being on the road.

They traveled to Copper Hill, Tennessee, on Monday to face Copper Basin High School with the Lady Indians' scheduled game being cancelled due to COVID-19 issues on the Copper Basin girls team, and they returned for three home games before week's end. They came up with a game on Wednesday, to follow a twice-delayed afternoon Lady Indians region game against Social Circle, against state-ranked

Anderson Christian Academy from Anderson, South Carolina, and then hosted Region 8A Public foes Greene County and Lincoln County on Friday and Saturday.

Indians 86, Copper Basin 42 – It required just eight seconds for the Indians to take a 2-0 lead they would not relinquish on a basket by senior Kolby Moss at Copper Basin last Monday on their way to leads of 12-2, 35-15 and 62-34 at the quarter breaks in taking an 86-42 victory. Twelve

of 14 Indians seeing action in the game entered the scoring column, with seven sinking at least one basket from three-point range.

Some of the top quarterly individual scoring totals will be provided. In the first half, Moss used three deuces for six points in the first quarter while senior Hayden McClure included two treys among eight points and senior Aidan Berrong scored six on three deuces in the second quarter.

The last half saw Berrong score 13 points on five deuces and three for three free throw shooting, and senior Kabe Ellis six and Moss five, with a trey included by each in the third quarter. Seven Indians put points on the scoreboard in the fourth quarter, with five sinking at least one trey and senior Luis Quijada leading with six points on two treys and Ellis adding five on a trey and a deuce.

Scoring leaders for the game were Berrong with 21 points, Moss with 16, Ellis and McClure with 11 each, Quijada with 6; juniors Collin Crowder, Jake McTaggart and Kyle Oakes with 4 each; and Freshman Zane Floyd and senior Liam King with 3 each on treys. Leading in assists were Moss with 7, Ellis and Oakes with 5 each, senior Colton Day with 4, and Berrong and Floyd with 2 each, while leaders in rebounds were Moss with 7, Day

and McTaggart with 5 each, McClure with 4, and Crowder and Oakes with 3 each. Leaders in steals were Oakes with 3 and Day, Ellis and Moss with 2 each, while McTaggart had the only blocked shot. It was noteworthy that Indians senior Jordan Lovelace sank a deuce for his first official varsity points.

Junior Evan Bobo included four treys among his team leading 19 points for Copper Basin, a team with no wins among eight available game reports but with four of the losses being by nine or fewer points and three of the four against significantly larger schools.

Anderson Christian 77, Indians 76 – With several previously scheduled games having been canceled due to COVID-19 issues, Indians coach Rob Benson scheduled a game for last Wednesday to follow a makeup Lady Indians game against region foe Social Circle, who had twice had to postpone the game due to COVID issues for their team. And it wasn't just any team but Anderson Christian Academy from Anderson, South Carolina, a team ranked second in their state by MaxPreps in the South Carolina In-

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Baseball 14U, 12U, 10U, 8U. Softball 14U, 12U, 10U, 8U. T-Ball Co-ed 5 and 6 year old.

Player control date is September 1st of current year (2021): 14U Birthdate range September 2, 2014 to September 1, 2014. T-Ball Birthdate range September 2, 2014 to September 1, 2016. TJan27.FJSH



to September 1, 2010. 10U Birthdate range September 2, 2010 to September 1, 2012. 8U Birthdate range September 2, 2012 to September 1, 2014. T-Ball Birthdate range September 2, 2014 to September 1, 2016. TJan27.FJSH