

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Football: Indians win big in Baconton ahead of Homecoming Game

By Chad Stack
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Staff Writer

Baconton - On Friday, Sept. 10, the Towns County Indians took to the road for a five-hour journey to Baconton, Georgia, to take on Baconton Charter High School.

The Indians went into the game fresh off a bye week, allowing them two weeks to prepare for Baconton after having fallen to 1-1 on the season in a tough loss to the Armuchee Indians on Aug. 27.

Head Football Coach Jason Roquemore said his Indians needed to work on fundamentals following the Armuchee game, as they did not play up to their standards, accruing too many penalties and missing tackles.

And having two weeks to clean up their mistakes and prepare for Baconton turned out to be just what the Indians needed.

Towns County had a historic night in South Georgia, earning 42 first-half points and a 48-20 win against Baconton Charter High to improve to 2-1 this season.

Senior Tailback Kyle Oakes has been continuing to build on his impressive resume as one of the best running backs in school history. Friday night, he ran for over 250 yards, scored five touchdowns and completed his second 100-yard rushing game of the early three-game season.

Things started off dicey for the Indians as they fumbled the ball inside their own 10-yard line on the very first play after the opening kickoff.

In turn, the Baconton Blazers recovered the fumble to find the end zone on their first play from scrimmage to take an early 6-0 lead over the Indians.

But the Indians more



Coach Jason Roquemore and the Indians gather on the BCHS field following their four-touchdown road victory on Friday night. Photo/Lisa Oakes

than made up for the turnover by putting up 22 unanswered points for a 22-6 lead. But the Blazers would return a kickoff for a 90-yard touchdown to cut the Indians' lead to 10.

Towns County found the endzone three more times to take a 42-12 lead over the Blazers at halftime, and they added another score in the second half to expand their lead to 48-12.

The Towns defense held the Blazers to just 20 points, forced three turnovers, and recovered two of the three fumbles.

Sophomore Quarterback Connor Chastain completed 10-for-13 through the air for 126 yards and two touchdowns.

Oakes carried the ball 14 times for 247 yards and five touchdowns, all in the first half.

Senior Collin Crowder hauled in five catches of

his own for 34 yards and a score.

Senior Justin English finished with three receptions for 43 yards, while junior Seth Gillis made two grabs for 49 yards and a touchdown.

Three hundred of the Indian offense's 362 yards came in the first half.

On the defensive side of the ball, sophomore Ian Arrowood finished with 11 tackles, four tackles for a loss and a fumble recovery.

Sophomore Jacob Young added nine tackles, four tackles for a loss, a sack and a fumble recovery.

On top of the three forced fumbles on defense, the Boys in Blue also held the Blazers to zero passing yards.

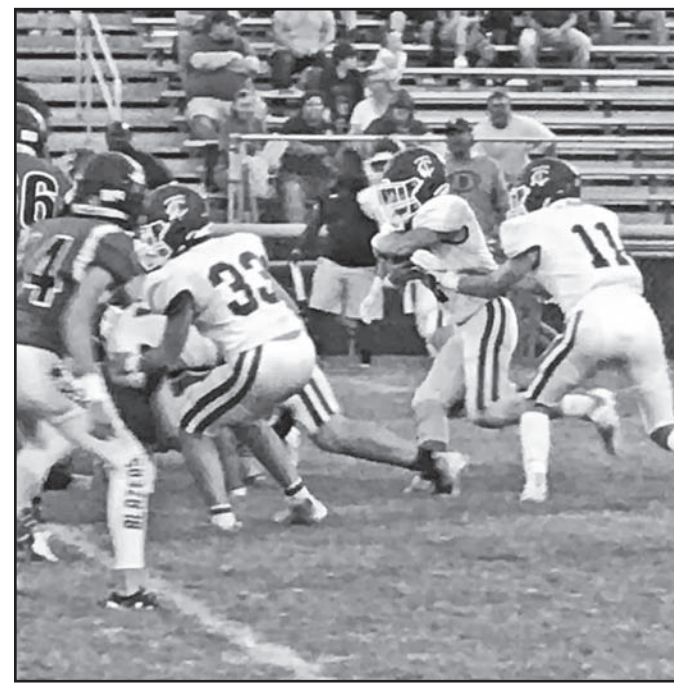
In his third year as the Indians Head Coach, Roquemore said that he was pleased with how his team responded after fumbling to

start the game and then giving up a touchdown on the very next play.

After the way they lost two weeks ago, Roquemore said Friday's matchup really showed the character of the young men. Instead of hanging their heads and quitting, Roquemore said they regrouped and went out there and continued to play and battle their way back.

Now with a solid early season record, Roquemore said he is happy with how his team has responded but that they still have a lot to work on moving forward, and that overall, he is pleased with where the program is heading.

The Indians will host Lakeview Academy on Friday, Sept. 17, for their Homecoming Game and home opener at Frank McClure Memorial Stadium, with kickoff scheduled for 7:30 p.m.



The Towns County offensive line paved the way for the Indians' 362-yard, 42-point explosion in the first half of last week's 48-20 victory in Baconton. Senior back Kyle Oakes finished with a whopping 247 yards rushing. Photo/Lisa Oakes

Flag Football season off to a great start for Towns County youth

By Chad Stack
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Staff Writer

Towns County Youth Football kicked off last week with practice and playing their first games on Saturday, Sept. 11, inside Frank McClure Memorial Stadium at Towns County High School.

With no youth football since Jimmy Smith retired four years ago, Towns County Recreation Director Matthew Youngblood decided to team up with High School Head Football Coach Jason Roquemore and Principal Roy Perren to try and bring youth football back to Towns.

And for the first time in four years, Youngblood said the Rec Department had a great number of kids show interest and sign up, and he attributes much of the program's success to Roquemore.

"Coach 'Rock' and TCHS involvement and enthusiasm have catapulted our success," Youngblood said. "Getting word out and excitement have been phenomenal."

Currently, there are six teams, two 6-and-under coed teams, two 8-and-under coed teams, and two 10-and-under boys' teams.

Last week, teams reported for practice to the Foster Park football field in Young Harris on Tuesday, Sept. 7, followed by another practice on Thursday, Sept. 9. After only



The Towns County youth during last Saturday's flag football debut at TCHS' Frank McClure Stadium. Photos by Lowell Nicholson

limited practice time, Youngblood said the execution was amazing.

"Lots to be proud of," Youngblood said. "Kids had a blast. Coach 'Rock' said it was awesome and a win for the community."

Roquemore took over as

the Towns County High School Football Coach three years ago, and now in his third year, the Indians are 2-1 and improving every day, Roquemore said.

With Roquemore turning things around at the high school, he said getting a youth program

back into Towns County is vitally important.

"I'm a big believer that you need to focus more on the root than fruit," Roquemore said. "Getting our younger kids plugged into our program will pay huge dividends down the road. The 'CONTAGIOUS'



culture we are building is much bigger than just football."

On Saturday, both 6-and-under teams faced off against each other on one side of the field, while both 8-and-under teams squared off against each other on the other, after which the 10-and-under boys took to

the field for their first game.

Every Saturday at Frank McClure Memorial Stadium, the 6-and-under along with the 8-and-under teams will square off at 9:30 a.m., followed by the 10-and-under teams at 10:30 a.m.