

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Basketball: Both teams start 0-2, look to regroup at Rabun County

By Shelly Knight  
Staff Writer  
Towns County Herald

The Lady Indians lost to Union County Panthers last Thursday night, November 14 by a score of 78-54.

They battled long and hard displaying great athleticism. Kaleigh Beaver scored 19 points. Ava Thompson scored 17 points. Scotlyn Fain scored 8. Natalie Barnes and Jamie McCarter each made 4 buckets and Alaina Murphy made 2.

The Lady Indians fell into an early 11-0 hole but battled back to within a point at 18-17 in the second frame.

Trailing 43-35 in the third, Towns County was the victim of a 17-1 Lady Panthers' run that put the game out of reach.

On Saturday the girls took on Tallulah Falls, falling 60-41. Beaver scored 17 and had 15 rebounds. Murphy made 7 baskets, and Fain scored 6 times. Barnes scored 5 times and Thompson and Ansleigh Hardin scored 3 each.

"We are getting better as a team every day. The girls are working hard," coach Alan Rogers said. "We have a long way to go but with their attitude they will get there. We have to get better defensively and on the little details but again we are taking steps in the right direction. Scotlyn brings a lot to the team that the statistics don't show, and Ava is shooting very well.

"Chloe Sutton was injured Thursday night, and we missed her on Saturday, but we have players stepping up in her absence. We hope to have her back soon. I only see great things in the future. Wouldn't want to go to battle with any other group."

The Lady Indians finished 20 for 66 (30%) from the floor and 6 of 13 (46%) at the charity stripe. Towns County turned it over 21 times, resulting in 17 Union County points.

The Indians lost to the ninth-ranked Panthers by a score of 75-68, but not before putting in tremendous effort.



Freshman guard Tucker Engert scored 23 points on five 3-pointers in his first official game as a TCHS Indian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

In an exciting match up, Freshman Tucker Engert led the team in scoring with 22 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists and 3 steals. Jonas Rouse, Junior pitched in by scoring 16 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists and a steal.

The Indians led by as many as 24-10 and 38-27 in the second quarter, but Union inched ahead in the third behind five 3-pointers.

Towns County briefly regained the edge at 56-55 in the fourth, but Union responded with a 17-4 run.

Dustin Barrett, also a junior, scored 10 points and had 4 steals. He added a team-

high 8 rebounds. Junior Cruz Kitchens made 10 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, and 2 blocked shots. Junior Mason Pierson had 9 points and 2 assists.

The Indians finished 12 of 29 from 3-point range and hit 7 of its first 12 shots. However, a 4-for-17 third quarter allowed Union County to race ahead.

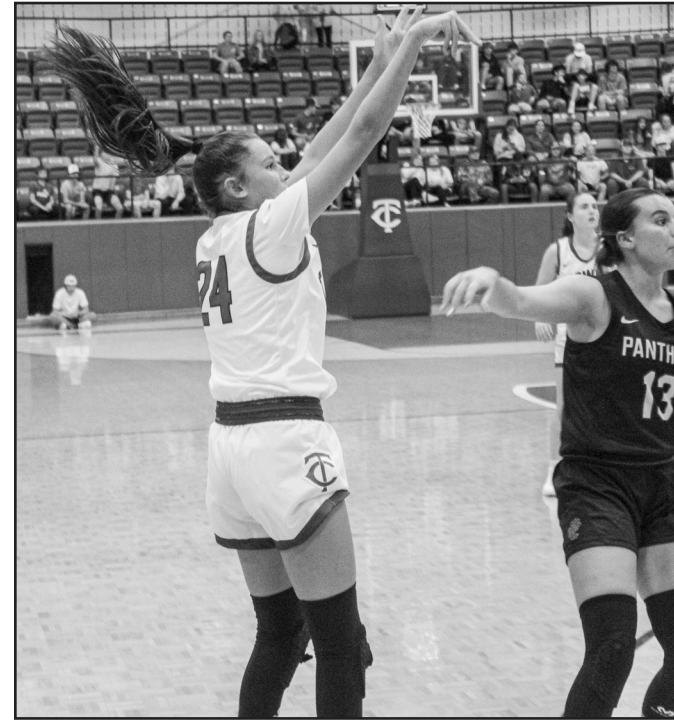
"I was very proud of the boys' effort in the game. Union is a very good team, with two outstanding scores. We look forward to playing them again, and hopefully, we can clean up some stuff and get a victory at their place," said Coach Brian

Hunnicuttt.

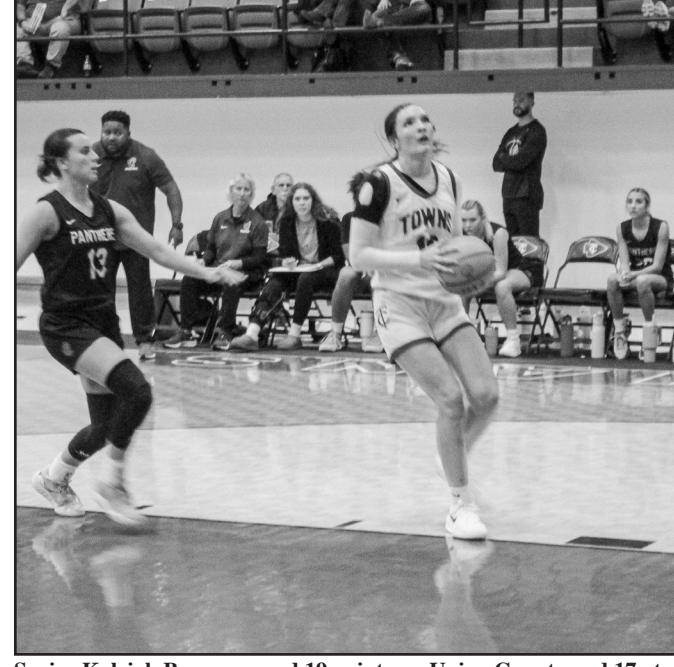
On Saturday, the team lost to Tallulah Falls in a close match up by a score of 55-53.

Engert led the Indians in scoring with 17 points, 2 assists, and 3 steals. Barrett had 11 points, 7 rebounds, and 2 assists. Rouse scored 11 points, 2 assists and 4 rebounds. Pierson pitched in with 8 points, 3 assists, 2 rebounds and 2 steals. Kitchens scored 4 points and a team-high with 9 rebounds. Senior Conner Williams made 4 points, had 3 assists, and had a team-high of 5 steals.

"This was a hard-fought game that came down to the buzzer. I am very pleased with



Ava Thompson hit five 3s vs Union County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Senior Kaleigh Beaver scored 19 points vs. Union County and 17 at Tallulah Falls. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

our team's effort and fight. Tallulah is a very good team, full of international players. To into their place and play as well as we did is a testament to these boys. While we are not pleased with our progress and look forward to seeing what these boys are going to do with the rest of the season," said Hunnicutt.

The teams take on Rabun County next Tuesday, November 19th. Rabun County sports a pair of top-10 squads in Class A (D1).

The Indians visit Union County on Friday, Nov. 22 in a rematch from last week.

The week wraps up with a Saturday, Nov. 23 trip to Highlands, North Carolina in a contest rescheduled from earlier this month.



Towns County alum Alan Rogers made his Lady Indians coaching debut last Thursday night against Union County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

| Date            | Opponent                              | Place             | JVG/JVB  | JV Time | VARSITY Time    |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|
| <b>November</b> |                                       |                   |          |         |                 |
| Nov. 8th        | Scrimmage at Hiwassee Dam             | Hiwassee Dam      | None     |         | 6:00            |
| TBD             | Highlands NC                          | Highland NC       | JVB      | 4:30    | 6:00            |
| Nov. 15th       | Union County                          | Towns County      | Both     | 4:00    | 7:00            |
| Nov. 16th       | Tallulah Falls                        | Tallulah Falls    | Both     | 2:00    | 5:00            |
| Nov. 19th       | Rabun County                          | Rabun County      | JVB      | 4:30    | 6:00            |
| Nov. 22nd       | Union County                          | Union County      | Both     | 4:00    | 7:00            |
| <b>December</b> |                                       |                   |          |         |                 |
| Dec. 3rd        | Tallulah Falls                        | Towns County      | JVB      | 4:30    | 6:00            |
| Dec. 6th        | Hayesville                            | Towns County      | Both     | 4:00    | 7:00            |
| Dec. 7th        | Warren County                         | Towns County      | Both     | 3:00?   | 6:00?           |
| Dec. 10th       | Rabun County                          | Towns County      | JVG      | 4:30    | 6:00            |
| Dec. 13th       | Greene County                         | Greene County     | Both     | 4:00    | 7:00            |
| Dec. 14th       | Lake Oconee Academy                   | Towns County      | Both     | 3:00    | 6:00            |
| Dec. 20th       | Lincoln County                        | Lincoln County    | JV Girls | 4:30    | 6:00            |
| Dec. 21st       | Hayesville                            | Hayesville        | Both     | 4:00    | 6:30            |
| Dec. 27th       | <b>BATTLE OF THE STATES</b>           |                   |          |         |                 |
| Dec. 28th       | <b>BATTLE OF THE STATES</b>           |                   |          |         |                 |
| Dec. 30th       | <b>BATTLE OF THE STATES</b>           |                   |          |         |                 |
| <b>January</b>  |                                       |                   |          |         |                 |
| Jan. 10th       | Washington-Wilkes                     | Washington-Wilkes | Both     | 4:00    | 7:00            |
| Jan. 11th       | Copper Basin(G)/Taliaferro County (B) | Towns County      | None     |         | 3:30 VG/5:00 VB |
| Jan. 17th       | Greene County <b>REC NIGHT</b>        | Towns County      | Both     | 4:00    | 7:00            |
| Jan. 18th       | Lake Oconee Academy                   | Lake Oconee       | Both     | 3:00    | 6:00            |
| Jan. 21st       | Highlands NC                          | Towns County      | JVB      | 4:30    | 6:00            |
| Jan. 24th       | Warren County                         | Warren County     | Both     | 4:00?   | 7:00?           |
| Jan. 25th       | <b>Mandatory Region Open Date</b>     |                   |          |         |                 |
| Jan. 28th       | Copper Basin (Girls Only)             | Copper Basin      | None     |         | 6:00 PM         |
| Jan. 31st       | Taliaferro County                     | Taliaferro County |          |         | 6:00 PM         |
| <b>February</b> |                                       |                   |          |         |                 |
| Feb. 1st        | Lincoln County (Senior Night)         | Towns County      | None     |         | 5:00 PM         |
| Feb. 7th        | Washington-Wilkes                     | Towns County      | JV Boys  | 4:30    | 6:00 PM         |
| Feb. 8th        | <b>Mandatory Region Open Date</b>     |                   |          |         |                 |