

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Basketball: Indians, Lady Indians start season with two wins

By Daysha Pandolph
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The Towns County girls' basketball team officially launched their season with back-to-back wins last week.

On Tuesday, Nov. 14 the girls defeated Copper Basin, TN 55-47. Continuing their winning streak, they played Highlands, NC the next evening, taking away a 49-28 victory.

Towns County's triumph against Copper Basin last Tuesday night was led by Brelan Sieveking's impressive 23 points. Supporting her contribution was Scotlyn Fain with 9 points and Ansleigh Harden with eight. Kaleigh Beaver showcased her versatility throughout the game, contributing eight points, eight rebounds, four blocks and four steals.

"(It was) a great way to start the season against a very physical and aggressive Copper Basin team," commented Coach Shea Taylor. "We are still missing some easy shots but hope to get that straightened out moving forward. Our defense was great at times but we need more consistency."

The following day, Wednesday, Nov. 15, the team battled another tough opponent for a 49-28 victory.

Once again, star players Sieveking and Fain dominated the court, Sieveking contributing 12 points, four steals and three rebounds alongside Fain's 14 points, four assists and three steals. Laura Mauldin also shined Wednesday night with two points, 10 rebounds, two assists and three steals. Other contributions from Beaver, Hardin and Emma Lallement reflected the team effort it took to come out on top.

Coach Taylor acknowledged the game's slow start, but praised the team's defensive skill and improved shoot-



Junior Ansleigh Hardin launches a jumper during Towns' win over Highlands, NC. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

ing from the previous matchup. "As a team we shot the ball better tonight," he said. "A lot of girls made contributions to what we are doing and some of the younger girls stepped up."

"These are two great wins but now it's time to get back to work and prepare for next week."

With two impressive wins under their belt, the Towns County girls' basketball team is ready to face Highlands, NC again next Tuesday, Nov. 21.

Indians - The Towns County boys basketball team

got off to a great start last week defeating Taliaferro County 71-22 on Tuesday, Nov. 14, then continuing that winning streak at Wednesday's game vs. Highlands, NC for a 57-33 victory.

At the home matchup Tuesday, the Indians secured their 71-22 victory over Taliaferro county by taking control as soon as the opening tip-off.

Throughout the game, their great offensive movement and sharing of the basketball proved crucial in their success. Equally as instrumental was their fantastic defense, which limited Taliaferro County's



Senior Tanner Cunningham goes up strong during the Indians victory over Highlands, NC. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

scoring opportunities. Proving Coach Brian Hunnicut's dedication to getting every player game-time

experience, all 11 varsity players contributed points during the game. The rest of the team was also important in securing

the win, with senior Kade McConnell contributing 12 points. Sophomores Cruz Kitchens and Dustin Barrett also added 10 points each.

The Indians took home another 57-33 win over Highlands, NC the next day, and although they walked away victorious, the early stages of the game proved challenging. Highlands held a narrow lead of 13-12 by the end of the first quarter, but that didn't last. By the end of the second quarter, the Indians stole the lead at 28-17.

Their strong performance before halftime set the tone for the rest of the game, and by the fourth quarter, Towns County was leading as much as 30 points. In the final period they closed out with a 24-point victory.

Seniors Gage Rogers and Tanner Cunningham both contributed 12 points, while senior Walker Underwood pitched in nine.

This victorious start to the basketball season promises a string of competitive meetings in the coming weeks.

The boys will play on Monday, Nov. 20 at Taliaferro County. After the holiday break, Towns County visits Union County on Tuesday, Nov. 28.

Towns County Wrestling's 2023-24 season begins with new head coach

By Daysha Pandolph
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The Towns County wrestling mat will see plenty of action in the upcoming weeks as the Indians prepare for an intense season.

Although the team is pretty compact with only 11 dedicated individuals, their enthusiasm and passion for the sport is remarkable.

This year, the team is led by Coach Clay Livingston. Even though Livingston hasn't coached wrestling in 10 years, he is eager to dive back into the sport.

"We have a little bit of a period for me to acclimate and get back in the swing of things," commented Livingston. "It's my first year coaching wrestling here (at Towns County), so I'm getting to know the kids and they're getting to know me."

Because of the coaching changes and the nature of the sport itself, the team will surely face some challenges this season. Wrestling demands discipline, dedication, a rigorous time commitment and for this team, the ability to adapt and be flexible. Not only will they be adjusting to a new coach, but because they share a practice facility with the middle school team, their practice schedule will vary



Towns County introduced Clay Livingston as its new wrestling coach for the 2023-24 season.

day by day. "If the middle school is practicing they practice right after school until 4:30 p.m., and then we practice from 4:30 to 6 p.m.. If they're away at a match or they get the day off for some reason, then we go right after school until 5 p.m.," shared Livingston.

"Wrestling is not something you can fake. Every practice is brutal," he continued. "I'm really pleased with what we have out there right now

and how we're coming along."

The team headed to Elbert County Saturday morning, Nov. 18 for their first match of the season.

"The kids are working hard and we're excited to get on the mat this coming Saturday at Elbert county and kind of get an idea of what we need to work on. It's going to be a work in progress so I'm just excited to see what happens this Saturday and go from there," said Livingston.