

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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Indians play well in loss at Commerce, get impressive win over Hebron Christian

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After giving defending Region 8A Champion Commerce a strong tussle on the road on Friday, the Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team returned home and took a convincing victory over Hebron Christian Academy on Saturday. The "other" weekend contests for the Indians' two opponents made their performances even more impressive than might have been the case. Commerce followed up just a 56-47 win over the Indians with a 67-46 thrashing of their Class AA rival Jefferson Dragons, who were state ranked earlier in the season, on the same court on Saturday. On the other hand, Hebron fell by just a 38-37 score on Friday night to Athens Academy, a perfect 5-0 against teams from Region 8A South, prior to the decisive loss to the Indians on Saturday.

The Indians have been on an upswing recently, giving several noteworthy opponents stiff competition but coming up just short of victory. In the win against Hebron Christian, however, the Indians were able to rise to the occasion and break away from a third quarter challenge by the Lions and improve their overall record to 3-11, including 2-2 in region play. The Indians' scheduled game postponed at Riverside Military Academy in Gainesville last month due to bad weather has been rescheduled for Saturday, January 22. The Indian JV's will play at 1:00 pm with the Indian Varsity to follow at 2:30.

At Commerce, the Tigers broke out to a 9-0 lead by the 4:17 mark of the first quarter and literally maintained that lead for the remainder of the game in taking a 56-47 victory. The Tigers would never lead by more than twelve points except for three brief occasions or by less than seven the rest of the game in taking the nine point victory.

Brandon Henderson scored the first two Indian baskets and assisted on the third as they trailed by that nine point margin of 15-6 after one quarter. The Tigers sank a pair of treys at the start of the second quarter for a brief fifteen point margin of 21-6 before a basket by Brett Bradshaw and a three point play by Bradley Swanson got the Indians back to within 21-11.

Two additional treys then got Commerce a sixteen point lead of 27-11 by the mid point of the quarter but once again the Indians had an answer. Treys by Devin Henderson and Swanson and two free throws by Devin Henderson got the Indians within eight at 27-19 with 1:44 left until intermission but the Tigers led 29-19 at the half-time horn.

The Commerce leads ranged from eight to twelve points in the third quarter, including by a 43-31 margin entering the fourth quarter. Swanson had scored six points in the second quarter but really turned things upward in the third and fourth quarters, scoring ten of twelve Indian points in the third and their first eleven of the fourth.

The Tigers had a brief lead of thirteen points at 50-37 by the 3:56 mark of the fourth quarter but a trey and deuce by Swanson and a trey by DJ Rogers accounted for an 8-2 Indian run and they had hope for an upset with just a 52-45 deficit with 1:03 on the clock. The Tigers opened the door by walking on their next two possessions and missing a one and one free throw on the third but the Indians couldn't take advantage. They turned the ball over



Bradley Swanson fights for a rebound in the Indians matchup with Commerce Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Brandon Henderson looks for the open man in Saturday's win over Hebron Christian.



Devin Henderson fires a pass inside during the Indians matchup with Commerce Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



DJ Rogers puts up a deuce in Saturday's victory over Hebron Christian Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

themselves after each of the two walks and lost the rebound after the missed free throw with Commerce holding on for a 56-47 victory. Swanson led the Indians in scoring with 29 points with 21 of those coming the last half while Brandon Henderson scored 8 points and Devin

Henderson 5. Leading in assists were Brandon Henderson with 3 and Devin Henderson, Rogers, Swanson, and Ryan Tallent with 2 each. Brett Bradshaw injured an ankle during the game, missing the remainder of this game and the Hebron Christian game on Saturday as well.

Lady Indians trounce Commerce and Hebron Christian, improve to a 13-1 record

By Jerry Kendall
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The Towns County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team returned to the hardwood last week and continued a dominating season by racing past fellow Sub-Region 8A North opponent Commerce on the road on Friday and Sub-Region 8A South foe Hebron Christian Academy at home on Saturday. The victories improved their season record to 13-1, including 4-0 in the region. The ease of the victory over Hebron may have sent a few shock waves over the teams in the southern portion of the region as Hebron had taken a 47-33 victory over tenth ranked Athens Academy, who entered the game with a record of 11-1, on Friday night.

COMMERCE - The Lady Indians took care of business right away at Commerce, scoring the first sixteen points of the game by the 1:12 mark of the first quarter. They then followed a first quarter ending free throw and an early second quarter field goal by Commerce with an 11-0 run for a 27-3 lead by the 3:06 mark of the second quarter. It never got any better for the home standing Tigers who made their debut in a beautiful new gym as the Lady Indians led 29-5 at intermission and 52-14 after three quarters on the way to a 62-18 victory.

Lady Indian senior Jordan Moss got the honor of putting the first official point on the scoreboard in the new gym with a free throw at the 6:44 mark of the first quarter. A trey and 2 for 2 free throw shooting by Makayla Underwood highlighted first quarter action for the Lady Indians with Moss leading her team in second quarter action with 8 points. Gabby Arencibia and Eryn Cochran scored eight points each in the third quarter while four different Lady Indians put points on the board in the mercy rule shortened fourth quarter.

Moss included her second career trey in leading her team in scoring with 20 points for the game while Arencibia included three treys in an 11 point performance, Cochran scored 10, and Underwood included a pair of treys in her 8 points. Leading in assists were Ali Bleckley with 4 and Moss, Davilyn Blythe, Cochran, and Underwood with 2 each. Lady Indian Junior Kindle Moss and Sophomore Dadrian Blythe are out of action for awhile due to knee and ankle injuries with Sophomore Emily Anderson and Freshman Kelsie Cowart being elevated to varsity from the JV's and seeing significant and successful action in the game.

HEBRON - In a game highlighted by the 1,000th career point by Senior Jordan Moss, the Lady Indians led all the way but were especially impressive in breaking away from just a 7-6 lead on a 20-2 run between the 1:57 mark of the first quarter and the 3:50 mark of the second for a 27-8 lead. The Lady Lions then finished the second quarter on a 10-4 run for a 31-18 Towns lead at intermission.

The Lady Indians picked the momentum right back up



Ali Bleckley pulls down a rebound in the Lady Indians battle against Commerce Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Jordan Moss draws closer to a career high 1,000 points in the win over Hebron Christian Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Lindsay Patton draws the foul against Commerce Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



The Towns County cheerleaders are ecstatic about the Lady Indians 32-5 lead over Commerce Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

at the start of the third quarter, opening with a 16-2 run for a 47-20 lead which became 57-27 entering the mercy rule shortened fourth quarter. The Lady Indians outscored the Lady Lions 9-5 in that stanza which ended with the Lady Indians taking a 66-32 victory. Gabby Arencibia included two treys in an eight point first quarter and two more

3-pointers in a nine point third in leading her team in scoring with 17 points. Other leaders were Moss with 16 points, Eryn Cochran with 11, Ben Pong with 9 on three treys, and Ali Bleckley with 5. Leading in assists according to your reporter's unofficial tally were Moss with 4, Bleckley with 3, and Cochran and Makayla Underwood with 2 each.

Strong second half not enough for Indian JV's in loss to Hebron Christian

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If the first half performance of the Towns County Indian JV's gave the appearance that they had not played in quite awhile it may have been because they had not seen game action in quite awhile, three weeks prior on Dec. 18 to be exact. They had their scheduled game at Commerce on Friday cancelled due to impending bad weather.

The Indians managed just two for four free throw shooting the first quarter and five for eight in the second for their only first half points as they trailed 14-2 after one quarter and 19-7 at intermission. The Indians finally got their first two field goals early in the third quarter but lost ground in trailing 28-11 by the 4:27 mark. Grant Arencibia then struck for eight points on a three point play, a trey and a drive for two points between 4:09 and 2:42 and Garrett Bradshaw followed with a field goal for just a 31-21 deficit at 1:13.

Hebron sank the final two field goals of the quarter, however, for a 35-21 lead entering the fourth quarter. The Indians opened the fourth quarter with a trey by Dallas Manus and two free throws by Austin Wood to get within single digits at 35-26 and then 37-28 on two free throws by Ryan Tallent but the Lions outscored the Indians 8-2



Luke Parker tosses up a deuce in action against Hebron Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

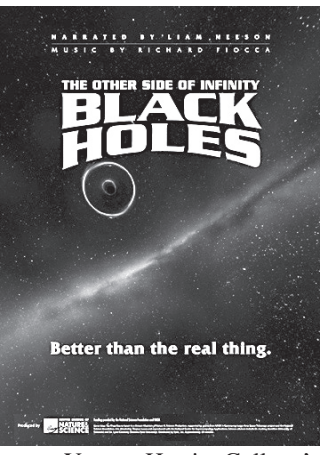


Garrett Bradshaw drives the lane in Saturday's action against Hebron.

the rest of the way for a 45-30 victory.

Luke Parker, Wood, Stetson Hedden, and Manus each contributed 1 assist according to your reporter's tally.

Rollins Planetarium show dives into "Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity"



Young Harris College's O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium will present the full-dome show "Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity" during January and February. The shows are scheduled for 8 p.m. on the following Friday evenings: Jan. 14, 21, and 28 and Feb. 11, 18 and 25. Planetarium admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and free with YHC ID.

There's a place from which nothing escapes, not even

light, where time and space literally come to an end. It's at this point, inside this fantastic riddle, that black holes exert their sway over the cosmos... and our imaginations.

This exciting full-dome production, narrated by Academy-Award nominated actor Liam Neeson, brings the current science of black holes to the dome screen. Zip through other-worldly wormholes, witness the collision of giant galaxies and experience a simulated flight to a supermassive black hole lurking at the center of our own Milky Way Galaxy. Cutting-edge science and Einstein's theories fill in holes along the way, providing the most complete picture yet on this mysterious phenomenon.

Ranked third largest in Georgia by dome size, Rollins Planetarium features a state-of-the-art GOTO Chronos Space Simulator star projector with a state-of-the-art full-dome digital projection system, the Sky-Skan Definitii, in a 40-foot dome theater. In addition to a

full annual schedule of evening public shows, it offers daytime educational opportunities for school groups throughout the year. Located in the Maxwell Center on the campus of Young Harris College, Rollins Planetarium will be the host of the 2011 Southeastern Planetarium Association Conference in June, making it only the third planetarium in Georgia to host the event since it began in 1970.

If skies are clear, the Young Harris College Observatory is open immediately after planetarium shows. The observatory features a Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope and is located about 1.5 miles from campus at Brasstown Valley Resort. Maps are available at the planetarium. Observing sessions last up to one hour and include a guided tour of the constellations. The observatory is open on the same dates as Rollins Planetarium.

For more information about planetarium and observatory events, call (706) 379-5195 or visit www.yhc.edu