

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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Indians defeat Tallulah and Riverside; lose a close one to Lakeview

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
tcherald@windstream.net

The Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team put two games in the win column last weekend and didn't miss by much making it a three game sweep for the week.

They traveled to Tallulah Falls on Tuesday and came away with a 63-47 victory before returning home on Friday and Saturday for a split decision.

Lakeview Academy of Gainesville pulled away in the final minutes of play for a 57-47 win on Friday before the Indians squeezed out a 48-45 victory over Riverside Military Academy of Gainesville on Saturday.

All three games were Region 8-A contests with the Indians completing the week with an overall 5-19 record, including 3-10 in the region.

TALLULAH FALLS – The home standing Indians of Tallulah Falls showed significant improvement since falling to the Towns Indians in Hiwassee by a 67-27 score on December 7. After Bradley Swanson more than matched an early Tallulah field goal with a trey at 5:55 of the first quarter for a 3-2 Towns lead, Tallulah went on a 12-4 run for a 14-7 lead with 2:10 on the clock which became 16-12 after one quarter.

The Towns Indians seemed to take control of the game at the start of the second quarter, going on a 12-0 run for a 26-16 lead by the 3:20 mark and pretty much maintaining the margin until intermission, taking a 30-22 lead to the dressing room.

Swanson provided the highlights of the first quarter with five points with DJ Rogers and Devin Henderson taking the lead in the second with ten and six points respectively. A runner by Henderson got the Indians even 16-16 at 6:12 of the second quarter and Rogers got them ahead, for good as it turned out, on a field goal at 5:43.

Tallulah would not go quietly, however, as they opened the third quarter with a 10-2 run for just a 33-32 deficit by the 4:54 mark. It required just thirteen seconds after that, however, for a Ryan Tallent basket to trigger an 8-0 run and an overall 12-2 surge for Towns leads of 41-32 at the 3:04 mark and a 45-34 by quarter's end. Tallent added a second basket and Swanson scored four points in the eight point portion of the overall run.

Towns would lead by as many as seventeen points and no less than ten during the fourth quarter when they closed out the 63-47 victory. Five points by Rogers and four each by Brandon Henderson and Swanson led the fourth quarter effort as the Indians took their long awaited fourth win of the season.

Rogers led a well balanced scoring attack for the Indians with 17 points with other leaders being Swanson with 13, Devin Henderson with 12, Brandon Henderson with 9, and Brett Bradshaw with 6. Leaders in assists were Devin Henderson with 4 and Brandon Henderson with 2.

LAKEVIEW ACADEMY – The Indians got off to a good start against Lakeview Academy on Friday with Brett Bradshaw giving them a 1-1 tie and 3-1 and 5-3 leads by the 4:23 mark of the first quarter and a Bradley Swanson trey giving them an 8-6 lead at 3:35.

The Lions then used a 9-1 run for a 15-9 lead by the one minute mark but it required a late trey by Lakeview for them to hold a 19-13 lead after one quarter following 4 for 4 free throw shooting by the Indians.

DJ Rogers almost single handedly kept the Indians close in the second quarter with seven points as they pulled to within 24-22 with 1:19 left before the Lions closed out the scoring for the quarter again, with five points this time, for a 29-22 lead at the half. A seven point third quarter by Swanson and a field goal by Rogers at the 1:15 mark had the Indians within 36-33 but a putback by the Lions with thirty four seconds left had them holding a 38-33 lead entering the fourth quarter.

The Lions got a pair of 10-point leads near the midpoint of the fourth quarter but the Indians continued to threaten as Brandon Henderson reduced each of those leads to eight with field goals and Swanson closed the gap to 48-43 with three free throws at 2:41.

The Indians had some chances but couldn't get closer than that the rest of the way as the Lions took a 53-44 lead by the 30.5 seconds mark.

A trey by Rogers at 22 seconds had the Indians within 53-47 but the Lions closed out the game with 4 for 4 free throw shooting for a final margin of 57-47, matching their biggest two leads of the game.

Swanson scored 13 of his team leading 18 points for the game the last half while Rogers took second honors with 15 points and Bradshaw was third with 7.

Leading in assists were Rogers with 3 and Swanson with 2.

RIVERSIDE MILITARY ACADEMY – The Indians got a break in their game on Saturday with Riverside Military Academy as the Eagles' best inside player was suspended and missed the game.

With this player having scored 22 of his team's points in a 39-37 victory over the Indians just two weeks prior in Gainesville, maybe the Indians would have an easy time on this homecoming night.

That would not be the case, however, as the Eagles would battle down to the final second before the Indians could be assured of a 48-45 victory.

Potential for an easy win seemed evident early as the Indians took a 7-0 lead less than two and a half minutes into the game, highlighted by treys by Corbin Gilfilian and Devin Henderson, but the Indians' shooting went cold for a while after that. The Eagles scored the next 9 points for a 9-7 lead with 1:34 left in the first quarter only to see the Indians respond with a finish similar to the start. They scored the final 7 points of the quarter for a 14-9 lead, this time highlighted by a long deuce and a trey by Henderson in the final 51 seconds of the quarter.

As in the first quarter, the Indians got off to a strong start in the second, taking a 19-12 lead on a trey by Bradley Swanson at the 6:26 mark. They again went cold, however,

and sank just two free throws the rest of the quarter and the Eagles scored 4 points the final 1:11 of the quarter for a 23-21 lead at intermission. D.J. Rogers sank a trey less than half a minute into the third quarter for a 24-23 Towns lead and then hit a pair of free throws at 5:44 for a 26-25 lead they would hold until the quarter ending buzzer when a basket by the Eagles got them ahead 34-33.

There were three lead changes and three ties by the 3:55 mark of the fourth quarter with five different Indians providing either tying or leading points.

Two free throws by Brett Bradshaw got them ahead 35-34, two charity tosses by Devin Henderson gave them a 37-37 tie, and a Rogers putback gave them a 39-39 tie. A Brandon Henderson free throw then got the Indians a 41-40 lead and two free throws by Swanson gave them a 42-40 lead at 3:32 they would not relinquish.

Swanson added another free throw at the three minute mark and a Brandon Henderson basket at 2:25 gave the Indians a 45-40 lead but the Eagles sank a trey at 1:48 and the Towns lead was just 45-43. Rogers matched that trey at 1:04 for a 47-43 score but a Riverside putback at 51 seconds got them within 47-45. Swanson sank a free throw at 20.4 seconds for a 48-45 lead which would hold up for the win as Rogers forced a held ball at six tenths of a second as the Eagles tried to get open for a 3-point attempt.

The alternate possession arrow was in favor of the Indians and when they in bounded the ball, the victory belonged to them.

A balanced scoring attack was led by Rogers with 11 points, Devin Henderson and Swanson with 10 each, Bradshaw with 6, and Brandon Henderson with 5 while Rogers and Swanson led in assists with 3 each.



Brett Bradshaw fights for the rebound against Riverside Military Academy Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



DJ Rogers takes aim at a deuce against RMA Rogers led the Indians with 11 points Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Brett Bradshaw puts up a deuce against Lakeview Academy Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

Lady Indians drill Tallulah Falls and Lakeview; prepare for region tourney

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
tcherald@windstream.net

The Towns County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team continued its winning ways last week, taking easy victories over sub-region 8-A North opponents Tallulah Falls and Lakeview Academy in improving their season record to 22-1 and their overall region record to 11-0.

The Lady Indians are currently ranked fifth in the state by the Georgia Prep Country Coaches Poll and seventh in the AJC Poll.

By the time this article reaches mail boxes and newspaper racks, the Lady Indians will have completed their regular season and be looking toward next week's Region 8-A Tournament with details about the tournament provided in a separate article.

TALLULAH FALLS – From the time Gabby Arencibia sank a 3-point shot just seven seconds into the game at Tallulah Falls last Tuesday, there was no doubt about the eventual outcome of the game. All Lady Indians dressed for the game in their earlier home contest against Tallulah entered the scoring column in a 35-2 first quarter which became a 71-9 victory and it was more of the same for the Lady Indians on this evening.

Eight Lady Indians put points on the scoreboard in first quarter action at Tallulah as the Lady Indians raced out to a 27-0 lead and they led 45-5 at intermission and 60-11 after three quarters on the way to a 72-15 victory. About the only bright spot for the home standing band of Lady Indians was a trio of 3-point baskets the last half, including one from about 35 feet at the third quarter buzzer.

All 11 Lady Indians participating in the game got in the scoring column with leaders being Dadrion Blythe with 15 points, Arencibia with 14, Ben Pong with 10, Lindsay Patton and Eryn Cochran with 6 each, and Davilyn Blythe with 5.

Leading in assists were Davilyn Blythe and Makayla Underwood with 5 each and Ali Bleckley and Eryn Cochran with 3 each.

LAKEVIEW ACADEMY – It was pretty much the same song but second verse for the week on the Lady Indians' home court on Friday as they quickly took control of their game with Lakeview Academy.

Ali Bleckley got them off and running with a 3-pointer at the 6:24 mark of the first quarter and added another for a 7-2 lead at 5:25.

Gabby Arencibia also got into the 3-pointer act with a pair in the first quarter as the

Lady Indians held a 21-7 lead at quarter's end.

Jordan Moss picked up the scoring lead in the second quarter with 6 points from "in the paint" and at the foul as the Lady Indians led 39-11 at intermission. Bleckley then added two more treys in the third quarter as the Lady Indians led 55-17 before settling in for a

62-23 win following a mercy rule shortened fourth quarter.

Scoring leaders for the game were Moss with 16 points, Arencibia and Bleckley with 13 each, Eryn Cochran with 6, and Lindsay Patton with 5. Bleckley and Moss led in assists with 3 each while the quartet of Arencibia, Patton, Ben Pong, and Cochran contributed 2 each.



Ben Pong goes up high for a layup against Lakeview Academy Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Lindsay Patton takes aim for 2 of her 5 points against Lakeview Academy Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Ali Bleckley gets position to shoot a deuce against Lakeview Academy Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

BASKETBALL INDIVIDUAL SCORING

TALLULAH FALLS Lady Indians (Grade)
Dadrion Blythe (10) 15
Gabby Arencibia (11) 14
Ben Pong (11) 10
Lindsay Patton (11) 6
Eryn Cochran (9) 6
Davilyn Blythe (10) 5
Jordan Moss (12) 4
Kindle Moss (11) 4
Makayla Underwood (9) 4
Crystal Bishop (12) 2
Ali Bleckley (11) 2
Indians (Grade)
DJ Rogers (12) 17
Bradley Swanson (12) 13
Devin Henderson (12) 12
Brandon Henderson (11) 9
Brett Bradshaw (12) 6
Ryan Tallent (10) 4
Corbin Gilfilian (12) 1
Brett Barrett (9) 1
LAKEVIEW ACADEMY Lady Indians (Grade)

Jordan Moss (12) 16
Gabby Arencibia (11) 13
Ali Bleckley (11) 13
Eryn Cochran (9) 6
Lindsay Patton (11) 5
Crystal Bishop (12) 4
MaKayla Underwood (9) 3
Davilyn Blythe (10) 2
Indians (Grade)
Bradley Swanson (12) 18
DJ Rogers (12) 15
Brett Bradshaw (12) 7
Brandon Henderson (11) 4
Ryan Tallent (10) 2
Dakota Barrett (11) 1
Lady Indian JV's (Grade)
Stephanie Patton (8) 13
Kelsie Cowart (9) 9
Emily Anderson (10) 6
Destiny Blythe (9) 6
Elizabeth Turner (9) 6
Davilyn Blythe (10) 5
McKenzi Moss (9) 4
Bailey Sutton (9) 4

Indian JV's (Grade)
Grant Arencibia (8) 8
Dallas Manus (8) 7
Brett Barrett (9) 4
Aaron Dodson (9) 4
Ryan Tallent (10) 2
Austin Wood (10) 1
Slade Davenport (9) 1
RIVERSIDE MILITARY Indians (Grade)
DJ Rogers (12) 11
Devin Henderson (12) 10
Bradley Swanson (12) 10
Brett Bradshaw (12) 6
Brandon Henderson (11) 5
Corbin Gilfilian (12) 3
Dakota Barrett (11) 2
Ryan Tallent (10) 1
Indian JV's (Grade)
Grant Arencibia (8) 14
Dallas Manus (8) 10
Slade Davenport (9) 6
Ryan Tallent (10) 3
Aaron Dodson (9) 3

Mountain United Soccer registration update



The Spring 2011 season will begin in early March

The Mountain United Soccer Association is getting ready for Spring Soccer. Registrations are still being accepted. You can also get forms at www.mountain-soccer.org or the following locations: Branan Lodge, Blimpie, and Jocks Sporting Goods in Blairsville or the Marathon Station and the Recreation Department in Towns County.

Blairsville is our community host for the soccer fields. The league is grateful for their commitment and support for the youth in our community. The fields have been located at Cott Beverage since 1998.

The Spring 2011 season will begin in early March. Anyone who is interested in playing needs to get a registration form in as soon as possible, in some cases space is limited.

The league is a volunteer run organization and is also a 501C3 non profit. Any and all donations are directed to the youth player to make it possible. Field Sponsors, Sign Sponsors, and Team Sponsors are always needed. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact the Association.

For more information contact the league at 706-745-7865 or www.mountain-soccer.org



Mountain High Hikers schedules two hikes each Tuesday, occasional specialty hikes, and regular trail maintaining trips - all in the beautiful mountains of Georgia and North Carolina. Check the website www.mountain-highhikers.org for schedule and meeting locations

Cott Beverage in