



# Town's County Sports

Town's County's Leader In Sports

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## Indians SHOCK Commerce with last second victory

By Jerry Kendall  
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The word "shock" as used in the headline may not be quite adequate to describe the Town's County Indians' season closing victory at Commerce last Tuesday and the excitement the story book finish brought for the Indians and their followers. The Indians came away with a heart stopping 47-45 Region 8A victory propelling them into third place in the Sub-Region 8A North standings. Commerce finished regular season play on Friday with a win over Tallulah Falls and an overall 14-10 record, including 9-5 in Region 8A.



The Indians celebrate an upset of Commerce. Photo by James Reese

forced a 3-3 tie on a trey by Grant Arencibia at 6:41 and a 5-5 standoff at 6:04 of the first quarter on two free throws by Rylan Albach but the Tigers pulled out to leads of as much as 10-5 and 16-11, including 16-13 at quarter's end. Arencibia wound up with five points in the first quarter with Albach and Dallas Manus contributing four each.



Dallas Manus hits the game winner at the buzzer against Commerce. Photo by James Reese.

The Indians got off to a great start in the second quarter on a game tying trey by Cruz Shook and a trey by Arencibia giving them a 19-16 lead just a minute and ten seconds into the quarter. The remainder of the quarter was a slow go for the Indians, however, as the Tigers finished on a 14-4 run and held a 30-23 advantage by intermission.

The Indians turned the game around quickly in the third quarter, striking for the first eleven points for a 34-30 lead by the 4:43 mark, and then matching a Commerce basket with one of their own for a 36-32 lead with 4:02 on the clock. Brandon Henderson and Albach led the Indians' 13-2 run with six and five points respectively with a three point play by Albach at 5:56 getting them their first lead of 32-30.

throws at 1:50 and 39.2 seconds by the Tigers forced a 42-42 tie but Manus sank two free throws at 30.2 seconds and the Indians had a 44-42 lead which held up until the 4.2 seconds mark.

heart stopping 47-45 Indian victory. Agony and ecstasy were described as being present on two of three occasions for the Indians in last weeks article but all of the ecstasy belonged to the Indians this week with the Tigers suffering the agony on this night.

The Tigers got a huge break at that point when they missed a 3-point attempt but Manus appeared to either lose his balance or slipped and fell into the shooter's legs, resulting in their best player, Jonathan Book, going to the foul line for three free throws. Book sank all three charity tosses and with just 4.2 seconds remaining, the Tigers probably felt comfortable with their 45-44 lead and a likely victory.

Of special significance was the role freshmen Arencibia, Manus, and Shook played throughout the game but especially in the fourth quarter for the Indians. With the senior Albach sidelined by his fourth foul at 1:40 of the third quarter and playing just nine seconds upon returning midway through the fourth quarter before fouling out, they were the primary ball handlers throughout the quarter. Further, Arencibia and Manus scored all eleven fourth quarter Indian points with each of the four scoring occurrences in the quarter giving the Indians a lead.

Not so, however, as the Indians inbounded the ball in the back court and quickly passed it to Henderson near mid court where the big senior fired the ball to Manus on the right wing. The slender lefthander launched a jumper with the horn blowing while the ball was in the air and touching nothing but nylon for three points and a

Leading the Indians in scoring for the game were Arencibia with 14 points, Albach with 10, and Henderson and



Brandon Henderson takes aim against Commerce. Photo by James Reese.



Cruz Shook cuts loose against the Tigers. Photo by James Reese.

Manus with 9 each. Manus led his team in assists with 6 while Arencibia took second honors with 2, according to your reporter's unofficial tally.

fensively the last half in pretty much shutting down Thomas McMillan, the Tigers' 6-foot, 3-inch inside threat. Tallent took two charges with the second giving McMillan his fourth foul at the 4:06 mark of the fourth quarter and he seemed spooked into refraining from drives to the basket after that.

This report would not be complete without giving kudos to junior Ryan Tallent who scored just two points in this game but played a vital role de-

## Indians send three to state championships at Gwinnett



Who is that masked man, well, it has to be Tim Collier. Photo by James Reese.

By James Reese  
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Bremen - The Town's County Indians send three wrestlers in search of state championship glory beginning Thursday at the Gwinnett Center Arena.

beyond his control in the 106-pound qualifier. "That's why you've got to win your first match," Coach Stowers said. "He didn't wrestle as well as he would've liked to have in his first match. Then the second match was just one of those things (you) can't control. His opponent was the best 106-pounder in the state. He did alright but just drew a tough match. One of the kids going to state is one of the kids that Aaron's pinned twice this year. He was caught up in the tough half of the bracket."

Tim Collier, Zach Stroud and Tyler Hoffman will represent the Indians wrestling squad at the Class A State Traditionals Tournament.

Tim qualified at 138 pounds. "Tim rallied from a tough 6-5 loss last year to the defending state champion," Coach Stowers said. "He came back and wrestled well in the consolation quarters and got through

Collier seeks the state title at 138 pounds; Stroud seeks the same at 152 pounds and Hoffman hopes to bring back the gold at 160 pounds.

Aaron Collier's brother Tim qualified at 138 pounds. "We wrestled real well and had some tough breaks," Indians Head Coach Jeff Stowers said. "I was really impressed with the kids' performance. The four kids that we had had a shot to qualify. Aaron (Collier) got caught into some politics

"We wrestled real well and had some tough breaks," Indians Head Coach Jeff Stowers said. "I was really impressed with the kids' performance. The four kids that we had had a shot to qualify. Aaron (Collier) got caught into some politics

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## Lady Indians complete undefeated season in Region 8A with win at Commerce



Three Town's County legends pose after the Lady Indians upended Commerce on Tuesday. Photo by James Reese.

By Jerry Kendall  
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The Town's County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team completed their second undefeated regular season in a row in the region and third in five years last Tuesday by taking a decisive 74-39 victory at Commerce. In closing out regular season play, they now have an overall regular season record for the last five years of 67-3 against region opponents with just one loss coming at the hands of Social Circle during the 2009 season and one each to Hebron Christian and Athens Academy in 2010.

will play in the region semi finals at Lakeview Academy at 7:00 pm on Friday with the winner of that game playing in the region championship game at 7:00 on Saturday at Lakeview and the loser in the consolation game at 4:00 at Lakeview. The Tuesday winner will also qualify for the Class A State Tournament scheduled to begin next week with seedings determined based on how the teams finish in the region tournament.



Bailey Sutton scores two on this record setting night. Photo by James Reese.

Completion of an undefeated season in region play wasn't the only highlight of this game as two members of the team reached very impressive milestones. Gabby Arencibia broke the known state record for 3-point field goals in a career in the second quarter and the victory was a school record 273rd as a head coach for the Lady Indians' Jim Melton, one ahead of Dion Eller. Articles covering both record setting performances are included in separate articles in this week's newspaper.



Misty Lindemuth puts up two against Commerce. Photo by James Reese.

Six different Lady Indians put points on the scoreboard in the second quarter with Arencibia leading the way with nine on three treys which gave her six for the game and the state record according to totals provided on the Georgia Prep Country Internet website. The Lady Indians led 49-18 at intermission and nine different team members entered the scoring column the last half with Bailey Sutton leading with four in the fourth quarter as they led 60-34 after three quarters and closed out a 74-39 victory.



Coach Jim Melton calls a play during the Lady Indians game against Commerce. Photo by James Reese.

All 11 Lady Indians appearing in the game entered the scoring column for the game with leaders being Arencibia with 25 points, Bleckley and Stephanie Patton with 11 each, Cochran with 7, and Dadrian

Blythe with 5. Leaders in assists, according to your reporter's unofficial tally, were

Cochran with 4 and the trio of Arencibia, Lindsay Patton, and Sutton with 3 each.



Tyler Hoffman dominates at 160 pounds in Bremen. Photo by James Reese.



Zack Stroud was the man in Bremen at 152 pounds. Photo by James Reese.

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## Melton passes Eller as winningest basketball coach at Towns County High School

By Jerry Kendall  
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In a basketball season of notable record setting performances by Towns County High School Basketball Players, Lady Indians Head Coach Jim Melton got in on the act last Tuesday, Feb. 7 when his team defeated Commerce 74-39 on the Lady Tigers' home court. Less than 22 minutes of playing time following Gabby Arcencibia's setting a state career record for 3-point baskets, Melton took over sole possession of the school record for victories by a Towns County Basketball Coach for either the Lady Indians or Indians or both.

The win was the 273rd victory of his nearly 14-year career as head coach of the Lady Indians and surpasses the 272 victories Eller accumulated during 19 seasons from the 1969 through the 1987 seasons plus two games as interim coach at the start of the 1993 season. Eller wound up with a 272-216 record while Melton's record entering this week's Region 8A Tournament is 273-124 for the 1999 season to the present. Eller's record is a bit deceptive when considering a 20-51 start while developing a strong program his first three years and a 5-19 rebuilding final season with a very young team as will be described.

In a significant number of cases when players at TCHS have been recognized for surpassing a prior milestone, the recognition is accompanied by a statement that the record can't be attested to as a certainty due to the absence of various score books from the past. Conversations with long time followers of TCHS sports activity lead one to believe, however, that the chance that the win totals of Eller and Melton have been exceeded is virtually zero.

It obviously requires an extended coaching career to reach such victory totals and it can be stated of a certainty that no TCHS basketball coach has reached the totals accumulated by Melton and Eller in the last 60 years. With likely much less emphasis placed on basketball prior to the early fifties and as a result of discussions with long time observers from those early years, it is unlikely that any coach continued in that capacity for more than a few years during the 30 or so years from the documented start of high school basketball in the county in 1922.

Further, fewer games were played in many of the earlier years of high school basketball when teams were limited to a total of twenty two regular season and Christmas tournament games, including during most if not all of Eller's tenure, compared to twenty five in recent years.

The identities of all Towns County basketball coaches for both boys and girls for every season from 1952 forward are known with Bill Kendall being the only coach in addition to Eller and Melton to surpass 200 wins. Kendall served as the Indians coach for 16 years and did double duty during three of those years with the Lady Indians for various periods of time from the 1962 through the 1992 seasons. With the 1966 Lady Indians and the 1967 Indians records being unknown, he totaled 206 wins with the Indians and 16 with the Lady Indians for a grand total of 222 victories plus the unknown totals for the two years.

As a result of the record setting accomplishment by Melton, your reporter is faced with the daunting but pleasant task of providing a review of the careers of both coaches of a length within the confines of a newspaper article after viewing nearly all of the games of both coaches, in most cases as scorekeeper, newspaper reporter, or both.

Actually, most of the careers of the two coaches feature striking contrasts far removed from their different sideline personalities of Eller being quite assertive but very quiet to the point of never having a technical foul except for calling a time out he didn't have left but Melton very animated and vocal on the sidelines. Most of the contrasts for Eller and Melton have, however, been related to circumstances outside their control rather than their approaches to the game.

Perhaps readers will enjoy a look at some of the circumstances they each faced but with most admirable results in achieving great "on the court" successes for their teams. Maybe the most striking portion of the success for both has been in post season play, representing improvement of their teams during each season, while coaching at one of the very smallest public schools in the state.

### BACKGROUND

The difference in the backgrounds related to sports activity may be of special interest to readers not familiar with the circumstances of the selection of the two coaches by school administrators. The 1969 Lady Indians season brought about a late need for a coach with no one readily available to assume the role. Eller had shown no more than a passing interest for the most part in sports activity in prior years, more likely serving in the concession stand than being in the stands for basketball games before graduating from

TCHS in 1963. He further had little athletic experience beyond mostly individual requirements in physical education in college and serving as an elementary basketball coach the prior year.

When approached by then TCHS Principal Curtis Chappell about coaching the girls during the 1969 season, his response was that he didn't know anything about coaching high school basketball. Chappell recalled years later that he had told Eller that the girls had uniforms and would probably win about four games if he were the coach and about four if someone else took the job and that they would get someone else to do it after a year.

When Eller took an interest in the job, although winning just five games in each of his first two years, as evidenced by his attending coaching clinics, reading books by expert coaches about the sport, picking the brains of other successful coaches, and literally using occasional doses of logic unrelated to basketball in approaching the game, he became a very highly respected coach in a relatively brief period of time. As such, he was retained in the position for 19 years plus serving in an interim capacity in preseason practice and for two games six seasons after stepping down from the position.

Melton, on the other hand, had enjoyed a very successful basketball and baseball career for the Indians before graduating from TCHS in 1990 and had served for three years as an assistant basketball coach under Lady Indians Head Coach Robbie Stancil. Stancil had a long and successful career at South Cobb and other metro Atlanta high schools, including a state final four appearance at South Cobb, prior to four years at TCHS through the 1998 season before leaving to take the head coach's job at Union County.

### EXPECTATIONS

The expectations of the two coaches when hired were perhaps the greatest contrast of any to consider, based upon the "tradition" they each inherited and their varying backgrounds as described above. The Lady Indians teams of the 1960's had enjoyed a few well spaced years of regular season success but very little success during post season with initial expectations of Eller being perhaps no more than as a caretaker until another coach could be found.

The Lady Indians of the four years prior to Melton's tenure had, on the other hand, established a pattern of excellence, capturing four straight Sub-Region 8A North tournament championships and with plenty of experience and tradition bringing an expectation of excellence from Melton.

### RULE CHANGES

Eller went through two drastic rule changes in the early years of his coaching career while Melton has seen no change in the five on five full court rules implemented during the 1976 season. For Eller's first two years, girls basketball completed a long term pattern of "half court" rules with three forwards and three guards on each team restricted from crossing the center line, leaving a quite simple three on three level of competition on each end of the court. Significant portions of each game consisted, however, of each team trying to get the ball across the center line with various defenses employed to often successfully steal the ball in the transition and leaving less time for the actual three against three offensive attempts.

After Eller's first two years, rovers rules were implemented from the 1971 through the 1975 seasons, still with six players competing but with two players on each team allowed to play full court. Rovers could change positions freely with stationary forwards and guards during the course of a game as long as each team had no more than four players on each end of the court, leaving a four on four competition. From the 1976 season forward, full court rules have been in effect in the same manner as boys had played for decades.

### REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENT CHANGES

For decades, post season high school basketball play in our area of the state focused on sub-region tournaments with post season success pretty much measured by how well teams did in these tournaments. It was an added bonus when teams earned a trip to the region tournament prior to the time of Eller's arrival and for his first year at the helm as just two teams from each sub-region qualified for the region tournament and just two from the region tournament made it to state.

Eller's second year brought about four teams from each sub region earning a trip to the region tournament but still with just two teams from each region tournament making it to state until Melton's first year as head coach in 1999. From that season forward, all teams in the region play in the region tournament with four making it to state instead of two as was the case throughout Eller's career.

One of the most noteworthy contrasts for the two coaches, then, may be the manner in which



Coach Jim Melton gets the glad hand from legendary Indians Coach Dion Eller.  
Photo by James Reese.

they are evaluated for post season play with the focus for Eller being on sub-region tournament play and for Melton on state tournament appearances with each achieving most admirable results.

### OPPONENTS

For all of Eller's tenure and for a few years into Melton's, the Lady Indians faced primarily nearby county schools both within and outside their various sub-region configurations. Such county schools as from Union, Rabun, Banks, Dawson, Lumpkin, Jackson, and East Fannin were often sub-region opponents with most being significantly larger than Towns County.

With the exception of the referenced 1977 season, the Lady Indians often saw their season come to an end under Eller at the hands of Buford in the region semi-finals but with other city based schools such as Jefferson and Dacula also standing in the way of a coveted trip to the state tournament. During Melton's tenure, his most recent teams of potential state championship caliber under a small community schools setup have fallen victim early at the hands of increasing numbers of powerful metro all star caliber teams.

### HOW DID THEY DO IT?

After reading the quite lengthy background, some readers are probably wondering how each coach arrived at a very successful record for us to review. Eller actually went through a period of "on the job training" as a result of both his lack of athletic type experience and little winning tradition at the school, compiling just the 20-51 record during his first three years on the job. There were bright spots early in his career, however, as his first team actually lost 71-29 to Union County on opening night of the sub-region tournament at Banks County in 1969 but they never lost on opening night again during his years as head coach, winning their opening game for eighteen straight years.

Of even greater significance is the fact that they made the sub-region tournament championship game for fifteen straight years after missing the title game those first three years and then falling short by a game during a final rebuilding year with a very young team in 1987. Following the 20-51 initial record, Eller's teams went 165-49 during the next eight seasons. They had reduced success as related to winning records for most of his remaining years as coach but always showed vast improvement during the season as evidenced by making the sub-region tournament finals in all but the last of the remaining years.

Eller's teams won six sub-region tournaments and one region tournament, just missing several more championships in the two tournaments, in almost every case to a much larger school but with great overall success against larger schools throughout his career. His teams made the state tournament four times with the first three of those appearances being in the Macon Coliseum before the Georgia High School Association began farming the games out around the state as is done today.

The school's "Hoosier" moment in basketball was achieved in the championship game of the 1977 region tournament when the Lady Indians came from fourteen points behind in the third quarter for an overtime 54-51 win over a tall and super successful Buford team thought to have been impossible to achieve. The then Class B Lady Wolves entered the game with a 23-5 record, including winning the prestigious Gwinnett County Christmas tournament with wins there included over Region 8AAA champion South Gwinnett and Region 8AA runnerup Norcross.

This win represented the Lady Indians' only region championship in basketball until Melton's 2009 and 2011 teams captured the second and third titles to date. The 1977 win over Buford prompted a comment from the always quotable Buford Head Coach Butch Britt that "I thought we would have Towns' girls with their tongues hanging out by the end of the third quarter but it was my girls had their tongues hanging out". The details of this game would provide a most interesting article for sometime in the future.

Eller's teams finished in the top four in their region all fifteen years they made the sub-region tournament finals so they would likely have "made it to state" fifteen times during his nineteen full years of coaching, missing only his first three years

and the last one if four teams had been allowed as today. On the other hand, Melton's teams have made it to the state tournament in eleven of thirteen years he has been at the helm under the rules of the day with the top four teams in the region being admitted to the tournament. It would be more difficult to project state tournament appearances without the variables created by sub-region tournaments during most of Melton's years but it seems likely that his teams would have made the state tournament at a rate similar to that of Eller's under the "two teams to state" setup.

While it required Eller three years of on the job training to develop a successful program with just the 20-51 record, Melton was off and running right away in continuing an already successful program. His first three teams went 22-7, 24-6 and 18-9 for a 64-22 start with a state final four berth included during his second year. Five years of between eleven and sixteen wins followed for an overall 67-68 mark before a dominating 142-34 run from the 2007 season through this year's regular season. Melton's teams actually won their fifth and sixth straight sub-region tournament championships during his first two years before they were discontinued and he has had a second Class A State Final Four appearance included in 2008 along with a trip to the Elite Eight and four to the Sweet Sixteen.

### ADDITIONAL ELLER NOTES

With greater knowledge of Melton's success as a recent Lady Indians coach known by most followers of the Lady Indians, perhaps a few items about Eller's career will be of interest to readers. Three of the most striking wins in keeping the long streaks of winning on opening night and trips to the sub region tournament finals referenced earlier were achieved during the last two years of Eller's tenure and are maybe worthy of mention.

The 1986 team faced sixth ranked Union County in the Union County Gym in the semi finals following a tough win over Banks County in the opening round with the trip to the sub-region finals for the fifteenth year in a row on the line. Injuries for both the Lady Indians and Banks County had resulted in their finishing fourth and fifth in regular season play and in the bracket with first seed Union. The Lady Indians and Banks Girls were both healthy for the sub-region tournament and they had a classic first round battle with the Lady Indians coming away with a closer than the final score 61-54 opening night victory with the reward being the match up with the favored Lady Panthers and the fifteenth straight trip to the sub-region finals on the line.

The Lady Panthers entered the semi final game ranked sixth in the state with a 21-1 record and playing on their home court after having split their season series with Pickens who made it to the Elite Eight round in Class AA before falling and missing the state final four by a 52-50 score. The Lady Indians used a recently developed and very effective full court press in striking for the final fifteen points of the third quarter in vaulting from a 40-33 deficit to a 48-40 lead and an eventual 65-58 victory over the Lady Panthers, ending their season with a marvelous but somewhat empty 21-2 record.

The next year, after losing nearly 3,300 career points to graduation in the persons of Amy Allen (Silvey), Angela Rogers (Kendall), and Tonia Haney (Anderson), the Lady Indians entered the sub-region tournament with an overall very young team on their home court with a 4-18 record against Dawson County who had defeated them by a 75-52 score on the same court a few weeks earlier. They would not be denied that eighteenth straight opening night sub-region victory, however, as they largely shut down the potent Dawson County offense and came away with a 46-44 victory.

By the way, they got the win on two very late free throws by the former Amy Sanders, then a sophomore and the mother of current Indian freshman Cruz Shook. Further, the leading scorer for the season with a 13.9 points per game average on that team was current Lady Indians Middle School Coach Lana Brown (Parker) while the leading scorer in that game with 16 points was the former Tracy Barrett, the mother of promising Indians freshman Trace Moss.

An example of the re-



Coach Jim Melton closes in on a school record for career wins against Commerce.  
Photo by James Reese.

spect Eller established in rather quick order comes from the 1974 through the 1979 seasons and great success for the Lady Indians against legendary White County Head Coach Wickie Loudermilk.

Loudermilk had ten trips to the state tournament included in a spectacular career with the first having been at Class C Nacoochee prior to consolidation with three final four appearances included at White County. He also had 10 straight wins over the Lady Indians as shown in the smattering of Towns versus Loudermilk games available and likely many more wins over the Lady Indians without a loss.

It was very interesting, then, to see Eller's Lady Indians win 10 straight games against quite good White County teams and an 11th in 12 games following a Lady Warriors win early in the 1979 season. After a miracle 56-55 double overtime win by the Lady Indians, for the seventh of the 10 straight wins, at White County during the Lady Indians' region championship year of 1977, Loudermilk quipped to then Towns County School Superintendent Bill Kendall that "You'd better fire him before I beat him".

Loudermilk's Lady Warriors had fine teams during those years but with no state tournament appearances. They would later return to statewide prominence with a Class AA State Championship in 1981 and three straight final four appearances after that. Included were 12 straight wins over Eller's Lady Indians following the 70s success the Lady Indians had enjoyed. Loudermilk often expressed respectful admiration for Eller and his teams during that difficult run for his much larger school against the upstart Lady Indians who were considered White County's biggest rivals during that period.

## WRESTLING

Continued from page 10A

the semis, through the console finals but was bumped on the head a little bit this weekend."

Stroud has probably been the Indians' most consistent wrestler all year.

"He's like a machine," Coach Stowers said. "He goes out and does what he does real well. He got a really good draw in the state tournament. I'm excited to get to watch him compete down there. I hope to see the same kind of stuff out of him this weekend. I'd like to see him on the top of the podium or go to the top of the podium this weekend.

Hoffman has a chance to win it all at 160 pounds, Coach Stowers said.

"Tyler wrestled well all weekend," he said. "He had a

As anticipated at the start of this tribute to actually both Melton and Eller, it was impossible to do a brief newspaper article covering some 33 years of coaching excellence and what has been written actually just skims the surface of the accomplishments of the Lady Indians under these two coaches. Indeed, your reporter did a very lengthy commentary covering Eller's entire career at the request of some of his former players when he retired as a teacher in 1998 and a similar commentary at some time in the future covering Melton's career would certainly be of interest.

In view of the presence of the Eller commentary and a wealth of additional information available on the sports history at TCHS, consideration is being given to establishing an Internet website to make portions of the information available to interested readers that is too extensive to include in the newspaper articles. Newspaper articles detailing various games and events from the past could also be provided on such a website so stay tuned to see if a website may become a possibility.

Both Eller and Melton would quickly tell anyone that any coach must have the benefit of a lot of excellent talent to have a successful career and both would also confirm that they have had the great fortune of having numerous outstanding basketball players under their care. When viewing their records, it is clear that both have exhibited a unique talent in elevating the talents of those players to the highest levels of accomplishments at one of the smallest public schools in Georgia. Congratulations to both for their successes on the basketball court and best wishes are extended for all of their future endeavors.

tough draw in the semi-finals with the West kid that was state champ last year. He came back and wrestled well in the console semis. He got to the console finals and kind of relaxed. At the end of the match he got caught and thrown. That kind of stuff happens but he may be better off in the state tournament bracket because of it.

"He's got the number one seed from the other side but if he can get by that kid, both of the other kids he's beat already," Coach Stowers said. "He's just got to get by him and roll in to the finals. Hopefully next week's paper will have state champs from Towns County and or several placers in there which would be a great thing for our program."

## 2012 youth baseball and softball registration

The Towns County Recreation Department will be holding registration for softball and baseball for ages 8 through 14 beginning on February 13 thru February 25. The cost for registration will be \$45. Sign-ups will be held at

the Towns County Recreation Department. Our hours of operation are Monday thru Friday 9 AM till 8 PM and Saturday from 9 AM till 4 PM. If you have any questions please call the Recreation Department at 706-896-2600. TFeb15.22.F1JSH

## Ballroom dance classes at Brasstown Manor

The Bradford Club is pleased to announce ballroom dance classes for anyone 50 and over during the months of February and March, with a dance to be held in April. The first class will be February 28, 3 p.m. in The Bradford Club located in Brasstown Manor. Former Author Murray Dance Director, Laurel Adams, will be teaching Swing, Foxtrot,

Waltz, Rumba, Cha Cha and Tango. Singles and couples are encouraged to enroll in advance by calling 706-896-4285. Cost is \$15 per couple and \$8 for singles. Wear shoes, not sneakers or sandals and get ready for a good time. For more information, visit us online at www.thebradfordclub.com or find us on Facebook. TFeb15.G1JSH

## Recreation Department offers belly dancing classes

The Towns County Recreation Department in association with instructor Tasa Johnson will be offering Middle Eastern Dance (belly dancing) beginning Thursday, March 1. Classes will be held each Thursday in the Recreation Center from 6 to 7:30 PM for 6 weeks. Class is for females ages 18 and up. Cost for the 6-week class will be \$60.

the art of belly dancing since 1990. In 2005 she moved to Murphy, NC, and began teaching classes. Class size is limited so if you would like to sign up or for more information you can come by the Recreation Department or call us at 706-896-2600. If you wish to speak to our instructor you may call Tasa Johnson at 828-835-9789.

Tasa has been teaching TFeb15.Feb22.G1JSH