

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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Indians fall just short of victory in first round of region tournament



Garrett Bradshaw puts up a deuce against Hebron.

By Jerry Kendall
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The Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team saw its season come to an end in the first round of the Region 8A Tournament in Monroe last Wednesday when they fell to a 52-43 defeat to the Hebron Christian Lions of Dacula. The loss left the Indians just the one victory short of a trip to the Class A State Tournament with a final record of 5-21 but including three of the victories in their last five games. They had fallen to Hebron in Hiwassee last month by a 62-40 score after trailing by as much as twenty nine points midway through the third quarter so the very competitive contest with the Lions as described below proved to be a moral victory if not an on the court win.

The Indians found themselves with pretty significant but not overwhelming deficits for most of the first half as the Lions led by such scores as 8-2 and 11-4 in the first quarter and 21-11 and 23-15 in the second. The Indians rallied in each quarter, however, to close the gap. In the first, deuces by freshman Dallas Manus and sophomore Garrett Bradshaw and a trey by Manus had them within 11-9 before a Hebron trey, with the shooter's foot appearing from the stands to be on the 3-point line, giving the Lions a 14-9 lead.

A basket by freshman Boone Moss at 5:14 of the second quarter had the Indians within 15-11 before a 6-0 run had the Lions ahead 21-11 at the 3:33 mark. A second Moss basket at 3:11 triggered an 8-2 Indians finish, however, for just a 23-19 Hebron lead at intermission as junior Ryan Tallent

Photo by Lowell Nicholson scored the final six points of the quarter. The Indians had several chances during the final minute to edge even closer but couldn't get the shots to fall.

The Indians then more than matched three Lion deuces with two treys by Manus and one by freshman Grant Arencibia at 1:23 of the third quarter, pulling them to within 29-28 on the strength of an overall 17-8 run back to the 3:11 mark of the second quarter. The turning point of the game followed, however, as the Lions struck for seven straight points the final 1:04 of the quarter, ending on a trey from some twenty five feet at the buzzer as Hebron led 36-28 entering the fourth quarter.

The two teams pretty much matched points the rest of the way as the Lions led by as much as eleven points on three occasions by the 1:20 mark. A three point play by senior Brandon Henderson on a put back basket, giving him nine points in the quarter, had the Indians within 48-41 at the 23.2 seconds mark and a drive for two by senior Rylan Albach had them within six by a 49-43 score with 14 seconds left.

The Lions completed an excellent fourth quarter at the foul line, however, sinking two free throws at 10.3 seconds and one of two attempts at 2.1 seconds for a final margin of victory of 52-43. Overall, the Lions sank 11 of 15 free throw attempts in that final quarter in successfully protecting their lead.

The Indians were led in scoring for the game by Manus with 11 points, Henderson with 10, and Tallent with 8 while Rylan Albach led in assists with 3 and was followed by Arencibia and Henderson with 2 each.



Boone Moss puts up a deuce against Hebron.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson



Brandon Henderson goes up for two points against Hebron.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson



Senior Rylan Albach breaks up an inside scoring chance for Hebron.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson

Freshman provide a future hardwood spark for Indians



The Indians return their three leading scorers next season, Dallas Manus, (20), Grant Arencibia (5) and Ryan Tallent (25).

Photo by Lowell Nicholson

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During a long history of much individual excellence by the Indians, we have the first known and almost certainly only occurrence of two freshmen leading the team in scoring for the year. Dallas Manus with 230 points and an 8.8 points per game average and Grant Arencibia with 181 points and a 7.0 average had the highest point totals and averages for the year with three upper classmen also exceeding 100 points.

Junior Ryan Tallent was close behind Arencibia with 176 points for a 6.8 scoring average while seniors Brandon Henderson with 128 points for a 6.7 scoring average and Rylan Albach with 125 points for a 4.8 average also passed the 100 points scoring mark. Henderson missed playing time during the year due to injury so he appeared in just 19 games while the others played in all 26 games.

Both Manus and Arencibia included fairly lengthy scoring surges during their season with Manus being first in line during mid season. He scored in double figures in six straight games and seven of nine, accumulating 115 points for a 12.8 average during those games. Arencibia then finished the season by scoring in double figures in six of his last eight games for a total of 90 points and an average of 11.3 points per game.

Based upon point totals available, not only did Manus surpass the known school record of points in a season by a freshman set by Bob Bryson way back in 1953 but the duo of Manus and Arencibia has broken the known prior record total of 349 points for two freshmen set by Robbie Elliott and Brandon Barrett during the 2001 season. Elliott scored 182 points for a 7.0 scoring average and Barrett 167 for a 6.4 average, giving the duo a total of 349 points while Manus and Arencibia combined to easily eclipse that total with 411 points during the recently completed season. Interestingly, Elliott and Barrett finished in second and third place in 2001 behind current Indians Head Coach Ken Hamilton who scored 341 points for a 13.1 points per game average as a senior.

While the number of 3-point baskets made has not routinely been noted through the years since coming into effect during the 1988 season until the celebration of Arencibia's sister, Gabby, setting state records for a single game and career, it seems a certainty that Grant has established a new record for 3-pointers for an Indian freshman in a season.

Grant sank an even fifty treys for the season with Manus also sinking a striking number with thirty, perhaps good enough for second place in the category. With few freshmen seeing much varsity action for the Indians during the twenty five years since, it became an easy task to identify sharp shooter Jonathan

Barrett of the TCHS Class of 1997 as the most likely freshman to have made a significant number of 3-pointers.

A look back at the scorebook for his freshman year of 1994 reveals that Barrett sank twenty seven treys among 173 points with, unfortunately, a sub-region tournament game against Banks County being unrecorded in the scorebook with no way to determine if Barrett's total may place him in a tie with Manus or have surpassed Dallas' total. Barrett became a prolific 3-point scorer during his final three years at TCHS and easily reached the 1,000 career points mark.

The record setting scoring accomplishments of Manus and Arencibia don't actually represent the extent of freshmen excellence for the Indians for this year. Two additional freshmen, Boone Moss and Cruz Shook, also saw significant action in the heat of battle, not often common when playing as freshmen, in not just holding their own but making noteworthy contributions in very competitive games.

Moss included a ten point game against Social Circle among his 32 points for the season and Shook a seven point game against Murphy among his 23 points during the season. Further, Moss proved to be a most capable rebounder and Shook to be a very competent ball handler as evidenced by his playing for nearly all of the fourth quarter in the Indians' upset regular season ending win over Commerce.

TIME TO SAY GOODBYE
One of the most difficult moments for a high school athlete in any sport is their final contest and that became the case for three Indians with their loss to Hebron Christian last week. Seniors Rylan Albach and Brandon Henderson played their last game and Dakota Barrett also saw his career come to an end, although recovering from a knee injury and not appearing in the game.

These three seniors have worked and played together for many years and provided dedicated service as members of the Indians at the recreation department, middle school, and high school levels. As is often the case, each has a past, present, or perhaps future sibling representing TCHS on the basketball court.

Henderson's half brother, Dwayne Hamby, provided excellent playing time for the Indians before graduating in 2005 with his senior TCHS team being the first boys' squad to make the state tournament since the 1981 season. Albach's sister, Karlie, played with distinction on the Lady Indian JV's team this year and Barrett's brother, Darringer, showed promise for the future as a seventh grade member of the Indians Middle School team this year.

Much appreciation is extended to Rylan, Dakota, and Brandon for dedicated service to their school and team on the high school basketball court.

Brasstown Dance Academy competes at Nuvo

The Fuzion Dance Company of Brasstown Dance Academy recently competed at the Nuvo Dance Competition and Workshop in Atlanta, GA. They performed three group pieces, four solos and a duet. The group cumulatively earned eight "High Silver" medals for their performances. Along with the competition, the dancers participated in a weekend full of exciting and challenging workshops in ballet, jazz, theater, hip hop, tap, contemporary and lyrical dance styles. The members of the Fuzion Dance Company are Lindy Hollingshead, Sarina Kurrimbukus,

Caitlin Sheffield and Ansley Vardeman. The Nuvo faculty is made up of some of the industry's leading professionals, including Ray Leeper, Travis Wall, Sonya Tayeh, Mark Meisner, Stacey Tookev, Ivan Koumaev, Chebar Williams, Anthony Morigerato, Kim McSwain and Denise Wall. Congratulations to all on a job well done.

Your chance to see The Fuzion Dance Company is right around the corner. They are scheduled to perform their Spring Concert on Saturday, March 10th at the Towns County School Auditorium.

Admission at the door is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Special guests will include the Brasstown Dance Academy's Young Performers Group. Don't miss this great opportunity to enjoy the art of dance right here in our own community.

Call or visit Brasstown Dance Academy for information about classes or the Fuzion Dance Company performance schedule.

Studio hours are Monday-Thursday 2 - 6 p.m. and the phone number is (706) 379-2651. NT(Feb22,C2)ac



Sarina Kurrimbukus



Lindy Hollingshead



Ansley Vardeman



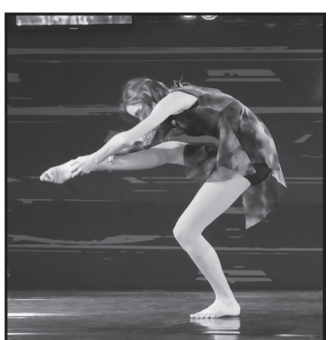
Nature of Healing
Sukoshi Rice

at first you might find it challenging. If you stick with it, like the woman in my story, you might find the rewards are greater than you dreamed. Physical flexibility and strength are obvious results, but there are others just as powerful and important to our well being. We become more balanced in all ways, we breathe more deeply and fully, our emotions stabilize and we become calmer. Many people report sleeping better, losing extra weight or inches, becoming more regular. Yogis are famous for looking far younger than their years.

Anyone can do it, or do some of what goes on in a class. People tell me, "I can't do yoga, I'm not flexible." That is THE point. We do yoga to become flexible, not because we already are. And then we do it to stay that way, into our 80s and 90s, with any luck. Our classes are geared to all levels. When you come, be sure to tell the teacher any concerns you have so she can work with you. We have mats and all you need, just come in comfortable, stretchy clothes and see what happens.

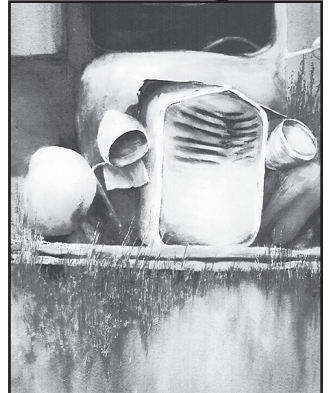
When we do yoga we celebrate being alive, we offer thanks, we deepen our connection and become happier. Try yoga if you want to feel better, be healthier and more flexible and aim to live a long and healthy life.

Sukoshi Rice is a wellness worker and yoga teacher in Blairsville since 1985. She can be reached with comments and questions at sukoshi@windstream.net. NT(Feb22,X4)CA



Caitlin Sheffield

Thompson featured at Blue Ridge Arts Center



Ford's Phantom

The Blue Ridge Arts Center in Seneca, SC, recently announced the inclusion of two of Hiwassee artist Ann Thompson's paintings to be exhibited in their 21st annual Juried Art Exhibit. The juror for the exhibit was Mr. Brian Lang, curator for the Columbia South Carolina Museum

of Art. The Center's gallery, located at 212 E. South Third Street in Seneca, is open to the public Tuesdays through Fridays from 1-5 PM. The exhibit will close on March 2. Ann's two selected paintings, "Ford's Phantom" and "Native Talisman" are representative of her interest in exploring varied techniques and presentation of subjects that catch her eye.

Ann, a Signature Artist in the Georgia Watercolor Society, exhibits and sells her art through a number of local venues, such as ArtWorks here in Hiwassee, The Mountain Cop in Clayton and the Center Gallery in Sautee-Nacoochee. She has won numerous awards in both local and national art competitions, and her original paintings are owned by many local banks and corporations as well as individuals. TF(Feb22,H2)SH

BASKETBALL INDIVIDUAL SCORING

PRINCE AVENUE CHRISTIAN	Misty Lindemuth (9)	GEORGE WALTON ACADEMY	2
Lady Indians (Grade)		Lady Indians (Grade)	
Gabby Arencibia (12)	13	Dallas Manus (9)	11
Ali Bleckley (12)	12	Brandon Henderson (12)	10
Lindsay Patton (12)	10	Ryan Tallent (11)	8
Dadrian Blythe (11)	8	Rylan Albach (12)	4
Stephanie Patton (9)	6	Grant Arencibia (9)	4
Eryn Cochran (10)	5	Boone Moss (9)	4
Alyssa Pyle (9)	2	Garrett Bradshaw (10)	2
Kellsie Cowart (10)	1		
ATHENS ACADEMY			
Lady Indians (Grade)			
Ali Bleckley (12)	14		
Gabby Arencibia (12)	12		
Stephanie Patton (9)	12		
Eryn Cochran (10)	11		
Kellsie Cowart (10)	6		
Lindsay Patton (12)	3		

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. TF(Feb22,F1)SH