

Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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March 3, 2010

www.townscountherald.net

Hiawassee, Georgia

Indians open tennis season with White County split



Ginny Rhoades took an 8-2 season opening win over her White County opponent.

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The TCHS Indians opened their 2010 tennis season with a split against the Warriors from White County. The lady Indians returned a strong team from 2009 and it paid off with a 4-1 win. The boys team dropped their opener 1-4 to Warriors but according to coach Shannon Foyd, two of the lost matches could have gone either way. Foyd had particular praise for senior Ethan Burch, who had just stepped off the basketball courts last week. He stated "this kid is the best high school player I have seen. He would have beaten me."

Despite losing 3-8, for the girls doubles team of Kristie



Ethan Burch touted as best high school player Coach Foyd has seen.

McConnell and Layla Olin, it was their first high school match.

For the boys doubles team of Eli Barrett and Corbin Gilfilian, it was their first varsity win (8-3). Gilfilian was also another basketball player just arriving on the tennis court. Singles: Alexa Arencibia won 8-1; Ginny Rhoades won 8-2; Kristin Fuhs won 8-1. Doubles: Jordan Moats/Courtney Farmer won 8-6; Kristie McConnell/ Kayla Olin lost 3-8. Singles: Ethan Burch lost 0-8; Alex Spiegel lost 8-9 in tie-breaker(4-7); Matt Hogsed lost 6-8

Doubles: Douglas Haigler/Walker Guss lost 0-8; Eli Barrett/Corbin Gilfilian won 8-3

Photos By Jim/Lisa Bryant

Indians make it two tennis splits this week



Kristin Fuhs took her singles match against a Fannin County Rebel 8-6.

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The TCHS Indians have been busy this week taking advantage of some warm weather to get in two matches. With weather, sharing the courts with YHC tennis teams and basketball state first round basketball at the TCHS gym, it has been like playing dominos. The girl's team has won both outings while the boy's are still looking for their first win. Tuesday the Indians stared across the net at fanning County with the girls winning 4-1 and the boys falling 2-3. The girls played four extra doubles matches and took all four wins. In the girl's doubles, it was the first varsity win



Douglas Haigler paired with Matt Hogsed in doubles but lost a close 6-8 match.

for Kristie and Kayla.

Singles: Alexa Arencibia won 8-2; Ginny Rhoades won 8-4; Kristin Fuhs won 8-6.

Doubles: Jordan Moats/Courtney Farmer lost 6-8; Kristie McConnell/ Kayla Olin won 8-5.

Extra Doubles: Eryn Cochran/Brooke Bonner won 8-2; Kara Harris/Christa Hamill won 8-3; Kayla Taylor/Maria Constantino won 8-3; Rebecca Duckworth/Maggie Lusk won 8-3.

Singles: Ethan Burch lost 2-8; Alex Spiegel lost 4-8; # 3 singles won by forfeit.

Doubles: Douglas Haigler/Matt Hogsed lost 6-8; Two won doubles by forfeit.

Vipers clinch championship



Front Row (l-r) Kameron Forrister, Breanna Rogers, Paisley Staton, Morgan Helton, & Caitie Ivester Back - Rachel Benson, Brittany Ledford, Doc Staton, Wade Benson, Hailey Shope, & Anna Grace Roach

The Vipers 14-U Fastpitch Softball team clinched the Championship at this weekends tournament in Woodstock GA. There were six teams and the Vipers went undefeated. The tournaments name, "It's Still Cold" was no lie. The wind was whipping all day and upon winning the tournament after 11 pm, the temperature had dropped to 34 degrees. The girls hung tough, through it all, despite their probing fingers, tingling toes and chapped faces.

The Vipers consist of a wide range of ages, from 11 - 15 year olds, and their variety of skills were showcases throughout the five games they played. Players of the team

were: Hayesville: Rachel Benson, Caitie Ivester, Anna Grace Roach, Breanna Rogers & Paisley Staton; Hiawassee: Brittany Ledford; Ranger: Kameron Forrister, Morgan Helton & Hailey Shope.

Even though this was their first tournament, as a team and of the season, the girls worked wonderfully together and made the coaches, Doc Staton and Wade Benson, very proud. The coaches would like to thank the

players and their parents for their dedication and support and are looking forward to a great season playing fastpitch softball. T(Mar3,TchsSpt4)ac

Young Harris College baseball news

Mickey Seward, YHC SID
Mountain Lions in Sunday sweep to remain undefeated at 11-0

Young Harris College hitters pounded out 17 hits and Brandon Curson contributed at the plate and on the mound as the Mountain Lions finished off a three-game sweep of Potomac State College with a 12-8 victory Sunday at Zell B. Miller Field in Young Harris. The victory improved the Mountain Lions' record to 11-0 on the season.

Six different Mountain Lions collected at least two hits, with Will Callaway and Robby Swab each picking up three to lead the team. Chris Holloway, Matt Lowery, Matt Lobacz and Curson each had two. The top seven batters in the order combined to go 15-for-29 (.517). Holloway, Daniel Marsh and Curson each drove in a pair of runs, as well.

Brian Holmes (1-0), pitching on a pre-determined pitch count, was awarded the victory. He pitched four and one-third innings, allowing six runs on six hits and five walks. He struck out five batters before giving the ball to Kendrick McDonald, who finished the fifth inning by retiring the only two batters he faced. Curson, who homered in Saturday's 11-9 victory, was solid in relief, allowing two runs over four innings. He allowed five hits and walked two batters while striking out four en route to his first save.

Cougars hand Mountain Lions first loss of the season

Matt Lowery was 4-for-5 and drove in four runs for Young Harris College, but Cleveland State Community College handed the Mountain Lions their first



Brett Armour former Lakeview Academy catcher loses the ball as he attempts to tag a Caramount.



Matt Lobacz gets down in the dirt but despite the effort, the Cats suffered their first loss.

loss of the season, a 10-7 defeat in a non-conference baseball game in Cleveland, Tenn., Tuesday.

Lowery delivered a two-run double in the third inning and a two-run single in the seventh. Chris Holloway, Will Callaway and Daniel Marsh also delivered RBIs for the Mountain Lions.

Steven Voigt (2-1), the second of five pitchers used by Young Harris head coach

Rick Robinson in the game, was tagged with the loss. He allowed five runs (three earned) on five hits and one walk, while striking out two batters in two and one-third innings of work. YHC starter Jake Montgomery allowed two runs (one earned) on one hit and one walk in two innings. The loss was the first this season for Young Harris, who started 2010 with 11 consecutive victories. Photos By Jim/Lisa Bryant

Young Harris College softball news

Mickey Seward, YHC SID
Lady Cats fall 7-1 to second ranked Wallace State-Hanceville

Second-ranked Wallace State-Hanceville used a pair of big innings to defeat Young Harris 7-1 in the semifinals of the Ringor Fastpitch Invitational in Aiken, S.C., Sunday. Wallace State scored three runs in the fourth and four more in the fifth to take command of the game. Meanwhile, their pitcher was rolling, holding the Mountain Lions (6-4 overall) to just three hits.

Jamey Chapman drove in Young Harris' run in the fifth, scoring Suzannah Eubanks with a single. Brittany Allen and Kacey Miller had the other two hits for the Mountain Lions. YHC starter Victoria Sink took the loss. In four and two-thirds innings, Sink allowed six runs (five earned) on 10 hits. She struck out four batters.

Rikki Powers tossed one-third of an inning, allowing one run on one hit and a walk while striking out one batter. Kelly Wright threw two shutout innings, allowing three hits and striking out three batters. The Cats will return home Thursday to host a doubleheader against Aiken Tech, beginning at 2 p.m.

CSCC takes two softball wins over YHC on the road

Cleveland State Community College took both games of a softball doubleheader from



Jamey Chapman drove in the lone YHC run in loss to Wallace State-Hanceville.



Young Harris College Tuesday, defeating the Mountain Lions 4-1 in the first game and 3-2 in the nightcap, which went eight

innings. The losses drop Young Harris' record to 6-6 overall. Photos By Jim/Lisa Bryant

Young Harris College tennis news

Mickey Seward, YHC SID
Lady Vikings net 9-0 victory over Lady Mountain Lions

Berry College's women's tennis team rolled to a 9-0 victory over Young Harris College in a non-conference match at Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris.

The Vikings didn't look like they were playing in their first match of the spring, winning all six singles matches in straight sets, including 6-0, 6-0 victories in the No. 1 and No. 4 positions. The other four matches were 6-1, 6-0 Berry victories.

Berry is a perennial NAIA powerhouse that is not eligible for national rankings this year as it transitions from the NAIA to NCAA Division III. Last year, Berry was ranked No. 3 in the final NAIA national rankings. Young Harris, currently ranked 21st in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's NJCAA rankings, will look to get back on the winning track Tuesday, when it hosts Lander University at Towns County High School in Hiawassee at 2 p.m.

Doubles:

1. Herz/Kendal Ruffner (BC) def. Black/Brinkley (YHC) 8-0
2. Lebrao/Tomai (BC) def. Deese/Smith (YHC) 8-1
3. Kirstin Ruffner/Tinnell (BC) def. Allen/Maxwell (YHC) 8-0

Singles:

1. Stephanie Herz (BC) def. Kinsley Black (YHC) 6-0, 6-0
2. Marina Lebrao (BC) def. Brianna Brinkley (YHC) 6-1, 6-0
3. Kendal Ruffner (BC) def. Sarah Deese (YHC) 6-1, 6-0
4. Barbara Tomai (BC) def. Holly Smith (YHC) 6-0, 6-0
5. Kirstin Ruffner (BC) def. Michelle Allen (YHC) 6-1, 6-0
6. Jennifer Tinnell (BC) def. Mary Beth Maxwell (YHC) 6-1, 6-0

YHC tennis slide continues with 8-1 loss to Lander

Lander University's women's tennis team defeated Young Harris College 8-1 in a non-conference women's tennis match held at Towns County High School in Hiawassee, Ga., Tuesday. Lander, a member of the NCAA Division II Peach Belt Conference, won five singles matches in straight sets. Young Harris won at No. 6 singles by default.

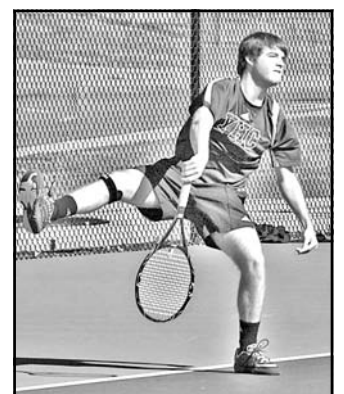
The Mountain Lions are scheduled to return to action Saturday at 1 p.m., when they



Despite a good effort, the Lady Cats were out-manned 9-0 by Berry College



Playing on the TCHS courts, the YHC purple Cats fell to Lander University 8-1.



Despite fierce competitive tennis in the three and five positions, the team from Lander bested the Mountain Lions 9-0.

John Cappabianca in the fifth position, were the most competitive Mountain Lions singles players, each falling 6-4, 6-4. Jamie Childree and William Dixon forced a tiebreaker in their doubles match against Paul Henri Arrigoni and Max Desmars, but fell 9-8 (5).

The Mountain Lions are scheduled to return to action against another NCAA Division II team, Carson-Newman, at 1 p.m. Saturday at Towns County High School.

Doubles: Clari/Frances (LU) def. Gottenbos/Schraepen (YHC) 8-4

Arrigoni/Desmars (LU) def. Childree/Dixon (YHC) 9-8(5)

Marques/Bertoldo (LU) def. Johnson/Midkiff (YHC) 8-0

Singles: Paul Henri Arrigoni (LU) def. William Dixon (YHC) 6-0, 6-2

Levan Clark (LU) def. Mitchell Midkiff (YHC) 6-0, 6-3

Juan Manrique (LU) def. Lauren Schraepen (YHC) 6-4, 6-4

Max Desmars (LU) def. Jordan Johnson (YHC) 6-0, 6-0

John Cappabianca (LU) def. Koen Gottenbos (YHC) 6-4, 6-4

Carlos Marques (LU) def. Jamie Childree (YHC) 6-2, 6-2

Photos By Jim/Lisa Bryant

Youth basketball instruction at TC Rec Department

The Towns County Recreation Department in association with Coach Frank Johnson will soon be offering basketball instruction at the Towns County Recreation Department Gym. Coach Johnson is currently coaching in the Towns County Middle School Program. He has also coached at the Towns County Recreational Department, as well, as coach of girls travel team for three years.

Coach Johnson will be offering beginning, intermediate

and advanced levels of instruction. Included will be working on ball handling, proper shooting techniques, position-specific skills and overall defensive skills. The program will be for both boys and girls ages 8 thru high school. Instructions will be offered to both small groups (example: a team) and individuals. Cost for small groups \$10 per hour and individuals is \$15 per hour.

Our first class was on Tuesday, March 2 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.,

and thereafter, classes will be held each Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Fridays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. We are excited and pleased to have Coach Johnson work with our youth. His willingness to help improve and enhance their basketball skills will certainly benefit them in the future. You may register your first visit to his class. For any information please contact Coach Johnson at (706)970-9571 or the Towns County Recreation Department at (706)896-2600.