



2009 Lady Indians basketball wrap-up

JERRY KENDALL

Sports Writer

This week's basketball article was originally intended to present a final tribute to this year's Lady Indian seniors and an update on postseason play by Lady Indian and Indian opponents. Due to your reporter being out of the state for most of last week and other obligations, this week's article will be limited to the tribute to the three "retiring" Lady Indians. A final wrap-up article will be provided next week with information about TCHS opponents, Battle of the States participants including a surprising state runner-up, and a few additional items of interest.

The loss to Wesleyan in the Elite Eight round of the Georgia Class A Girls State Basketball Tournament was the final high school game for three Towns County Lady Indians. Perhaps the defining words for Lady Indians Amber Allen, Ellie Parton, and Nikki Winn would be dedication and hard work, traits often mentioned by close followers of the team as related to these three players.

It is most rewarding when a team has seniors who lead by example and this was never truer than for three seniors during each of the last two years of record setting success for the Lady Indians. The 28-4 and 25-6 records compiled by the Lady Indians over the last two years speak for themselves as related to overall team success which has been addressed at length. These two teams further compiled a cumulative 28-1 regular season record in Region 8A, a 5-1 record in two years of region tournament play, and a two

year record of 5-2 in state tournament play. Included was the Lady Indians' second ever Region Tournament Championship with the first coming during the 1977 season.

All three Lady Indian seniors followed the Towns County Recreation Department and Towns County Middle School paths in preparing themselves for play at the high school varsity level. Let's take an actually pretty brief look, when considering the number of accomplishments, at some of the individual successes of this year's three Lady Indian seniors. While not a prolific scorer, Amber Allen could be counted on for key field goals and free throws, often when the game was on the line, but she will be best remembered among knowledgeable followers of the game for her defensive successes for her teams.

She often received the assignment of defending against the opposing team's best offensive player with defensive stops preventing these players from putting points on the scoreboard just as important in achieving a victory as scoring points yourself. Of great importance also was her serving in the perhaps unofficial but valuable role of "team mom" in providing leadership for her teammates both on and off the court.

Ellie Parton used a soft scoring touch in providing both 3-point and 2-point field goals and free throws for her teams with the provision of key field goals and free throws especially being provided in several of this year's postseason games. But like Allen, she will probably be remembered to a greater extent for her all out hustle and success on the defensive side of the game.

Aside from her basketball successes, Parton was a key member of her Lady Indians Cross Country Team the last three years. In a sport dominated by private schools, the Lady Indians were the top public school in the Georgia Class A Cross Country State Championships for two of the three years. They finished second among public schools for the year in between, finishing only behind fellow Region 8A foe Jefferson, a much larger city school on their way to Class AA competition for this year. Parton was the second leading runner for the Lady Indians in the state championship competition as a sophomore and the top finisher for her team as a junior and a senior.

With Nikki Winn having provided sparkling performances time after time for four years for the Lady Indians, it is quite overwhelming to even think of paying adequate tribute to her accomplishments. Just one late season game this year, however, presents perhaps as good an example as possible as to her ability to rise to the occasion in response to her team's needs. In an ultra important regular season region game at Lakeview Academy, she scored the Lady Indians' final six points in the final 1:22 of the game, twice giving the Lady Indians a one point lead and including the game winner in a 48-47 win with one second left in the game.

Winn participated and scored points in all 118 games played by her team during her four year career with this being a near certain school record for number of games played with her teams compiling an 88-30 record. She scored the verifiable school record of 1,870 career points and holds

the school's single game scoring record of 37 points for full court and rover rules with the transition to these rules having begun in the 1971 season.

She was named the Region 8A Player of the Year for both her junior and senior years and was named first team All State in Class A as a junior with this year's all state team yet to be selected. In addition to her prowess on the basketball court, Winn was a standout shortstop on the Lady Indians' fast pitch softball team for all four years. College basketball is in her future as she is currently considering several options for playing the sport at that level.

A quick look at a couple of available Indian basketball score books from 1982 and 1983 reveals the name of Nikki's father, Mike Winn, who was a substitute in one of the games and a starting guard in the other for Rabun County High School, wearing the familiar uniform number "5" just as Nikki has worn with distinction at TCHS. More recently, she has had a first cousin, Allison Winn of Highlands (North Carolina) High School, who made the women's basketball team as a "walk on" at Western Carolina University. Allison is currently sidelined after having shoulder surgery as a result of a non sports related accidental fall.

Many thanks are extended to Amber Allen, Ellie Parton, and Nikki Winn for the hard work they have done and the accomplishments they can remember as members of the Towns County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Teams. And best wishes are extended to each of you for all your future endeavors.



by Jim Bryant

Collegiate Baseball

YHC 24/5/8	ABAC 8/6/0
YHC 21	Truett McConnell 11
YHC 13/7/10	Andrew 1/3/7
YHC 16	Faulkner State JV 4
Andrew 4/2/0	Middle Georgia 7/6/10
Middle Ga 12/15/11	Roane State 7/3/10
Middle Ga 8/9	Guilford Tech 0/7
Truett McConnell 3/5/3	Middle Georgia 7/14/6

Collegiate Softball

YHC 0	Indian Hills CC 5
YHC 6	Volunteer State CC 8
YHC 4	Walters State CC 0
Truett McConnell 2	Volunteer State CC 10
Truett McConnell 0	Jefferson 8
Truett McConnell 2/0/5	Walters State CC 3/4/6
Truett McConnell 1	Wallace State CC 9
Middle Georgia 2/1	Chattanooga State 10/9
Middle Georgia 9/6	Chattanooga Valley 2/0
Middle Georgia 18/9	ABAC 5/1
Middle Georgia 0/1	Chipola 7/3
Gordon 1/2	Cleveland State 4/10
Gordon 0/3	Hiwassee 2/1
Georgia Perimeter 2	Bevill State 5
Georgia Perimeter 3	Tallahassee CC 7
Georgia Perimeter 10	Olney Central CC 2
Georgia Perimeter 1	Columbia State CC 5
ABAC 3/2	Tallahassee CC 12/6
ABAC 0/1	Gulf Coast CC 8/9
ABAC 5/1	Middle Georgia 18/9
Aiken Tech 4	Lincoln Trail CC 5
Aiken Tech 4	Olney Central CC 0
Aiken Tech 2	Tallahassee CC 10
Darton 3/5	South Georgia 1/1
Darton 1/7	Gulf Coast CC 9/4
Darton 6/14	Georgia Military 5/3
Georgia Military 1	Pitt CC 0
Georgia Military 2	Chattanooga State CC 10

Boys Georgia Basketball State Championships Class A

Turner County 53	Whitfield Academy 69
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Class AA

Blessed Trinity 64	Dublin 69
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Class AAA

Westover 62	South Atlanta 81
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Girls Georgia State Basketball Championships Class A

Wesleyan 71	Savannah Country Day 312
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Class AA

Model 35	Buford 66
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Class AAA

Carrollton 51	Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe 31
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Prep Baseball

Towns County 0	Rabun County 8
Towns County 13	Tallulah Falls 2 (5)
Towns County 5	Union County 6
Union County 18	Hiwassee Dam 8 (5)
Union County 14	Fannin County 10
Union County 6	Hayesville, NC 2
Union County 10	Murphy, NC 7
White County 0	Creekview 10
White County 7	Chestatee 8
White County 2	West Hall 0
White County 12	Gilmer County 2 (5)
White County 1	Flory Branch 10
Social Circle 4	Athens Christian 2
Social Circle 11	Greene County 0 (5)
Social Circle 1	Monticello 7
Social Circle 1	Lakeview Academy 8
Prince Avenue 13	Commerce 14
Prince Avenue 0/3	Monroe Area 12 (5)/4 (5)
Rabun County 1	Hart County 3
Rabun County 4	Smoky Mountain, NC 5
Rabun County 4	West Oak, SC 5
Athens Academy 4	Putnam County 2
Athens Academy 11	Greene County 0 (5)
Athens Academy 2	Calvary Day 13
Athens Academy 16	Savannah Country Day 10
Commerce 4	Oglethorpe County 2
Commerce 13	Hart County 11
Commerce 4	Banks County 7
Banks County 0	Jefferson 13
Banks County 13	Franklin County 9
Banks County 8	Elbert County 5
Athens Christian 0	Hebron Academy 7
Athens Christian 1	Jackson County 12
Athens Christian 3	Schley County 8
Athens Christian 0	Mt. Pisgah 15
Lakeview Acy 14	Mt. Pisgah 4
Jefferson 4	Madison County 3
Jefferson 10	Riverside Academy 3
Hebron Academy 7	Mt. Pisgah 2
Hebron Academy 4	Monroe Area 3
Hebron Academy 7	Berkmar 2
Hebron Academy 9	Jackson County 6
Hebron Academy 8	Franklin County 5
Lumpkin County 9	West Hall 0
Lumpkin County 1	Creekview 8
Lumpkin County 8	West Forsyth 7
Lumpkin County 20	Chestatee 12
Lumpkin County 9	Gainesville 4
Gilmer County 0	Gainesville 10
Gilmer County 4	West Hall 14 (5)
Gilmer County 9	Fannin County 12
Fannin County 4/4	Heritage 3/0
Dawson County 0/3	Stephens County 11(5)/14(6)

Purple Cats take two against the Tigers

JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

McElheny belts first collegiate HR.

The YHC Mountain Lions moved their season softball record to 11-6 this past week with 10-2 and 7-3 wins over the Lady Tigers from Hiwassee College. In the first outing, Whitney Robinson pitched the Cats to the win, pitching a 2-hitter through the first five innings. Meanwhile, the purple Cats jumped on the Tigers in the first inning with six runs and coasted to the 10-2 victory. Highlight of the game was the first collegiate HR by Amanda McElheny.

In the second game, Caitlin Duvall pitched a 1-hitter through five innings in the 7-3 win. First baseman, Britany McDade was the big stick for the Cats, going 2-2 at the plate and scoring two runs in the game.



Amanda McElheny gets her first collegiate HR of the season as the Cats took the double header against Hiwassee College. Photo by Jim and Lisa Bryant

YHC yellow ballers lose 8-1 on the road

JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

Cats fall to powerful ABAC Fillies.

It was a tough road trip to Tifton, Georgia to match up against the powerful ABAC Fillies on their home court. The Mountain Lions struggled to pull out one win in the match, that coming in the doubles matches.

Doubles Results: ABAC Lalewicz/Gamboa (W)

YHC Tannenbaum/Dixon 8-1; ABAC Scott/Robinson (W) YHC Rogers/Wheatley 8-1; YHC Richardson/Mililli (W) ABAC Myers/Pope 9-7.

Singles Results: ABAC Monika Lalewicz (W) YHC Sara Rogers 6-0, 6-0; ABAC Alejandra Gamboa (W) YHC Carrie Dixon 6-4, 7-5; ABAC Chance Scott (W) YHC Jade Ringhoffer 6-0, 6-1; ABAC Calli Robinson (W) YHC Megan Wheatley 6-2, 6-0; ABAC Marley Myers (W) YHC Victori Mililli 7-5, 4-6 (10-8); ABAC Jahyna Pope (W) YHC Morgan Tannebaum 6-3, 6-3.

Sara Rogers in action against the powerful ABAC Fillies in Tifton, GA.

Photo by Jim and Lisa Bryant



Now is the time to register your boat for the coming season

Phone, Mail or Online Registration Available!

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. (March 13, 2009) -Boating season is just around the corner and The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division would like to remind boat owners that they can register their boats in one of three ways - by phone, mail or online. Boat registrations are no longer processed or printed at the division's Social Circle office or any other walk-in location.

"Under the new system, users will have the added convenience of registering their vessel by telephone," said

Capt. Mike England of the division's License and Boat Registration Unit. Users looking to register a boat or renew or replace a current boat registration should access www.georgiawildlife.com, select "Boating" and "Boating Registration" to log into the new system. Purchases other than a renewal made online or by telephone may require individuals to mail in supporting documents to complete the transaction. Customers will be issued a temporary authorization allowing immediate use. Once a boat registration

is complete, a customer should receive their decal within seven days.

There are costs associated with the new boat registration system. A new convenience fee will be applied to all transactions, either single or multiple. Boat registrations have an \$8.00 convenience fee for Internet transactions and applications submitted by mail and \$10.00 for telephone transactions. The new hunting and fish-

ing license system also is available through the division's Web site, www.georgiawildlife.com, by phone and at various retail agents.

Boat registrations and sales of hunting and fishing licenses provide key financial support for fish and wildlife conservation. For more information on the new boat registration system, visit www.georgiawildlife.com.

