

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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Indians' rally comes up short; Cherokee Braves win 39-20

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The Cherokee Braves crossed the Georgia-North Carolina border and invaded Frank McClure Stadium to do gridiron battle with the Towns County Indians on Friday night.

The Indians won the opening coin toss and took advantage early. Running back Noah Calhoun took a sweep right 66 yards on the first play from scrimmage for the opening score giving the Indians a six point lead just 19 seconds into the game.

Down 6-0 early on, the Braves led by Senior QB Jesse Blanton and a strong running game by sophomore tailback Dorian Walkingstick started their opening series from their own 30-yard line. The Indians' defense looked strong early on as linebacker Wesley Bloodworth sacked Blanton for a loss. The Indians appeared to have the Braves opening drive stopped on fourth and short from the Indians' 25-yard line but the measurement by the chain gang didn't go their way. The fresh set of downs gave the Braves' drive new life. One play into the fresh set of downs, Walkingstick took the football into the end zone tying the score at 6-6.

After a couple of stalled offensive drives resulting in punts for each team, Blanton created problems on the other side of the ball, picking off a pass by Indians' freshman quarterback Jackson Noblet late in the first quarter. The Braves drove to the Towns 1-yard-line as the first quarter expired. Five seconds into the

second quarter, Blanton took the ball into the end zone on a quarterback sneak and gave Cherokee a 12-6 lead.

With the Indians suddenly unable to move the ball, the Braves offense maintained momentum. Cherokee took control of the clock for most of the second quarter. Blanton once again carried the ball into the end zone giving the Braves an 18-6 advantage with 2:51 remaining in the half. The two teams went to the locker room with the Braves holding a 12-point advantage.

As the teams emerged from the half, the Braves' offense took over on their own 20-yard-line after a deep Indians kickoff by Calhoun.

Following stalled drives from both offenses, Blanton took off for a 56-yard touchdown run putting the Braves up 24-6. A successful two-point conversion put Cherokee up 26-6.

On an important potential game changing drive, the Indians were unable to convert a fourth and 3 situation and left the Indians searching for answers on offense.

The Braves with a 20-point advantage continued their offensive momentum on a 27-yard reverse play for a touchdown by sophomore running back Seth Littlejohn. That pushed the envelope and made the score 33-6 Cherokee with 1:54 left in the third quarter.

The Braves maintained ground and clock control throughout the remainder of the game. They widened the scoring margin further on an 8-yard scamper by Walkingstick, giving Cherokee a 39-6 lead with 11:37 remaining.

The Indians showed re-



Quarterback Jackson Noblet attempts a pass during last week's action against the Cherokee Braves.



Noah Calhoun makes the extra point against Cherokee last week at Frank McClure Stadium.



Billy Meier and Austin Bradley make the stop on Cherokee's Dorian Walkingstick during Friday's game with the Braves.



Quarterback Jackson Noblet calls the play during the Indians match-up with Cherokee last week.

solve and fortitude when Noblet carried the ball 54 yards for an apparent touchdown. However, the officials brought the

ball back due to a penalty. The infraction was marked off from the spot of the foul and negated the apparent touchdown.

Noblet finished off the drive with a 14-yard touchdown run with 7:21 left making it a 39-13 game and giving the Indians an ounce of hope.

Late in the fourth, Noblet once again found the end zone on a 15-yard touchdown run with 1:31 left in the game closing the gap to 39-20 Cherokee.

The Indians' hopes of a comeback were dashed after an onside kick by Calhoun was recovered by the Braves.

Cherokee closed out the game as Blanton took a knee twice on consecutive plays to run out the clock and secure the victory for the 2-1 Braves.

Tribe Tidbits: Calhoun finished the contest with the first 100-yard rushing game of his high school career. The 66-year scoring jaunt on the opening handoff of the game was his first career touchdown.

Noblet leads the Indians in rushing and in scoring touchdowns; Zach Stroud made several big offensive plays in the effort against Cherokee.

Defensively, Taylor Denton, Alan Turpin, Austin Bradley and Brandon Henderson earned high praise from Head Coach Kyle Langford.

From an injury standpoint, middle linebacker Joseph Foster suffered a mild concussion and center Luke Parker suffered a knee sprain that could keep him out for a while.

"We're going to have to find somebody to play middle linebacker on Friday night and freshman Dustin Brackett is getting plugged into the offensive line," Coach Langford said. Dustin did a heck of a job filling in for Luke on Friday night.

Indians ready to go Cougar hunting in Tennessee

By James Reese
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The Towns County Indians football team has revenge on their minds as they travel to Copper Hill, Tenn. for the first road game of the 2010 season.

The Indians ran out of clock in 2009 as they lost a tough one to the Copper Basin Cougars. The Indians missed their chance to upend the Cougars, missing a field goal and having an extra point attempt blocked.

"We're really excited about having the chance to finish some business with them on Friday night," Indians' Head Football Coach Kyle Langford said. "I thought we really played well last year, they made one more play than we did."

"I think it's going to be a really exciting game on Friday night," he said. "It's a game we're looking forward to."

The Cougars are 3-0 this season, have scored 133 points and have yet to let an opponent enter the end zone.

With a running game that appears to be getting on track, the Indians' offense hopes to change the Cougars' gridiron fortunes on Friday night.



Indians Dylon Nelson returns to action on Friday against Copper Basin.

"They're a playoff team from last year in Tennessee," Coach Langford said. "They're probably going to go back to the playoffs again this year. They've got all their starters back from a year ago."

"Any time you get to play a playoff team, from our vantage point, that's something we ought to get excited about. They might have the greatest defense in Tennessee football right now, but we're going to go out there and try to score some points on them Friday night."

Offensively, the Indians are led by freshman quarterback Jackson Noblet, junior running

back Noah Calhoun and junior wide receiver Zach Stroud. The Indians' offensive line gets senior Dylon Nelson back this week and will be missing sophomore center Luke Parker. Freshman Dustin Brackett will get the nod to fill in for Parker during his absence.

Defensively, Coach Langford is singing the praises of his defensive front, Austin Bradley, Taylor Denton and Brandon Henderson.

"If we can get the guys behind them making some plays, we'll be all right," he said.

Photos by James Reese & Lowell Nicholson

Towns County Termites run past Dawson County 26-7

By James Reese
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The Towns County Indians 5-6 year-old Youth Football team made it two in a row on Saturday against the Dawson County Tigers.

The Termites defeated the Tigers 26-7.

Kyle Oakes led the Termites' fierce running attack. The youngster raced for 302 yards on six carries and scored four touchdowns.

Colin Crowder carried the ball three times for 30 yards and had a two-point conversion for his day's work effort.

Oakes also was a force on defense, leading the Termites with 11 tackles. Logan Daniel finished the game with seven tackles. Eli Mills added five tackles while Colin Crowder and Rebekah Chambers added four each.

The Termites are at home on Saturday at Towns County High School. Play begins at 9 a.m. Come on out and support the undefeated Termites.

And don't forget, on Sept. 14, Zaxby's Project Blue will donate a portion of its day's proceeds to benefit Towns County Youth Football. Meet the 88 youngsters and their parents from 5:30 p.m. to closing on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at Zaxby's off Highway 76 in Hiwassee.

"We hope the community will come out and support these kids," Towns County Youth Coordinator Jimmy Smith said. "I might add, please come out and support these kids. They're playing their hearts out every time they take the field."

Photos by James Reese & Lowell Nicholson



The Indians Youth Football program is off to the races in the early going this season.



Towns County Youth Football is alive and well in Hiwassee.

Middle School Indians 28-0 against Lakeview

The Towns County Middle School Indians gridiron team took it to the Lakeview Lions on Thursday in Hiwassee.

The Lions took it on the chin as the Indians played hard-mosed football. The final score was 28-0.

The Indians looked impressive from the opening kickoff. An aggressive defense and an overpowering offensive attack overwhelmed the Lions on both sides of the ball.

It was evident early on that the Indians were in control of the football, with the defense forcing turnovers and the offense capitalizing on those miscues.

"The defense played hard and all our kids played hard the entire game," Coach Brett Keller said. "We got to play our young kids too and the effort didn't miss a beat when they entered the ball game."

"It was a big win for us," Keller said. "Our eighth grade quarterback back did a great job for us and our sixth grade quarterback came in and did a great job as well."

Coach Keller said the Indians get better and better each week.

"We ran the ball hard," he said. "I can't say enough about the offensive line. We're going to get better the more we play together. We did a great job running off tackle and the quarterbacks did a great job."

"We've still got room to improve. We missed some tackles here and there," he said. "We're going to try and get better each week."



The Indians double-teamed the Lakeview quarterback all day long in the 28-0 win last week.



The Middle School Indians used a potent ground attack to dismantle Lakeview Academy last week in Hiwassee.

The Indians return to action at 5 p.m. on Thursday at Frank McClure Stadium. They

take on Horizon Christian. Photos by James Reese & Lowell Nicholson

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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
Each Player of the Week will receive a FREE Pizza from Big Al's Pizza of Hiwassee!

Jackson Noblet Offensive #8	Noah Calhoun Offensive #3	Taylor Denton Defensive #25	Alan Turpin Defensive #10