

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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## Victory is sweet as Indians claim first win of 2010

By James Reese  
Towns County Herald  
tcherald@windstream.net

The suddenly well traveled Towns County Indians took their road show to historic Kennesaw on Friday to face the 2-3 Eagles of North Cobb Christian. They returned home grinning from ear-to-ear.

A 48-18 win does wonders for your confidence. The Indians claimed the first win of the 2010 season in exciting fashion, coming from behind, then scoring often and unmercifully, upending the Eagles on their home turf.

Without benefit of football lights at the Eagles stadium, the unusual daytime kickoff took on the feel of a collegiate-type atmosphere. However, things were uncertain early on for the Indians and all the game momentum was seemingly swinging the Eagles' way.

The Indians took the opening kickoff and appeared to want to run early and often. Their first drive was met with a quick Eagles defensive stand, forcing a Towns County three-and-out.

The Eagles couldn't capitalize on the short Indian possession and were unable to manufacture a sustainable drive on their opening possession.

Then midway through the first quarter, the Eagles defense forced an Indian fumble deep within Towns County territory - at the Indian 24-yard line.

Indians' senior defensive back Alan Turpin almost swiped an errant Eagle pass but was unable to secure the football. On the next play Eagles' junior quarterback Christian Hunt connected with his receiver on a tipped pass for a 24-yard touchdown giving the

Eagles a 6-0 lead which held up throughout the opening quarter.

The Eagles offense maintained possession of the ball and momentum early into the second quarter. That is until senior linebacker Billy Meier recovered an Eagle fumble on the Towns County 35-yard line.

Indians' Head Coach Kyle Langford continued with the ground attack using junior running back Noah Calhoun up the middle and junior scatback Zach Stroud around the edges. Capping off the drive would be freshman quarterback Jackson Noblet, taking it in from 5 yards out and tying the score at 6-6 with 8:29 remaining in the half.

The Eagles started their next drive at their own 19-yard line. Quarterback Hunt quickly found senior wide out Corey Harris and connected for an 81-yard scoring strike to take back the lead 12-6 in the Eagles' favor.

Meanwhile, the Indians soon found a soft spot in the Eagles defense.

On their next possession, the Indians showed promise of offensive life following an excellent kickoff return by senior Taylor Denton, who ran the ball back to the Towns County 40-yard line.

The Indians' offense then began a grinding assault on the Eagles defense. They drove the ball to the North Cobb 3-yard line before finding themselves faced with a crucial fourth-and-goal. The Eagles defense stood strong and stopped the Indians cold.

North Cobb took over the ball and seemingly the game when at the snap of a finger the momentum shifted back to Towns County. That's because an Eagle offensive

lineman was flagged for holding in the end zone, resulting in a safety and 2 points for the Indians. That made the score 12-8 North Cobb with 1:54 remaining in the half.

Meier took the ensuing Eagles' free kick 60 yards to the house to put the Indians on top 14-12 following a Calhoun extra point. The run electrified the Towns County crowd and sidelines in the process.

The momentum swing also spilled over to the defensive side of the ball as the Indians forced the Eagles into a fourth-and-14 situation from their own 23-yard line.

Following an Eagle punt, Noblet and company took possession of the football at the



Noah Calhoun heads North on a long gainer for the Indians during their Friday win over North Cobb



Alan Turpin hauls in a touchdown pass during the Indians' 48-18 victory over North Cobb



The Indians defense stacks up North Cobb quarterback Hunt deep in Eagle territory

Eagles' 41-yard line with just over 1 minute left in the half. Smelling blood in the water, Noblet went up top to junior wide out Devin Henderson for 37 yards to the Eagles' 4-yard line with 40 seconds left in the half.

On the next play, Noblet plunged in for the score, but the play was nullified because of a holding penalty on the Indians. That pushed the ball back to the Eagles' 13-yard line.

Almost immediately, the Indians were flagged again, this time for illegal procedure. With the Indians moving backward and the clock winding down, Noblet once again found Devin Henderson, this time for the touchdown with just 8 seconds left in the first half. The Indians took a 20-12 halftime lead and the game's momentum into the locker room.

As the second half began, the Eagles found themselves facing a fierce and fired up Indians' defense. Turpin led the charge, stealing any momentum the Eagles might have had, by swiping three Hunt

passes in the second half.

As the Eagle offense sputtered, Noblet led his Indians downfield, converting a fourth-and-goal from the 1-yard line for a touchdown, putting the Indians up to stay, 27-12.

Later, Turpin, showing versatility, pulled a Noblet pass in from 19 yards out for yet another Indian touchdown. The touchdown haul widen the Towns County scoring margin to 34-12 with less than 1 minute remaining in the third quarter.

Early in the fourth quarter, Turpin swiped another Hunt pass, giving the ball back to the Indians offense. The pick led to another Noblet touchdown run, scoring from 35 yards out and the Indians' lead began to swell, 41-12.

On the ensuing Eagles' possession, QB Hunt was once again picked off by Turpin. With the game well in hand, Coach Langford gave the second string a chance to shine and freshman Dakota Barrett delivered with a 35-yard touch-



Devin Henderson hauls in a touchdown pass from Jackson Noblet as the Indians began to romp past the Eagles on Friday

down run with slightly more than 7 minutes remaining. The Indians were in cruise control with a 48-12 lead.

The Eagles only bright spot in the second half followed one of Turpin's three interceptions. The Indians were unable to convert points off the turnover and were forced to punt. Harris, who hauled in an 81-yard touchdown pass ear-

lier, took the punt and ran it all the way back for a touchdown. It brought the scoring to a close for the evening with the Indians joyfully on top 48-18 and en route to Hiawassee.

The Tribe is off this week and returns to action at Frank McClure Stadium on Oct. 15 for Homecoming against River Ridge.

Photos by Lowell Nicholson and James Reese.



Zach Stroud picks up significant yardage on a sweep during Friday's action against North Cobb

## Towns County Termites split a pair in Cartecay

By James Reese  
Towns County Herald  
tcherald@windstream.net

The steamroller called the Towns County Termites rolled on to their fifth victory of the season on Saturday as they upended the Gilmer County Bobcats 40-0.

Quarterback Kyle Oakes notched his 12th touchdown of the season and racked up 200-plus yards again on the ground as the Termites had little to no trouble with the Bobcats.

Oakes struck pay dirt near the 4-minute mark in the first quarter on a 27-yard touchdown run as the Termites broke out on top 6-0.

Later in the quarter, it was Oakes again bursting through the Bobcat defense on a 45-yard touchdown scamper to put the Termites up 13-0.

It wasn't long before Oakes inflicted more damage on the Bobcats, taking off on a 47-yard scoring run to put the Termites on top 20-0.

Later, Oakes took to the air, connecting with Colin Crowder on a 37-yard scoring strike to put the Termites on the scoreboard again. However, a mercy rule was enforced to nullify the scoring pass. Apparently, you can't go to

the end zone through the air if your opponent is down by 15 or more points.

No problem for Towns County as Crowder took to the ground and scored on a 24-yard run to give the Termites a 27-0 lead with slightly more than a minute remaining in the first half.

Crowder, who rushed for 125 yards on the day, struck pay dirt early in the second half to put the Termites up 33-0. Eli Mills added another scoring run later in the game to give the Termites the 40-0 edge over the Bobcats.

Oakes led the Termites with 11 tackles, followed by Crowder with nine tackles.

The win puts the Termites season record at 5-0.

Prior to the Termites win, the Indians' 7-8 year olds squared off with the Bobcats in a game that was decided in overtime.

Peyton Ivester led the Indians' offensive charge scoring his 12th touchdown of the season. The score came after a touchdown run by Brandon Jenkins of the Bobcats that gave Gilmer an early 7-0 lead.

Trailing by seven points late in the game, Ivester was up to the task of bringing the

Indians back, taking the ball 70 yards to pay dirt with 40 seconds left in the game, knotting the score at 13-13. The touchdown pushed the game into a fifth quarter.

The Bobcats successfully scored on their first possession as Jenkins did the honors and converted the extra point, making the score 20-13.

Suddenly the burden and pressure was upon the young Indians to match the Bobcats' feat. Ivester came through on a second-and-goal from the 3-yard line, striking pay dirt. Unfortunately, the extra point attempt failed and the Indians dropped the game 20-19.

Towns County Youth Football Coordinator Jimmy Smith said this year's youth football program has given him a new sense of "pride and appreciation for all of the players, coaches and parents for all of their efforts and accomplishments throughout the league."

"I learn something new every day I'm around these kids," he said. "It's supposed to be the other way around, but these kids will teach you a lesson in life."

Photos by James Reese.



Peyton Ivester scores the first of his three touchdowns Saturday against the Gilmer County Bobcats 7-8 year-old team



Kyle Oakes lofts a 37-yard touchdown pass to Colin Crowder in Saturday action against Gilmer County



Peyton Ivester was a load to bring down for the Gilmer County Bobcats 7-8 year-old team on Saturday



Kyle Oakes takes another one to the house in the Saturday beating of Gilmer County 40-0