

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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Indians get second win of season at Tallulah, fall to Lakeview and Dawson

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In a game marked by stunningly differing halves, the Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team rallied big time the last half in claiming their second win of the season last Tuesday at Tallulah Falls. The going got tougher over the weekend in home games against Lakeview Academy on Friday and Class AA Dawson County on Saturday as they fell to their strong opponents, although with strikingly greater success against Dawson than in their first meeting in Dawsonville last month. The week's work left the Indians with an overall 2-7 record, including 1-1 in Region 8A as the Tallulah Falls and Lakeview Academy games were their first region games of the season.

INDIANS AT TALLULAH FALLS

It would be difficult to sugar coat the Indians' first half of play at Tallulah Falls as shot after shot wouldn't fall in the basket and they trailed 16-10 at halftime after leading for most of the first quarter, including by an 8-6 margin at quarter's end. They took 2-0 and 4-2 leads on their only field goals of the first half, courtesy of steals and layups by seniors Dakota Barrett and Rylan Albach, and then took an 8-4 lead on two free throws each by Grant Arencibia and Albach in the final minute of the first quarter with the score being 8-6 at quarter's end.

The second quarter became quite difficult for the Indians, to say the least, although they did get another lead of 10-8 on two free throws by Brett Barrett with 4:11 left in the second quarter but that was it for the half for the Indians with Tallulah finishing on an 8-0 run for the aforementioned 16-10 lead at intermission.

The Indians came alive in the third quarter, however, scoring the first seventeen points and outscoring the home standing Indians 24-2 in the stanza for a 34-18 lead with highlights being out and out thievery by the Barrett duo of Dakota and Brett. Each turned two steals into field goals with Dakota adding a free throw when fouled after one of his thefts and Dakota also added a third field goal for a seven point quarter.

In fact, the Indians got a 16-16 tie on the first steal by Brett and an 18-16 lead they would not relinquish on the first by Dakota. Other highlights in the quarter included five point production by Brandon Henderson and four points by Albach who also turned a steal into two points when backboard interference was called.

Two treys by Arencibia for six points highlighted fourth quarter action as the Indians built a 44-21 lead before Tallulah ended the game on a 6-0 run for a final margin of victory of 44-27 for the visiting Indians from Towns County.

The Indians had excellent balance in the scoring department for the game with Dakota Barrett leading with 9 points and followed by Albach and Arencibia with 8 each, Brett Barrett with 6, and Henderson with 5 while Dallas Manus led in assists with 2.

INDIANS VERSUS LAKEVIEW ACADEMY

The Indians faced a difficult task on Friday against Lakeview Academy as they were without a sick Brandon Henderson and the Lions' in your face defensive style forced numerous turnovers the first



Grant Arencibia fires a jumper against Lakeview. Photo by James Reese.



Aaron Dodson puts up a deuce against Lakeview. Photo by James Reese.



Coach Hamilton goes over the game plan against Lakeview. Photo by James Reese.



Dallas Manus fires a jumper against Lakeview. Photo by James Reese.

INDIANS VERSUS DAWSON COUNTY

After taking it on the chin by a 64-22 score last month in Dawsonville, the Indians proved to provide much stronger resistance to the strong Class AA Tigers last Saturday night in Hiwassee although playing without their big senior, Brandon Henderson, who remained on the sick list. The Indians took early 3-2 and 5-4 leads on a trey by Dakota Barrett and a put back basket by Rylan Albach and battled the Tigers nearly point for point for most of the first quarter behind six additional points by Albach. Dawson led by just 10-9 prior to sinking a field goal at the two and a half minute mark and just 14-11 until a last minute Tiger field goal set the first quarter score at 16-11.

The Tigers dominated the second quarter for a 35-16 lead at intermission but, although the Tigers continued to control the game during the third and fourth quarters, the Indians provided a few bright spots, including two treys for six points by Dallas Manus and a trey and deuce by Ryan Tallent for five in the third quarter, and a deuce and four for six free throw shooting by Albach in the fourth.

Albach led the scoring for the Indians with 17 points with other leaders being Manus with 8 and Tallent with 7. Dakota Barrett led in assists with 2.

After traveling to Gainesville for a Region 8A contest with Riverside Military Academy on Tuesday of this week, the Indians complete the 2011 portion of this year's regular season schedule at Union County on Friday. The eighteenth annual Battle of the States Tournament will then follow on December 27 through the 29 in the Towns County Gym. Tournament details will be provided in next

Indian JV's first get victory over Lakeview, play well in loss to Dawson County

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After taking a bus ride across the mountains to face Tallulah Falls on Tuesday of last week only to learn that the game had been canceled without notification to Towns County officials, the Towns county Indian JV's returned to the friendly confines of their home gym on Friday and came away with their first victory of the season. It was not just a win but a resounding victory as the Indians trailed at each quarter break but held leads within each quarter and, of great importance, at the end in taking a 55-45 triumph over Lakeview Academy.

In order to be eligible for four quarters in the varsity game, Brett Barrett saw action in just the first quarter and made the most of it by scoring five points while Jordan Jacobs added four as the Indians led by as much as 6-2 but trailed 14-11 at quarter's end as the result of a late three point play by the Lions.

A deuce and trey by Grant Arencibia at the start of the second quarter had the Indians ahead 16-14 and a field goal by Austin Wood gave them an 18-16 lead but the Lions led at intermission 26-24 despite a second deuce by Arencibia and a late put back basket by Boone Moss.

Back to back baskets by Jacobs the first forty seconds of the third quarter had the Indians back ahead 28-26 and Cruz Shook took the ball coast to coast for two and nailed a trey for a 33-28 Towns lead by the mid point of the third quarter. One again the Lions pulled ahead by as much as 39-34 before a Shook free throw and long deuce by Adam Plott had the Indians knocking on the door at 39-37 entering the fourth quarter.

A Boone Moss basket at the 5:10 mark gave the Indians a 40-39 lead they would hold by as much as 43-39 on a steal and two free throws by Arencibia at 3:43 but a pair of treys wrapped around a steal and two points by Shook got the Lions a 45-45 tie at 2:05. Arencibia answered that challenge just ten seconds later, however, by nailing a trey of his own for a 48-45 lead and the Lions would not score again. A spar-



Brett Barrett fires a shot against Lakeview. Photo by James Reese.

ling pass play from Shook to Aaron Dodson, two free throws by Shook, and a field goal and free throw by Wood in the final 1:03 of the game accounted for the final seven Indian points as they pulled away for a 55-45 victory.

Scoring leaders for the Indians were Shook with 15 points, Arencibia with 12 in just two quarters of play, Jacobs with 8, Wood with 6, and Barrett with 5 in just one quarter of play. Shook and Trace Moss led the way in assists with 5 and 4 respectively. Sophomore Garrett Brashaw has been sidelined for awhile with an ankle sprain.

Your reporter missed all except the final 2:02 of the Indians' game with Dawson County to attend the graduation of son Kevin at North Georgia College and State University on Saturday so few specific details and no assists can be provided with the resulting simplicity maybe considered a good thing by some readers. Although coming short of victory by a 52-48 score against the Class AA Tigers, the Indians showed vast improvement in comparison with a 58-35 loss in Dawsonville last month.

The Indians trailed Dawson County 7-4 after one quarter but the scoring pace picked up considerably in the second as the Tigers extended their three point lead to six by a 25-19 score at intermission. Adam

Plott with 7 points and Grant Arencibia with six led the way for the Indians in second quarter action.

The third quarter saw the Tigers seemingly break the game open, leading by a 39-23 score entering the fourth quarter but here came the Indians behind the scoring punch of Cruz Shook and Arencibia. The Indians rallied to within four points on three occasions in the final two minutes of the game with the first two occasions courtesy of Shook on a trey to within 47-43 and then to within 49-45 on two free throws with actually missed opportunities to get closer.

After the Tigers got the lead back to 52-45, Trace Moss added a trey for just a 52-48 score with Dawson missing two free throws and the Indians with a chance to make it a one point game. A trey attempt from near mid court by Arencibia just missed the mark as time expired but after a promising performance for the Indians, Shook scored twelve points and Arencibia ten in the fourth quarter with each including a pair of treys and perfect free throw shooting with Shook going four for four and Arencibia two for two.

Leading the scoring for the game were Arencibia with 16 points in just two quarters, Shook with 14, and Plott with 9.

TCMS Lady Indians split with Warriors, Wildcats



Madison Stroud goes to the line against Rabun. Photo by James Reese.

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The Towns County Lady Indians went down to the wire on Monday with a 1-point win over White County and lost a heart-felt game with Rabun County on Thursday.

Against the Lady Warriors, Madison Landress put up a successful 3-point shot down the stretch to lead the Lady Indians to a 42-41 win.

Savannah Dyer led the Lady Indians with 13 points and Brooke Smith added 8 more in the win at home against White County. Abby Watson led the Lady Warriors with 15 points.

On Thursday, the Lady Indians ran into a red-hot Wildcat squad out of Rabun County.

The Lady Wildcats came out of the gate on fire, jumping out in front 12-6 at the end of one quarter of play. By the half, Rabun was up 22-8.

A 12-7 third quarter run by Rabun lifted their lead to 34-15 at the end of the third quarter of play.



The Cheerleaders cheer on the Lady Indians. Photo by James Reese.



Jocelyn Byers puts up a deuce against Rabun. Photo by James Reese.

In the fourth quarter, the Lady Indians went on a 13-6 run, but it wasn't enough to overcome the Rabun County double-digit lead.

Brooke Smith led the Lady Indians with 10 points, Jocelyn Byers followed with 8 points and Savannah Dyer tossed in 7 points.

Rabun County's Alyson Nix led all scorers with 14

points. The Towns County Middle School boys' team didn't fare so well. They lost a hard-fought battle against White County and suffered a 49-point defeat at the hands of the Wildcats.

The Towns County Middle School teams will resume play at 10 a.m. on Saturday against the Lakeview Lions Middle School teams in Gainesville.

Upward Indoor Soccer evaluations

Registration for Upward Indoor Soccer is now open through December 16th for boys and girls in grades Kindergarten through 6th Grade at www.hopb.org or at www.fumcunioncounty.org. If you register before December 16th, the price to participate will be \$50.

Evaluations will be held on Tuesday and Thursday, December 6th and 8th, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the House of Prayer Church Family Life Center. Registrants are encouraged to

come any time during those hours. Practices will begin the week of January 9th, and games will be on Saturdays beginning on January 28th and running thru March 3rd.

For more information, contact either House of Prayer Church office at (706) 745-5925 or First United Methodist Church office at (706) 745-2073. Form and registration fees may also be dropped off, Monday through Friday, at First United Methodist's business office

weekdays 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., or the House of Prayer Family Life Center 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

About Upward Sports: the world's largest Christian sports league for children, provides a fun kids sports experience based on healthy competition. Last year, more than 550,000 K5 through sixth-grade kids had a great basketball, soccer, flag football or cheerleading experience through one of our 2,400 leagues or camps.