

Towns County Sports

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Kolby Moss passes Zach Davenport's career basketball scoring total

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Towns County High School senior basketball player Kolby Moss reached a most noteworthy milestone last Monday at Copper Basin, Tennessee, High School when he sank a two-point basket at the 6:17 mark of the third quarter in reaching 1,543 career points for the Indians basketball team.

With this basket, he passed the previous verifiable career scoring total for a Towns County Indian held by his former TCHS teammate Zach Davenport. Davenport and Moss were teammates on the Indians 2018 team, with Davenport being a senior and Moss a freshman, and they are also related through common Moss ancestry with Moss' grandfather Kenneth Moss and Davenport's great grandfather Willis Moss having been first cousins. Of course, long time TCHS sports followers are well aware of the excellence brought to the school by many members of the Moss family.

It had been 43 years

since Eddie Rushton had established and held the verifiable at that time high points total of 1,366 reached during the 1975 TCHS season, but just three years for Davenport to hold the high points total of 1,542 before having it surpassed by Moss who completed a spectacular week with 107 points in four games. The week's work extended Moss' career scoring total to 1,640, which is arrived at by adding 209 points scored as a freshman, 509 as a sophomore, 625 as a junior, and 297 scored to this point during this 2021 season.

The word verifiable is used here due to the recognition that prolific scoring by 6'4" Bob Bryson in four years through the 1956 TCHS season without full verification of his point totals leaves it uncertain if Moss' total exceeds Bryson's total at this point. The scorebook for Bryson's sophomore year and a few games at the end of his junior season are not available, with his verifiable total being 1,181 arrived at by 199 points scored as a freshman, more than 527 as a

junior, and 455 as a senior. If he scored, for example, a certainly within reason 500 points as a sophomore and in the few games missing as a junior, he would have 1,681 and still be slightly ahead of Moss' current total.

Whatever Bryson's totals may have been, however, the accomplishments of Kolby Moss to this point, including amazing overall basketball talent, deserve the highest praise when considering the wealth of talented high school basketball players at Towns County High School and the preceding Hiwassee Academy in close to 100 years of activity back to 1922, whether currently holding the top scoring spot or perhaps a close second at this point to Bob Bryson.

In mentioning the family connections of Kolby Moss and Zach Davenport above, it occurs to your reporter that it may be of interest to mention that the other two leading career scorers at TCHS mentioned above were also related to each other. Eddie Rushton's mother, June Bryson Rushton, and Bob



Kolby Moss broke the TCHS Indians basketball verified scoring record after making his 1,543th point in the third quarter of the Jan. 18 game in Copper Basin, Tennessee. Pictured here with his family on Senior Night Jan. 16.

Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Bryson were first cousins.

Sincere congratulations are extended from this reporter and the Towns County Herald

to Kolby Moss for reaching this milestone and an amazing career at Towns County High School, and best wishes are

extended to him for future endeavors in basketball and especially in life.

Indians...from Page 4A

Independent School Association Class A private school rankings.

The visiting Lions appeared to be taking control of the game when they sprang out to a 15-6 lead just past the midpoint of the first quarter. But here came the Indians who struck for an 11-2 run ending on back-to-back baskets by junior Collin Crowder for a 17-17 standoff at the 57 seconds mark, but with the Lions leading 19-17 on a putback basket at the buzzer. Senior Kolby Moss and Crowder led the first quarter action for the Indians with seven and six points respectively.

The first six minutes of the second quarter would be a real battle between the two teams, with the Indians leading for much of the period but by no more than four points and with four ties and the second lead change of the quarter for a 35-33 Anderson lead at the 2:08 mark. However, the Indians struck for an 8-0 quarter ending run on two baskets each by Crowder and fellow junior Kyle Oakes for a 41-35 Towns lead at intermission.

It appeared that there was a lid on the basket for the Indians for the first six minutes of the third quarter, with several shots finding a way to either spin out of or roll off the rim, and the Lions took advantage in using a 16-5 scoring run for a 51-46 lead. But an old fashioned three-point play by senior Hayden McClure at the 1:57 mark got the Indians off on an 8-3 finish for a 54-54 tie entering the fourth quarter with a deuce and then a trey at the buzzer by Moss completing the run.

Moss matched a Lion basket for a 56-56 tie at the 6:31 mark of the fourth quarter, but a period of cold shooting by the Indians brought about a 12-1 scoring run on an old-fashioned three-point play and three treys between the 6:06 and 3:37 marks, with the game appearing to be out of reach of the Indians by a 68-57 score at this point.

But much drama was yet to be seen. Baskets by Moss, Crowder and senior Aidan Berrong had the Indians within 70-63 at the 1:32 mark before two free throws by the Lions had them ahead 72-63 with just 1:09 on the clock. But the final 58 seconds of the game were quite remarkable.

A basket by senior Kabe Ellis at that point and 11 points in the final 49 seconds by Moss on four deuces and a trey gave the Indians a 13-5 scoring run, interrupted by five for eight free throw shooting by the Lions, and had them within 77-76 with seven seconds left. And McClure intercepted a pass and sank a trey which would have given the Indians a two-point win but came just an instant too late, by most likely no more than a second, after 32 minutes of playing time with Anderson Christian escaping with a 77-76 victory.

Moss led the Indians in scoring with 34 points, with other leaders being Crowder with 16, Berrong with 10, Ellis with 9, junior Kyle Oakes with 4 and McClure

with 3, while leaders in assists were Ellis with 7, Oakes with 6, Moss with 4 and Crowder and McClure with 2 each. Crowder took the lead in rebounds with 7 and was followed by Moss with 5, and senior Colton Day, Ellis and Oakes with 2 each, while Berrong, Ellis and Oakes took the lead in steals with 2 each.

Scoring leaders for Anderson Christian were seniors Bray Greer with 21 points, Zavier Thornton with 15, and Hudson Brown and Mark Jackson with 11 each. The Lions completed the week with an 11-4 record, including 6-0 and in first place in their region.

Indians 84, Greene County 63 - An early trey by senior Aidan Berrong and a deuce by junior Collin Crowder had the Indians ahead of the visiting Greene County Tigers by a 5-2 score at the 6:27 mark of the first quarter, and a deuce by senior Kolby Moss got the Indians a 7-6 lead at the 4:38 mark in eliminating the Tigers' only lead.

From that point forward, the Indians pretty much maintained control of the game with positive responses to a few brief first half Tiger challenges in leading 18-12, 38-27 and 64-44 at the quarter breaks in taking a comfortable 84-63 victory. Moss used five deuces in providing 10 points and Berrong added a second trey for six points in first quarter action.

After a basket by Crowder and two free throws by Berrong got the Indians a 22-12 lead early in the second quarter, the Tigers edged to within 22-19, with Moss responding with a deuce and an old-fashioned three-point play for a 27-21 lead. And the Indians used balanced scoring for an 11-4 run the final 3:17 of the quarter for a 38-27 lead at intermission on deuces by senior Colton Day, Crowder and Berrong, two free throws by Moss, and a trey by senior Kabe Ellis.

Top last half scoring totals by quarter included Crowder with 10 points, Moss with seven and Ellis with five in the third, and Ellis with eight and Berrong with six in the fourth.

Scoring leaders for the game were Moss with 25 points, the trio of Berrong, Crowder and Ellis with 16 each, and Day with 7, while assist leaders were Ellis with 9, Crowder with 5, Moss with 3, and Berrong and junior Kyle Oakes with 2 each. Leading in rebounds were Crowder with 10, Moss with 9, Oakes with 6, and Day and Ellis with 3 each, while Crowder and Day led in steals with 2 each, and Ellis and senior Hayden McClure each blocked 1 shot.

Lead scorers for the Tigers were junior DJ Walker with 14 points, seniors Jaquavious Peck and Kameron Wright with 11 each, and junior Evan Andrews with 10. Greene County is having a pretty challenging season so far with just a 3-6 overall record and 1-4 in Region 8A Public.

Indians 87, Lincoln County 71 - The Indians sprang out to a 7-3 lead over

Lincoln County by the 5:49 mark of the first quarter on two pointers by junior Jake McTaggart and senior Kolby Moss and a trey by senior Kabe Ellis before going on a massive scoring run extending into the early seconds of the fourth quarter.

The Indians would lead 21-15, 42-27 and 69-42 at the quarter breaks and add a deuce by junior Collin Crowder for their biggest lead of 71-42 just 12 seconds into the fourth quarter before the Red Devils closed the gap with a potent fourth quarter of their own for a final Indians margin of victory of 87-71.

Ellis got the Indians a 10-8 lead they would not relinquish on his second of three treys and nine points in the quarter combined with a trey and two deuces for seven points by Moss highlighting first quarter play for the Indians. Ellis and Moss continued their fine work in the second quarter, as each scored seven points, with Ellis including a trey and Moss and old-fashioned three-point play.

Moss then included a trey and a second three-point play in accumulating 14 points in the third quarter, with junior Jake McTaggart scoring six on three deuces. A highlight of the quarter was a 14-0 Indians scoring run triggered by a deuce and trey in just 20 seconds of play at the 2:33 and 2:13 marks by senior Hayden McClure.

After junior Collin Crowder got the aforementioned 71-42 lead on a deuce at the start of the fourth quarter with the first of two deuces in the quarter, the Devils finished the quarter on a 29-16 scoring run, despite six points by McTaggart, in setting the final score at 87-71.

Moss led the scoring parade for the Indians with 32 points, with other leaders being Ellis with 20 points, McTaggart with 17, Crowder with 8, McClure with 5 and senior Colton Day with 4. Leaders in assists were Ellis with 6, Crowder with 5 and Moss with 3, while leaders in rebounds were Moss with 10, McTaggart with 9 and Crowder with 6. Ellis and Moss took the lead in steals with 3 each, and McTaggart led in blocked shots with 3. The Indians played this game without the services of senior starter Aidan Berrong, who was recovering from a stomach bug encountered during the day.

Lincoln County was led in scoring by senior Caleb Willis with 30 points, sophomore Frankquon Sherman with 19 and senior Malcolm Wynn with 13. The Red Devils completed the week with a 3-5 overall record and 2-1 in region play after having lost several productive seniors from last year's very successful state tournament team which compiled an 18-8 record. It is noteworthy that three of their losses this year have been by a 66-61 score to Class 3A Thomson with a 4-2 record, 68-61 to Class 3A Greater Atlanta Christian with a 10-8 record, and 52-50 to Class 2A Banks County with a 14-7 record and a 63-62 loss to the Indians being one of three losses by one point by Banks County.

Lady Indians...from Page 4A

six for 14 free throw shooting by the Lady Jackets, in reducing the final margin in a 62-56 Rockmart victory as the Lady Indians ran out of time to continue their rally. Highlighting the final scoring run for the Lady Indians during the final 1:05 of the game were two treys and two free throws by Henson for eight points and a trey and a deuce for five by Floyd.

Scoring leaders for the Lady Indians for this game were Henson with 22 points, Floyd with 20, Barnes with 6, and Young with 5, while leaders in assists were Floyd and Henson with 4 each and senior Abby Mauldin, Shook and senior Macie Walls with 2 each. Leaders in rebounds were Henson with 10, Floyd with 8, Shook with 5 and Mauldin with 4, while Henson led in steals with 4.

Leading scorers for Rockmart were seniors Keyarah Berry with 26 points, with 19 coming in the final quarter, and Megan Little with 19. Berry's point total was eight below her 34.1 points per game scoring average, but Little's total was eight above her 11.0 average entering this game. This was a unique game, as there were nine more baskets by the two teams from three points range than from two points range, with the Lady Indians leading in treys with 12 compared to 11 by Rockmart, but the Lady Jackets leading in deuces eight to six and going 13 for 27 at the foul line compared to eight for 11 by the Lady Indians.

Rockmart is a team, then in Class 2A, which lost by just a 54-52 score on a last second shot to Southwest of Macon in the state semi-finals last year

with Berry scoring 26 points and Little 14 in that game, and with just eight Rockmart points in that game lost to graduation. According to the Rockmart coach, Berry has scored nearly 3,000 career points with this appearing to be most feasible with available MaxPreps stats showing her as scoring 962 last year and 580 this year entering the game with the Lady Indians with 26 to be added and with quite a number of games left to play. She is expected to sign to play basketball with a major Division I school.

The Lady Jackets are ranked 11th in the state by MaxPreps in Class 3A at this writing but perhaps will move into the top ten as they have improved their record to 12-6 from 10-6 when the last rankings were released.

Winter boating information from Coast Guard Auxiliary

Our area lakes are so beautiful, even in the winter, and on a sunny, warm day it is tempting to get in your boat, canoe, kayak, sailboat, etc. and enjoy the sun and fresh air. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 23 members in the Northeast Georgia area have some important questions you need to know the answers to when the water is still cold. Of course, a life jacket is the best thing to wear because it increases your chances of survival in any circumstances.

If you fall into cold water will the weight of your clothes and shoes pull you down and cause you to drown? No, wet clothes and shoes only weigh you down when you're getting out of the water. Layers of clothes and shoes will help you retain body heat and possibly trap air to help you float so keep them on in the water. They can delay the cold-water immersion process that can lead to death.

Is Hypothermia what kills most people who fall into cold water? No, most people drown in the first minute of cold-water immersion due to cold shock and their involuntary gasp reflex. Heavy breathing from trying to catch your breath in cold water causes hyperventilation which can cause you to blackout and drown. You must stay calm, relax, and control your breathing in order to survive this first stage of cold-water immersion called cold shock. Hypothermia is the third stage of cold-water immersion.

People who know how to swim don't drown, even in cold water, do they? Yes, cold water disables even good swimmers and the second stage of cold-water immersion is called cold incapacitation. In approximately 10-minutes you will lose your ability to move your hands, arms, and legs. Swimming or treading water can cause you to lose your body heat even faster. Research shows that even in warm-water temperatures most adults who drown in open water (i.e. lakes, rivers, ponds, etc.) were perceived to know how to swim.

Can cold water cause you to lose your body heat 25 times faster than cold air? Yes, hypothermia can happen anywhere that the body loses heat faster than it can produce it. Cold water accelerates that



process 25 times faster than cold air.

Experts estimate that the average amount of time it takes for hypothermia (the third stage of cold-water immersion) to occur in cold water is one hour. The specific amount of time that it takes for hypothermia to happen depends on water temperature, clothing, body type, and your behavior in the water.

If you survive being in cold water, is it still possible to die after you've been removed from the water? Yes, the fourth stage of cold-water immersion is called post-immersion collapse. Collapsed arterial blood pressure during this stage can lead to cardiac arrest. Also, inhaling cold water can damage your lungs and cause heart problems to develop as cold blood from your arms and legs is released into the core of your body.

Is it critical to get medical treatment after any stage of cold-water immersion? Yes, during the re-warming process, cold blood trapped in your extremities can come rushing back to your heart. The shock of that may cause ventricular fibrillation leading to cardiac arrest.

If your boat capsizes and you fall out, do you need to get away from it quickly or it will pull you down when it sinks? No, small vessels are required to have basic flotation so it's best to stay with your boat when it capsizes and get as much of your body out of the water as possible.

If you're in the water, from your eye-level-view the shoreline will appear to be closer than it is. You should only attempt to swim for the shore if it's very close and you're wearing a life jacket. Even large vessels can trap air when capsized and may stay afloat for quite some time.

"Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns" is a new campaign of the U.S. Coast Guard and Auxiliary to get boaters, especially men, to always wear a life jacket when on the water. NT/Jan27,FS/SH

Advertisement for the 'Squirrel Hunt' event. It features a logo for 'Squirrel Men' and 'Squirrel Hunt'. Text includes: 'Door Prizes at Check-in MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN', 'Big Squirrel Contest for children 12 & Under', 'BREAKFAST & LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE DONATION ONLY', 'COME OUT AND JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN, AND CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP', 'Entry \$10.00 Per Hunter Children 12 and Under Free There will be a Dog Class and Non-Dog Class', 'If you have any question please call Trenmiss Elliott 706-781-8416, Jason Seabolt 706-835-6978, Tim Bohannon 706-781-4658, Tony Long 706-897-8633, James Cook 706-897-2078 or Stevie Abercrombie 706-897-2042', and 'We are asking that everyone please observe social distancing to help stop the spread of Covid-19'. There are also social media icons for Facebook and Instagram.