

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Wrestling: Indians qualify eight at Area; Sectionals this weekend

By Jeremy Foster
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Staff Writer

Towns County Indians Wrestling scored some major success over the weekend in a two-day Area Tournament held at Commerce High School on Friday, Jan. 28, and Saturday, Jan. 29.

The Area Tournament had major implications, as the Top Four placers in each weight class division qualified for the upcoming Sectional Tournament for a chance to advance to the big State Tournament.

Eight Towns County grapplers placed in their respective divisions and are now set to compete at the two-day Sectional Tournament scheduled for Friday, Feb. 4, and Saturday, Feb. 5, at Brunswick High School in Glynn County.

The Indians who qualified are as follows:

Senior Konner Davis, Third Place at 120 pounds; junior Brandon Bowling, Second Place 138 pounds; junior Mason Yeomans, Fourth Place 145; sophomore Ian Arrowswood, Fourth Place 152; senior



Towns County wrestling's eight State Sectional qualifiers with coaches following last weekend's Area Tournament at Commerce. Photo/submitted

Kevin Gowan, Second Place 160; junior Seth Gillis, Fourth Place 170; sophomore Stone Chauncey, Third Place 182; and sophomore Andrew Brinson, Second Place 220.

"We have always set really high goals and stan-

dards for ourselves, and we set our sights on having all eight qualify to go to Sectionals," Wrestling Head Coach Brandon Rowland said. "They put in the hard work and achieved exactly what we intended."

"After every practice,

we have a group talk to break things down and get things off our chest and figure out where each person needs to be and what strengths and weaknesses we need to focus on."

"Now that we are going to Sectionals, we are stepping

our game up and becoming more hungry by spending extra time practicing this week in morning and evening sessions."

"It takes a special person to go out there on the mat one-on-one with another person,

and I am extremely proud of our team and all of the progression they have made this season."

Visit www.townscountyathletics.com for more scheduling information and to follow all the action.

Basketball: Towns hosts two games, cancels one for inclement weather

By Jeremy Foster
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The Towns County Indians and Lady Indians held two consecutive home games last week inside the Bill P. Kendall Gymnasium, with a third set of matchups canceled due to persistent icy road conditions caused by wintry precipitation that moved in Friday night.

Towns vs. Social Circle on Tuesday, Jan. 25:

The ladies were up first in the evening and gained control from the tipoff, which ultimately led to a successful 1-point free throw from senior Emily Vargas to put the first point on the board, followed by a foul and netting another 2 points shortly thereafter.

Junior Tabitha Barnes then shot for a 3-pointer and earned an additional 2 points to close out the first period of action with Social Circle in the lead 11-8.

At the beginning of the second period, junior Sarah Shook scored her first 2 points of the night. Barnes deposited another 3-pointer, and freshman Kaleigh Beaver scored 2 to close out the half 24-15 with Social still ahead.

The third period saw points from Shook, sophomore Emma Lallement, sophomore Laura Mauldin and Vargas to get a closer score of 37-31 to



Senior Collin Crowder launches a 3-pointer from the top of the circle vs. No. 2 Social Circle. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

end the third period.

Action sped up dramatically in the fourth period with points from Shook, Beaver and Mauldin to tie the score 47-47 and force an overtime period.

Barnes scored a 3-pointer, but the ladies lost 54-50 in the end in their second consecutive overtime game.

"If we could have played the whole game like we played after halftime, then we could

have beaten that team," Girls Head Coach Shea Taylor said. "But we got off to a slow start and did not have a lot of energy."

"We battled back into it, but we are still turning the ball over too much and missing too many shots at the basket. We are still striving to be a good team and have several games to go, and we are still maintaining our goal of competing for a Top



Senior Emily Vargas (23) and sophomore Emma Lallement (11) look for position in the paint during last Tuesday's Region 8-A Public matchup with Social Circle. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Four spot in the region to go to playoffs."

Up next were the boys, and senior Collin Crowder scored the first 9 points for the Indians followed by a 3-point shot from sophomore Zane Floyd.

The rest of the matchup saw points from Crowder, Floyd, senior Kyle Oakes and sophomore Connor Chastain in a very neck-and-neck game that

ended in a Social Circle victory 58-49 in the final.

"I am very proud of the effort of our men tonight," Boys Head Coach Brian Hunnicutt said. "That is the No. 2 team in the state that has not been beaten, and they normally defeat teams in an area of 40-50 points, and we made them really fight tonight."

"Our goals are still in front of us, and we just need to stay on task and have our Towns County fans come and pack this place out."

Towns vs. Washington-Wilkes on Friday, Jan. 28:

The Lady Indians received a forfeit victory due to transportation issues from the opponent's side.

"It is not the way we wanted to get a win - we would rather play," Coach Taylor said.

The boy's teams did play, however, and the Indians were victorious over Washington-Wilkes 56-54.

"Wilkes is the ninth-ranked team, and it was a hard-fought game by both teams," Coach Hunnicutt said. "Towns led by 6 at halftime but was outscored by 9 points in the third period. We were fueled by senior Collin Crowder's 14 points and grabbed the lead

from Wilkes.

"Towns showed toughness in hanging in for the victory. Crowder led in scoring with 27 points, sophomore Connor Chastain had 9 and senior Kyle Oakes had 7."

Towns vs. Tallulah Falls on Saturday, Jan. 29:

The Indians and Lady Indians were supposed to celebrate Senior Night honoring the upcoming graduating players on Saturday, but unfortunately, the game against Tallulah Falls was cancelled due to inclement weather.

It was not known at press time if the Tallulah Falls game would be rescheduled, though there is a high probability that the Senior Night celebration will be taking place this Friday, Feb. 4, at home against Lake Oconee.

Following last week's games, the Indians are 13-6 on the season and 5-3 in region play, while the Lady Indians have a 5-13 season record and are 3-4 in the region.

Their very next games were scheduled to occur after press time on Tuesday, Feb. 1, away against Social Circle. Visit www.townscountyathletics.com for more information on the teams, including a full scheduling breakdown.



Towns County junior Sarah Shook draws a double-team during last week's home game vs. Social Circle. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Sophomore Tanner Cunningham fires away from long distance vs. Washington-Wilkes. Photo/Lowell Nicholson