

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians get two vital region wins, finish regular season tied for second

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The Towns County Lady Indians varsity basketball team completed their regular season with Region 8-A home court wins over Tallulah Falls and Athens Christian last Thursday and Friday and finished in a three way tie for first place with Prince Avenue Christian and Athens Academy.

Coin tosses were required to break the three way tie as the Lady Indians defeated Athens Academy, Athens Academy defeated Prince Avenue, and Prince Avenue defeated the Lady Indians during regular season play with this development negating tie breaking procedures.

The coin tosses were held in a region meeting on Sunday afternoon with the Lady Indians finishing fourth behind Prince Avenue in second place and Athens Academy in third. A separate article gives details about the region tournament for both the Lady Indians and Indians.

The Lady Indians broke out to an early lead and bent but never broke in surviving a last ditch rally, largely through clutch late game free throw shooting, in taking a vital 66-64 Region 8A victory over Tallulah Falls on Thursday in a game postponed from Tuesday due to impending bad weather.

They then led virtually from start to finish in taking a comfortable victory over Athens Christian on Friday with a single tie of 4-4 for just twenty one seconds the only time they didn't lead in either of the games.

The Lady Indians completed the week with an overall 13-11 record, including 7-2 in region play while Tallulah finished their regular season with a 16-9 overall record and 4-5 in region play after falling at Athens Academy on Friday by a 45-37 score.

The Athens Christian ladies completed their regular season with an overall 4-19 record, including 1-8 in the region.

Lady Indians 66, Tallulah Falls 64 – The Lady Indians had fallen by a 53-46 score in an early season game not clinched by Tallulah until during the final minute of play with the Lady Indians playing without a prime contributor in sophomore Vanessa Floyd who was sidelined by an injury.

This time, the Lady Indians got off to a great start for a 12-0 lead by the mid point of the first quarter on the way to a 20-6 lead by quarter's end.

The quick start was highlighted by the scoring of senior Taylor Cornett and sophomore Kennedy Henson who each sank a deuce and a trey for five points each in the 12-0 start and by halftime Floyd had contributed eight points on three deuces and two for two at the foul line.

Henson opened the second quarter with a trey and finished it with an old fashioned three point play with just 8.9 seconds for six points with junior Sophia Shook contributing a trey and a deuce for five points and Floyd four more points on a deuce and two more free throws as the Lady Indians held a 35-22 lead at intermission.

Tallulah used an 11-1 run at the start of the third quarter to edge within 36-33 at the 4:52 mark but two free throws by Floyd and a three point play and drive for two points by Henson had the Lady Indians ahead 43-33 at the 3:02 mark.

A trey and a deuce by Tallulah got them within 43-38 at 1:52 but the Lady Indians used a Floyd basket, two free throws by Henson, and a drive for two points by senior Kristen Byers for a 49-39 lead which became 49-41 entering the fourth quarter on a Tallulah field goal as time expired.

A drive for two points by Henson barely half a minute into the fourth quarter got the Lady Indians a 51-41 lead but that would be their last field goal of the game.

The Lady Indians responded to Tallulah strategy of fouling to try and catch up with five different players sinking multiple free throws with fifteen for twenty two accuracy which kept them with pretty comfortable leads until Tallulah scored five points in the final 28.9 seconds of the game with the Lady Indians escaping with a 66-64 victory.



Towns County High School honored its seniors at last Friday night's Senior Night game vs Athens Christian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

The Lady Indians held their advantage by between six and nine points for more than three minutes until the 3:02 mark when a three point play had Tallulah within 57-53.

Floyd sank two free throws and Cornett twice sank two in more than matching two Tallulah deuces for a 63-57 Towns lead at 1:06 and when Shook added two more free throws at 49.8 seconds the Lady Indians had what seemed to be a pretty safe 65-57 lead. But the Lady Indians from Tallulah took the ball coast to coast for a 65-59 score at forty three seconds with Byers sinking a free throw at 32.2 seconds for a 66-59 lead.

Tallulah sank two free throws at 28.9 seconds but the second was negated by a lane violation for a 66-60 score but an inbounds turnover by the Lady Indians resulted in a three point Tallulah play at 25.3 seconds with Tallulah within 66-63.

Another Lady Indian turnover gave Tallulah a chance for a tie with a trey but the shot missed the mark and the Lady Indians committed a foul on a putback attempt by Tallulah at 1.4 seconds.

The first free throw was made in reducing the Lady Indians lead to 66-64 with the Tallulah player intentionally missing the second shot in the hope of her team getting the rebound and a quick putback for a tie.

The ball caromed off the rim and away from the basket, however, with time running out and the Lady Indians claiming the victory.

Henson took the lead in scoring for the game with 22 points but with lots of help from Floyd who included eleven for twelve free throw shooting among 21 points, Shook with 10, Cornett with 9, and Byers with 4.

Cornett, Henson, and Shook tied for the lead in assists with 2 each while Cornett and Floyd led in rebounds with 4 and 3 respectively. The Tallulah Lady Indians were led in scoring by senior Nyah Williams with 23 points, junior Lillie Free with 15, and senior Malie Danavall with 10.

Lady Indians 41, Athens Christian 22 – It would require a full quarter for the Lady Indians to get their offense cranked up against Athens Christian as they dominated the Lady Eagles defensively but struggled to put points on the scoreboard due to cold shooting.

Two free throws at the 4:55 mark and a field goal at 4:14 by sophomore Vanessa Floyd had the Lady Indians ahead 4-0 but the Lady Eagles used a pair of deuces to tie the score at 4-4 at 3:15.

A basket by senior Kenzee Denton at the 2:54 mark got the Lady Indians a 6-4 lead they would not relinquish, however, and they seized control of the game in the second quarter.

Five different Lady Indians would put points on the scoreboard in second quarter action with leaders being Floyd with seven and sophomores Kennedy Henson and Jayce Young with five and three respectively and highlighted by a trey by each as the Lady Indians held a 24-6 lead at intermis-



Sophomore Kennedy Henson fired a three as a Tallulah Falls defender flies past during Tuesday's win. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Vanessa Floyd attempts a free throws during Friday night's win over Athens Christian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

sion.

Floyd continued her good work with eight points in the third quarter and Henson scored five in the fourth as the Lady Indians held a 34-17 lead after three quarters on the way to a 41-22 victory.

Scoring leaders for the game for the Lady Indians were Floyd with 21 points for the second game in a row, Henson with 11, Denton with 4, and Young with 3.

Five different Lady Indians contributed at least one assist with leaders being Henson with 4 and Denton and Floyd with 2 each while Henson led in rebounds with 8 and was followed by senior Kristen Byers and Floyd with 4 each.

The Lady Eagles were led in scoring by freshman Chloe Guarnella with 8 points.

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Towns County Recreation Department Baseball/Softball registration: January 1st - February 28th. Late Registration: March 1st - March 7th - \$15 Late Fee. The Towns County Recreation Department would like to invite you to participate in our annual Baseball/Softball season with Dizzy Dean. There will be evaluations held the second week of March. If you are interested in coaching, please fill out a coaching application at the Towns County Recreation Department & complete a mandatory background check only after you have been selected as a coach.

Boys Divisions: T-Ball: Ages 5-6 born May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2014 - \$55. 8u: Ages 7-8 born May 1, 2010 to April

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Girls Divisions: T-Ball: Ages 5-6 born January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2013 - \$55. 8u: Ages 7-8 born January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011 - \$60. 10u: Ages 9-10 born January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009 - \$60. 12u: Ages 11-12 born January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2007 - \$60. 14u: Ages 13-14 born January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2005 - \$60.

Please register online at www.TownsCountyRec.com or register in person at the Towns County Recreation De-



partment. Towns County Recreation Department will be providing jerseys, pants and adjustable hats that players will be able to keep at the end of the season.

If you have any questions please contact Matthew Youngblood or Tyler Garrett at (706) 896-2600 or by email at TCRcreation2600@gmail.com. TIF66.FJSH