

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Indians 11-1 in region, host second-place Greene on Tuesday

By Daysha Pandolph  
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Following a 65-52 loss at Warren County on Friday, Feb. 2, the Indians remain in first place at 11-1 in Region 8-A DII and sit at 16-4 on the season.

Towns County holds a one-game lead over second-place Greene County, who comes to town for a Tuesday night clash that could determine the top seed in the region.

The Towns County Indians basketball team won a landslide game against Lake Oconee Academy last Tuesday, Jan. 30, then went on to suffer their first region loss against Warren County the following Friday, Feb. 2.

In a match that they dominated from start to finish, the Indians moved to 11-0 in Region 8A DII and 16-3 overall with their sweeping 70-36 victory over Lake Oconee last week. By the end of the first quarter, the team held a lead of 26-11, which they continued to increase during the second.

By the break, Towns County sat ahead at 45-22.

During the third quarter, the Indians outscored Lake Oconee by a full 15 points to grow their lead to 64-24.

The game concluded in a 70-36 Towns County victory thanks to key players such as Tanner Cunningham, who scored 23 points, nine rebounds and six assists, Gage Rogers, who scored 16 points



Towns County senior Tanner Cunningham leads the Indians fast break during last Tuesday's 70-36 region victory over Greensboro's Lake Oconee Academy. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

and Kade McConnell who added nine points, three rebounds and two steals.

"This was as dominating a performance as we have had all year," commented coach Brian Hunnicut. "The boys came out and played really good basketball right from the beginning of the game. It was truly a team effort."

"I'm very proud of the way that we played. When we play defense like that and do not turn the ball over, we are (a) tough team to beat. These boys continue to impress me."

A few days later, the team traveled to Warren County, where they suffered a tough 65-52 loss. Warren County grabbed the lead early

in the game and hung on tight throughout. Towns County was able to decrease Warren County's lead to a mere three points by the end of the first quarter, but by the end of the second it was already back up to 11.

Moving into the second half, Warren held a 33-22 advantage over the Indians.

Towns County managed to cut the lead to single digits a couple of times throughout the half, but they couldn't match Warren County's energy and suffered their first region loss of the season.

Zane Floyd led in scoring with 17 points and five rebounds. Behind him were Rogers with 13 points and

three rebounds, McConnell with nine points, three rebounds and two assists and Cunningham with eight rebounds.

"This was a tough game for us. It is the first game in over a month that we have not played well.

"We did not move the ball well on offense. We also didn't do a great job defensively or as well as we normally do rebounding the basketball. However, you have to give a ton of credit to Warren County."

"They are defending region champs and that was their eighth win in a row. When you have been on the type of run we have been on, you know a subpar performance is probably coming at some point.

"It means absolutely nothing as long as we get back to work on Monday and get right back to where we left off before Friday night. We have a huge game on Tuesday at home, and we hope that the gym is packed to cheer our boys on to lock up first place at the region tournament.

"Once again, I love coaching this team. I also think our fans love watching them because they represent our community well."

On Tuesday, Feb. 6, the boys will play the second place team in the region, Greene County, in a home match.

"If the Indians win, they will secure first place in the regular season standings for the region tournament and an automatic berth in the state playoffs," said Hunnicut.

## Lady Indians drop consecutive games to LOA, at Warren Co.

By Daysha Pandolph  
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Towns County Herald

The Towns County Lady Indians basketball team lost two close games last week, first against Lake Oconee Academy by 8 points, then again at Warren county by merely one point, dropping them to fourth place in region play at 6-4 and 14-8 overall.

Tuesday night, Jan. 30, the girls played a home match against Lake Oconee Academy.

The first quarter was slow, but the girls picked up the pace by the second. Towns County held a 15-14 lead at the half, but by the end of the game suffered a 48-40 loss.

"Our defense was good the entire game," commented coach Shea Taylor. "We had chances to win in the fourth, but couldn't get anything to fall."

While the overall outcome of the game favored Lake Oconee, a few Towns County players still shone on the court. Kaleigh Beaver had a double-double with 21 points, 14 rebounds, three steals and one block.

Brelan Sieveking recorded six points and four steals, Scotlyn Fain had five points and three rebounds and Ansleigh Hardin added four points, five rebounds and four assists.

The following Friday, Feb. 2, the team traveled to Warren County for an even closer match. Both teams were side by side in scoring throughout the night, but unfortunately, Warren County scored the final winning points. The Lady Indians lost 52-51.

"(We) saw some great stuff down the stretch on offense and defense," said coach Taylor. "Learning how to win on the road can be tough, es-



Sophomore Scotlyn Fain fires away from long distance during the first quarter of last week's LOA contest. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

pecially when we are missing key players.

"With that being said, we had our chances but missed easy shots at the goal late in the game. Foul trouble and turnovers were also factors in the loss.

"We showed we can play with anybody this week even if we are missing people. Now we (just) need to find ways to win close games like this one."

Sieveking led the scoring on Friday night with 20 points, five rebounds, four steals and three assists. Other key players included Beaver with 13

points, 11 rebounds and one block, Emma Lallement with nine points, seven rebounds, two steals and two assists and Hardin with seven points, four rebounds, two steals and two assists.

Next week, the regular basketball season will come to a close after a match against Greene County on Tuesday, Feb. 6, and another against Washington-Wilkes on Friday, Feb. 9.

## Towns County qualifies three wrestlers for Class A State Sectionals

By Daysha Pandolph  
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Elberton - The Towns County wrestling team traveled to Elbert County last weekend for the 8-A Area Tournament in which wrestlers must finish in the top four of their weight class in order to move forward.

The team got off to a rough start, losing all five of the initial matches. Luckily, they were able to turn that around in the following matches by securing three qualifiers for sectionals.

Mason Deal bounced back from a controversial loss in the championship semis with a third place win at 138 lbs.

Jack Stowers also reclaimed his wrestling glory by taking a third place medal during the tournament. Previously, he had fallen in the consolation finals and lost a match to Oglethorpe County, but his Area Tournament victory, at 165 lbs, avenged that loss.

Other standout players at the tournament included River Chauncey, who finished fourth at 113 lbs in one of the tougher weight classes, and senior Stone Chauncey, who didn't take home a win last weekend, but has contributed so much to the team throughout his time in high school.

"Stone Chauncey wrestled with great intensity and tempo, but unfortunately came up just short," commented coach Clay Livingston. "I hate it for Stone, but my appreciation for what he has done for the wrestling program this year and, more than anything, for what an amazing young man he is, far exceeds any disappointment from what happened (at the tournament)."

Next Saturday, the qualifying wrestlers will travel to Dublin for Sectionals.



Mason Deal (far right) finished third at 138 lbs.



Jack Stowers (far right) finished third at 165 lbs.