

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians fall short of victory in Region 8-A Tournament opener

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

COMMERCE - Very legitimate concerns are often present for teams having to face an opponent for the third time after having defeated them twice in regular season and this was the scenario for both the Towns County High School Lady Indians and Indians in last week's Region 8A tournament in Commerce. And on top of that, the Lady Indians faced this task on the home court of the Commerce Lady Tigers, their opponent for the opening game on Tuesday.

The Lady Indians would fall short of victory in this game, bringing an end to region tournament play but they have qualified for state tournament action based on a state-wide Power Points formula to begin this weekend as detailed in a separate article. They have a 13-12 record against a quite challenging schedule as they enter state tournament play.

Commerce 46, Lady Indians 24 - The Lady Indians got a 2-0 lead less than a minute into their game against Commerce on a field goal by sophomore Vanessa Floyd and they got ties of 4-4 and 6-6 on baskets by sophomore Kennedy Henson by the 3:17 mark of the first quarter but the Lady Tigers held a 9-6 lead at quarter's end.

The Lady Indians followed by opening the second quarter on a 7-0 run on a trey by senior Kristen Byers, a steal and basket by Floyd, and a deuce by senior Kenzlee Denton for a 13-9 Towns lead by just the 6:46 mark.

After that, the Lady Tigers used an inadvertent trey off the backboard and two free throws for a 14-13 lead at 3:59 but Floyd and Henson struck with treys at the 3:11 and 2:30 marks for a 19-14 Towns advantage.

The Lady Tigers used an old fashioned three point play and a putback basket in the last minute of play, however, for a 19-19 tie at intermission and after two Lady Indian regular season victories over the Lady Tigers and a tie at halftime in this third game, it became the Lady Tigers' turn to control a game.

The losing team in earlier games often learns a lot about what is needed for improvement and in the case of the Lady Tigers, dealing with the tenacious defense of the



The Towns County Lady Indians in action vs Commerce during the opening round of last week's Region 8-A Tournament. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Lady Indians in the first two games no doubt brought about strategies making them better against not only the Lady Indians but other opponents as well.

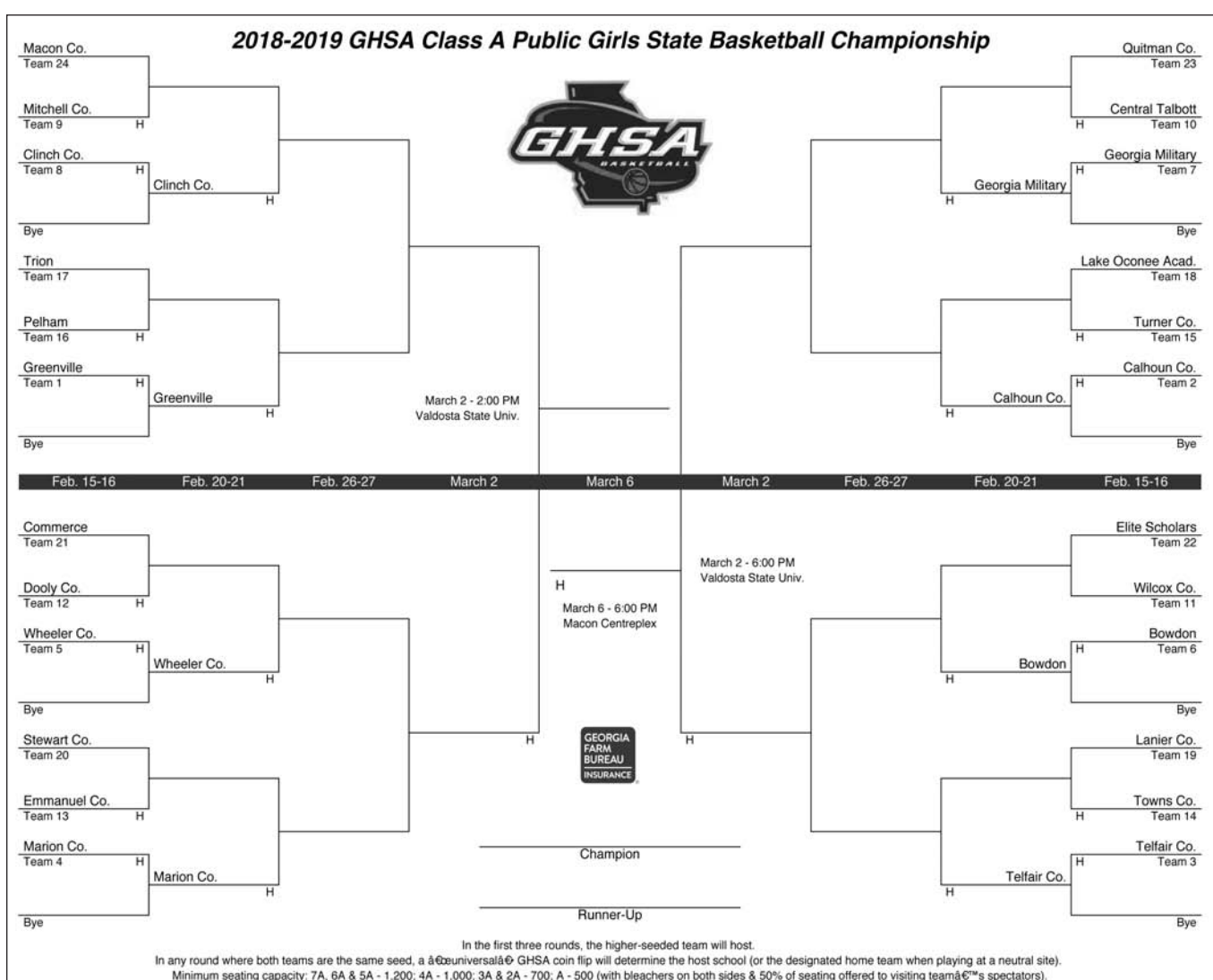
At any rate, this on the job training of two and a half games by the Lady Tigers certainly must have played a role in their striking for a 9-0 run prior to a runner by Byers for a 28-21 lead at the 4:13 mark of the third quarter.

And five more Lady Tiger points followed before two free throws by Floyd for a 33-23 Commerce lead entering the fourth quarter where they finished off a 46-24 victory over the Lady Indians.

Scoring leaders for the game for the Lady Indians were Floyd with 9 points, Henson with 8, and Byers with 5 while Henson led in assists with 3 and was followed by junior Sophia Shook with 2.

Floyd and Henson tied for the lead in rebounds with 6 each and were followed by Denton with 4 and Byers with 3.

The Lady Tigers improved their record to 14-10 with the win before falling to regular season and eventual region tournament champion Lakeview Academy in the semi final round on Friday.



Lady Indians to host the first round of state tournament this weekend

By Jerry Kendall
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Lady Indians varsity basketball team has qualified for the Class A Public State Tournament based on Power Points awarded by the Georgia High School Association, giving them the fourteenth spot in Georgia among more than fifty five Class A Public schools.

Unfortunately, complete information about the opening game for the Lady Indians is not available at press time but the best information that is available is being provided.

The state tournament is set up for twenty four teams with the top eight getting a bye into the second round and the second grouping of eight hosting the third group this weekend with winners of the first round games traveling to play one of the top eight seeded teams next week.

At press time, the final brackets have not been determined as appeals are allowed for teams feeling errors have been made in their assignment with the final brackets to be released on Tuesday after consideration of the appeals.

If the standings remain as at press time, it appears that the Lady Indians will host the number nineteen team, Lanier County High School from Lakeland in deep South Georgia near Valdosta on Friday, February 15, with the game time to be determined.

Just a slight change brought about by the appeals process could result in the Lady Indians facing Lake Oconee Academy, a charter school from Greensboro near Athens, and an unlikely drastic change might bring about a still different



Towns County is the No. 14 seed in the upcoming Class A Public State Tournament. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

scenario but it does seem a near certainty that the Lady Indians will host their opening game.

As for the process for determining Power Point standings, winning a game gives a team five points plus the number of wins by the opponent at season's end with total points being averaged to determine seeding for the teams.

It is significant that nine of the Lady Indians' thirteen victories came against teams with at least fourteen wins and another came against a team with eleven victories. It is also noteworthy that four teams with more victories than the Lady Indians were placed below them in the current standings, giving an indication of the challenging schedule the Lady Indians faced.

Commerce also made the public state tournament and five Region 8A private schools made that tournament with the Lady Indians having defeated four of these six teams at least once during the season while Lakeview Academy took a decisive victory and Prince Avenue took a close win not

assured until the final minute of play over the Lady Indians.

Those planning to attend the opening game can check with the school at 706-896-4131 to confirm the day and learn of the starting time or any other needed information.

The winner of the opening game will be on the road next week against the third place public school team in the state on either Wednesday, February 20, or Thursday, February 21 with the day and time to be determined.

TCRD hosting District Tourney

The Towns County Recreation and Conference Center at Foster Park will host the Class C - 12U Boys Basketball Tournament this weekend.

The tournament will begin on Friday, Feb. 15, at 5:30 p.m., and will resume on Saturday, Feb. 16, at 9 a.m.

Admission for adults will be \$5, seniors \$2, and children under 6 will get in free.

CLASS A GIRLS BASKETBALL POWER RANKINGS 2019					
Rank	Public	Points	Rank	Private	Points
1	Greenville (4A)	15.69	1	Holy Innocents (5A)	17.34
2	Calhoun Co. (1A)	14.11	2	St. Francis (6A)	16.90
3	Telfair Co. (2A)	14.05	3	Lakeview Acad. (8A)	15.00
4	Marion Co.	15.47	4	Stratford Acad. (7A)	14.86
5	Bowdon	14.04	5	Calvary Day (3A)	14.31
6	Wheeler Co.	14.06	6	Wesleyan	18.73
7	GMC	13.63	7	ELCA	14.85
8	Clinch Co.	13.09	8	Mt. Paran	13.18
9	Mitchell Co.	12.28	9	Athens Academy	13.12
10	Central Talbott	11.87	10	Paideia	12.92
11	Wilcox Co.	10.76	11	Savannah Christian	11.81
12	Dooly Co.	10.72	12	Tallahul Falls	11.56
13	ECl	10.36	13	Prince Avenue	11.27
14	Towns Co.	10.24	14	Darlington	11.20
15	Turner Co.	9.82	15	King's Ridge	10.47
16	Pelham	9.72	16	Landmark Christian	10.37
17	Trion	9.38	17	Greenforest	10.18
18	Lake Oconee Acad.	9.21	18	Christian Heritage	9.61
19	Lanier Co.	9.12	19	Galloway	9.41
20	Stewart Co.	8.61	20	1st Pesbyterian	9.29
21	Commerce	8.47	21	Sav. Country Day	8.77
22	Elite Scholars	8.32	22	George Walton	8.70
23	Quitman Co.	8.31	23	Walker	8.50
24	Macon Co.	8.11	24	Aquinas	8.46

*Lake Oconee Academy's initial power ranking of 9.07 was revised to 9.21 following appeals.

Register now for Towns County Baseball and Softball

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

30, 2012 - \$60. 10u: Ages 9-10 born May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2010 - \$60. 12u: Ages 11-12 born May 1, 2006 to April 30, 2008 - \$60. 14u: Ages 13-14 born May 1, 2004 to April 30, 2006 - \$60.

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 TCRecreation2600@gmail.com. TUFEB.FISH