

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Cross Country: Towns County men third; ladies finish sixth at State

By Todd Forrest
Towns County Herald
Sports Editor

Carrollton - The Towns County men placed two runners in the Class A Public top six to finish third overall at Saturday's State Championship race.

The senior duo of Jenson Brown and Liam King finished fourth and sixth, respectively, with Brown crossing the finish line in 18 minutes, 22 seconds and King clocking in at 18:33.

With 129 points, the Indians edged fourth-place ACE Charter by four points. The top two spots went to Commerce (69) and Armuchee (101).

Senior Jordan Lovelace came in 22nd with a time of 19:38; senior Luis Quijada was 41st at 20:31 and sophomore Matthew Yeomans placed 59th at 21:22.

Freshman Drew Sofield was 66th at 21:30 and sophomore Curtis Markham placed 81st at 22:11.

In the girls' race, Allison Markham paced the sixth-place Indians with a time of 24:42 - good enough for 22nd. Sophomore Jayden Taylor was 28th at 25:20; junior Bazya Smith placed 57th at 27:42 and junior Kayla Peacock was 64th with a time of 28:23.

Junior Gali Quijada came in 88th at 30:09 and sophomore Morgan Pierson was 94th at 31:10.



Allison Markham



Jayden Taylor

Senior Jenson Brown crosses the finish line fourth and Liam King was right behind him in sixth place. Photos/Todd Forrest

Football: Indians blank Greene County 20-0, improve to 3-4 with shutout

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Greensboro - Following their second bye week of the season, the Towns County Indians traveled to Greensboro for a regional matchup against the Greene County Tigers on Friday, Nov. 6, where they earned their first shutout since 2008 and first region shutout since 1996.

The Indians were 2-5 overall and 0-2 in the Georgia High School Association 8-A Public School Region heading into Friday night's contest, with their Tiger counterparts possessing the same 2-5 record.

Of course, the Indians were looking to get their first region win of the 2020-21 season in the game that got underway Friday after Greene County won the toss and elected to defer to the second half.

Towns County junior Collin Crowder took the opening kickoff to the 28-yard line, followed by senior signal-caller Mason Thomas running 13 yards from the line of scrimmage to give Towns County a first-and-10 at their own 41-yard line.

Unfortunately, the Tigers defense held the Indians to a three-and-out, forcing Towns County to punt on their opening drive.

On a fourth-and-8 and looking to keep their opening drive alive, however, the Indians tried to catch the Tigers off guard with a fake punt but were unable to get the 8 yards needed for a first down.

The Indians defense held Greene County to a three-and-out of their own to force the Tigers to punt the ball away.

That's pretty much how the entire first half went, a defensive slugfest in which both teams remained scoreless at the close of the second quarter.

Greene County started the second half with the ball, but the Indians defense held the Tigers to another three-and-out resulting in a punt.

As the Indians defense



The Indians and Tigers participate in extra-curricular activities after the whistle. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

continued to play hard, the Towns County offense began finding some things that worked and were able to start moving the ball.

Senior Wide Receiver Hayden McClure took a screen pass for 12-yards and an Indians first down. McClure then took a touch pass for 8 more yards that were called back due to an illegal cut block. Unable to put up any points in the drive, the Indians were forced to punt the ball away.

After the Indians defense forced another Greene County punt to get the ball back once more, Thomas connected with junior Jake McTaggart on a 44-yard pass to give the Indians a first-and-10 from the Tiger 27-yard line.

Junior Tailback Kyle Oakes carried the ball three times in a row for 26 yards to put the Indians inside the 5-yard line, and he finished the drive with a 2-yard touchdown run for the first points of the game.

With 1:40 left in the third quarter and following a missed point-after attempt, the Indians had taken a 6-0 lead over the Tigers.

Greene County fumbled the ball away as they took the kickoff down to the 41-yard line,

giving possession right back to Towns County.

Facing a fourth-and-5, the Indians decided to go for it, handing the ball off to Oakes for a 19-yard run and an Indians first down.

Two more runs from Oakes and McClure put the Indians inside the 10-yard line to give Towns County a first-and-goal from the Tiger 8-yard line.

The Tigers defense made a play in the backfield, tackling Oakes for a 4-yard loss, after which Quarterback Thomas connected with McTaggart for a 12-yard touchdown pass to extend their lead to 12.

Towns County failed to convert for 2 points, and with 9:04 left in the game, Greene County fielded the kickoff inside their 5-yard line.

Crowder made a big special-teams play with a tackle on the 4-yard line, followed by the Indians defense tackling the Tigers running back for a 3-yard loss to put Greene County on its own 1-yard line.

Sophomore Seth Gillis sacked the Greene County quarterback in the end zone for a safety to give the Indians a 14-0 lead and the ball back with 8:22 left in the game.

McClure returned the

kickoff to the Tigers 1-yard line, and after several penalties backing the Indians up to the 33-yard line, they decided to keep things on the ground.

This turned out to be a great call, as Oakes took a handoff in for a 33-yard Towns County score to put the Indians up 20-0, which held for the rest of the game.

With the win, the Indians improved their record to 3-4 and earned their first region victory of the school year.

Thomas completed 8-of-9 passes for 81 yards and a score through the air.

Leading the Indians on the ground was Oakes with 22 carries for 135 yards and two touchdowns.

McClure finished with six grabs for 38 yards, and McTaggart hauled in two catches for 56 yards and a touchdown.

On the defensive side of the ball, senior Reece Hampton led the team with 11 tackles, two of them for a loss, followed up Gillis with 10 tackles and four for a loss, one interception and a safety.

The Indians will host Social Circle for their last game of the season on Friday, Nov. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in Frank McClure Memorial Stadium.



The Indians signal for a TD at Greene Co. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Hey, fellow Jeep enthusiasts, come and join us. Monthly meetings are held the second Friday of each month. We meet at the Blairsville Skillet Cafe, where we enjoy delicious food and excellent service. We eat lunch together at 12 PM and the meeting begins at 1 PM.

We are thrilled that cooler weather is here and we can get down to some serious jeeping! We still have trails to blaze and community activities to participate in. We will ride the Cherochala Skyway and other forest service roads to cool destinations.

We are a happy bunch of folks, who love getting together to ride, explore and sometimes get muddy. If you are like-minded, read on, or better yet, come and join us. We don't sit around and talk about jeeping, we do it!

Weather permitting, we ride once or twice a week on various kinds of rides: easy street rides, forestry roads, and

the men (and a few adventurous ladies) take on more challenging rides such as Beasley's Knob.

If all this activity is too much for you, attending each event is optional; you only do what appeals to you. There are no participation requirements. We don't have a long list of rules or bossy officers, and we do not collect membership dues. Sound good? If you own a Jeep and think this might be your cup of tea, we welcome you to come and enjoy life with us.

For more information, please attend a meeting or contact us via our website, www.blueridgemountainjeepers.com. You can view our calendar of events and see pictures and videos of recent rides. Also, "like" us on Facebook.

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Learn to play Pickleball

Learn to play Pickleball: Beginner's Lessons every Saturday, 10 AM (weather permitting). No charge and all equipment provided. Courts are located behind the Health Department. For more information contact: blairsvillepickleball@gmail.com.