

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians, Lady Indians pick up first wins of season at Highlands, NC

By Shelly Knight
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Towns County played three games last week, all on the road. Both teams went 1-2 for the week but picked up their first win of the season in the last contest.

On Nov. 19th, Towns travelled to Rabun County to face the 8th-ranked Wildcats in Class A D1 play. The Wildcats jumped out early on the Indians and never let up. The Indians were able to steady the ship in the last two and half quarters but could not overcome the sluggish start.

The final margin was 81-50, with the Wildcats claiming the victory. Cruz Kitchens led all Indian scorers with 17 points and 7 rebounds. Mason Pierson made 8 points, Jonas Rouse had 5 points and 7 rebounds, and Dustin Barrett had 5 points and 6 rebounds. Tucker Engert scored 8 points after returning from an illness and Connor Williams pitched in 6 points but had to leave the game with a dislocated shoulder.

"We hope that Connor will be able to return to the team and provide his scoring and defense back to the lineup," said Coach Brian Hunnicutt.

On Friday, Nov. 22nd, Towns County traveled to Union County to face the 9th-ranked in Class AA, Panthers. Once again, Towns County was troubled by a slow start, falling behind 27-10 in the first quarter. The Indians played Union very close the rest of the game but could not overcome the early deficit.

Union was able to beat Towns by a score of 75-47. Rouse and Engert led the Indians in scoring with 13 points a piece, with Rouse having 6 rebounds and Engert having 5 rebounds. Kitchens had 9 points and 14 rebounds. Barrett had 7 points and 6 rebounds. Freshman Caleb Vardo had 3 points and freshman Baylor Rogers had 2 points.

On Saturday, Nov. 23rd, Towns played their third game of the week traveling to Highlands, NC to face the 2-1 High-



Junior Scotlyn Fain scored 15 points in Towns County's loss at No. 5 Rabun County on Tuesday, Nov. 19 and had 7 points at No. 8 Union County on Friday. Photo/Todd Forrest

landers. Towns went into the game without two of their varsity players, leaving only 6 full time varsity players. Towns jumped out to an early 6 point lead after the first quarter and extended that to a 32-23 point lead at the half. However, Highlands had a strong third quarter and moved back into the game and took the lead 42-40 early in the fourth quarter. The Indians would go on an exciting 16-2 run to end the game and win with a score of 56-44. The win marked the first victory of the season for the Indians.

Rouse led the Indians in scoring having a monster game with 14 points, 15 rebounds

and 3 steals. Engert added 14 points, 3 assists and 3 steals. Kitchens scored 12 points, and captured 11 rebounds. Barrett had 11, grabbed 6 rebounds and had 3 steals. Pierson added 4 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists. John Durham had 2 points and 3 rebounds. The JV team also played a solid game and gained their first victory of the season in Highlands.

"Overall, this was a tough week for us, but I am very proud of the boys for closing the week with a victory in Highlands," Hunnicutt said. "Our first week was very good and then we took some lumps this week. That is what

is going to happen with an inexperienced team at times. The boys are learning their roles and what makes the team work best, and we, as coaches, are learning how to best help these boys succeed.

"We have played a tough stretch to start the season. Three of our 5 games have been against state ranked teams and 4 out of 5 have been on the road. Though these games are tough, it will serve us well as we get into Region play.

"I'm very proud of the boys' fight. They showed a lot of heart in Highlands. They had every excuse to lose that game, but they refused to do so. We



Cruz Kitchens went for 17 points and 7 rebounds at No. 8 Rabun County last week. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

look forward to continuing to see this team progress. I firmly believe that our best basketball is in front of us."

"We play three teams at home the week after Thanksgiving. We face a tough Tallulah Falls team, then our rival, Hayesville (NC) comes to us. We close the week out playing our first region game against the No. 2 ranked team in the state, Warren County. We hope to see our gym packed and loud to help lead us to victories."

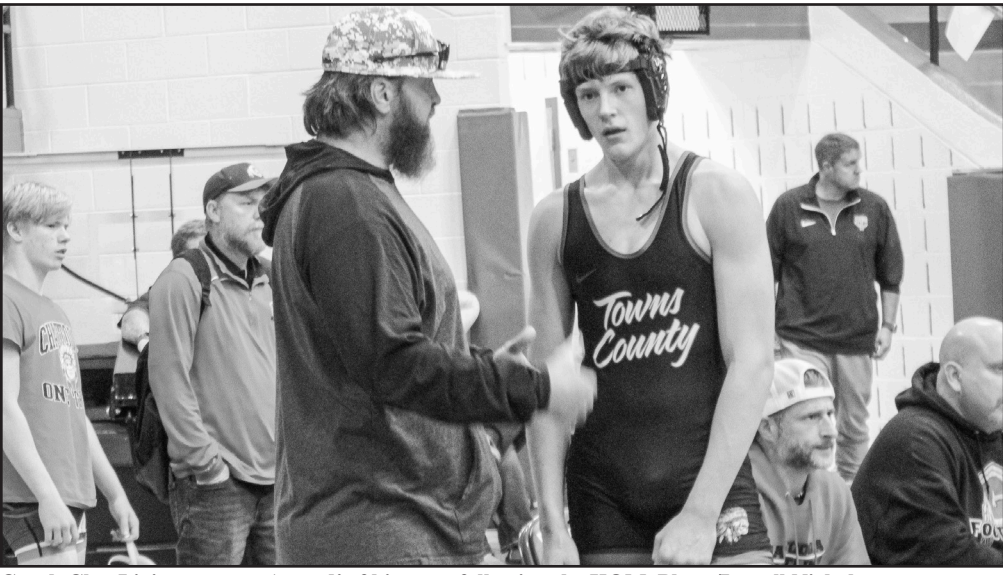
It was a busy week for the Lady Indians as well. The girls fell to No. 5 Rabun County with a score of 55-41 last Tuesday. Kaleigh Beaver scored 18 points, Scotlyn Fain scored 15 and Natalie Barnes had 6.

The girls continued working hard, taking on No. 8 Union County on Friday but went down 76-34. In that game, Ava Thompson scored 11 points, followed by Fain with 7 and Ansleigh Hardin scored 5.

Finally on Saturday the Indians prevailed against Highlands, 36-24. Thompson paced the Indians with 13 points followed by Beaver with 8, Fain with 7 and Barnes with 6. The girls are committed to working hard every day and are improving each day.

"We had our most complete game Saturday night. I'm very proud of the effort and work they are putting in," said Coach Alan Rogers.

Wrestling: Towns County places 8th at KOM



Coach Clay Livingston was 'proud' of his team following the KOM. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

By Shelly Knight
Staff Writer
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Towns County had a full week of wrestling with a tri match on Tuesday vs. Stephens County and Hayesville and our annual King of the Mountain tournament Friday and Saturday. "Overall, I think we wrestled pretty well for it being our first live matches of the year," said Coach Clay Livingston.

"We have a couple of kids on their way down a weight class and that is always a challenge. They have to manage their weight carefully. So

far, they are doing a great job with it.

"Some results from Tuesday include Jack Stowers winning both of his matches with a fall and a minor decision. River Chauncey went 2 and 0 with 2 pins. Noah Davis picked up a win vs. Stephens County with a fall. Will and Madilyn Walls both picked up a win Tuesday night by fall.

"At the King of the Mountain, our top finisher was Jack Stowers with a runner up finish at 175 lbs. Almost all of the kids won at least one match and contributed points to an 8th place team finish out of 14 teams. I was most proud of how

hard they completed and how gracious they were in victory and defeat.

"The tournament went great after a slight delay to the start Friday. Stowers was our on-site tournament director and did an amazing job. Our off-site director Nathan Wade did his part to keep things running smoothly.

"We had so many parents and people step up to help us run a great tournament. This was the first time in a couple of decades, so I am told, that we have hosted the tournament in the high school gym, and it was a great venue and atmosphere for it."

Date	Opponent	Place	JVG/JVB	JV Time	VARSITY Time
November					
Nov. 8th	Scrimmage at Hiwassee Dam	Hiwassee Dam	None		6:00
TBD	Highlands NC	Highland NC	JVB	4:30	6:00
Nov. 15th	Union County	Towns County	Both	4:00	7:00
Nov. 16th	Tallulah Falls	Tallulah Falls	Both	2:00	5:00
Nov. 19th	Rabun County	Rabun County	JVB	4:30	6:00
Nov. 22nd	Union County	Union County	Both	4:00	7:00
December					
Dec. 3rd	Tallulah Falls	Towns County	JVB	4:30	6:00
Dec. 6th	Hayesville	Towns County	Both	4:00	7:00
Dec. 7th	Warren County	Towns County	Both	3:00?	6:00?
Dec. 10th	Rabun County	Towns County	JVG	4:30	6:00
Dec. 13th	Greene County	Greene County	Both	4:00	7:00
Dec. 14th	Lake Oconee Academy	Towns County	Both	3:00	6:00
Dec. 20th	Lincoln County	Lincoln County	JV Girls	4:30	6:00
Dec. 21st	Hayesville	Hayesville	Both	4:00	6:30
Dec. 27th	BATTLE OF THE STATES				
Dec. 28th	BATTLE OF THE STATES				
Dec. 30th	BATTLE OF THE STATES				
January					
Jan. 10th	Washington-Wilkes	Washington-Wilkes	Both	4:00	7:00
Jan. 11th	Copper Basin(G)/Taliaferro County (B)	Towns County	None		3:30 VG/5:00 VB
Jan. 17th	Greene County REC NIGHT	Towns County	Both	4:00	7:00
Jan. 18th	Lake Oconee Academy	Lake Oconee	Both	3:00	6:00
Jan. 21st	Highlands NC	Towns County	JVB	4:30	6:00
Jan. 24th	Warren County	Warren County	Both	4:00?	7:00?
Jan. 25th	Mandatory Region Open Date				
Jan. 28th	Copper Basin (Girls Only)	Copper Basin	None		6:00 PM
Jan. 31st	Taliaferro County	Taliaferro County			6:00 PM
February					
Feb. 1st	Lincoln County (Senior Night)	Towns County	None		5:00 PM
Feb. 7th	Washington-Wilkes	Towns County	JV Boys	4:30	6:00 PM
Feb. 8th	Mandatory Region Open Date				