

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians finish atop region standings, 8-A tourney this week

By Daysha Pandolph
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The Towns County Indians basketball team won two games last week to finish the regular season 18-5 and 13-1 in the region.

On Tuesday, Feb. 6, the boys defeated Greene County 59-57 in a nail-biting region-clinching showdown.

From the beginning, scoring was close. Greene County held a one-point lead of 12-11 going into the second quarter, but Towns managed to outscore them 12-10 during the second.

At the half, the Indians led by 23-22. They remained ahead during the third quarter, holding a 41-38 lead. In the final quarter, they fell behind briefly only to go on a 10-0 run, which secured their victory as the clock wound down.

"The win secures the first seed in the Region tournament and an automatic berth in the state playoffs," said coach Brian Hunnicut.

Tanner Cunningham led the way Tuesday night with 17 points. Zane Floyd contributed an additional 13, Connor Chastain and Kade McConnell each pitched in 10 and Gage Rogers scored six.

On Friday, Feb. 9, the team played the final game of the regular season against Washington-Wilkes. Despite losing a starter to illness, the Indians won the game 55-47.



Kade McConnell (15) and Connor Chastain (12) look on as Zane Floyd (22) tries to secure Towns County's regular-season Region 8-A championship last Tuesday night vs. Greene County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

At the end of the first quarter, both teams were tied at 12 points. Moving into the half, Towns County held a tight lead of 29-28.

They were able to build the lead to seven then eventually 12 at one point during the

fourth quarter. The match finished in an eight-point Towns County victory, which earned them a bye in the first round of the region tournament.

Floyd led the Indians in scoring with 20 points. Rogers added 12 and McConnell

scored just under him with 11.

"This was a great week for us," said coach Hunnicut. "I am so proud of the boys (for) finishing the regular season the way that they did."

"We were able to beat a very good Greene County team

on Tuesday, then we went down to Washington-Wilkes and won a game for our missing senior, Tanner Cunningham, who is out with illness."

"This group cares for each other and fights for each other, but most importantly,

they love the name on the front of that jersey and they fight to represent our community well."

"They are not only great basketball players, but more importantly, they are outstanding young men," commented Hunnicut, who is especially thankful for the senior class.

"These seniors have had an outstanding career," he shared. "This team fought through some adversity early in the year, but they continued to work hard and get better and we hit our stride in January."

"This is a tough region and to go 13-1 in region play is outstanding. I am so thankful for the support of everyone in the community by showing up and cheering the team on during our games."

Next, the Indians will travel to Warren County on Thursday, Feb. 15, to play the winner of the four-five matchup at 8:30 p.m.

The Indians enter as the No. 1 seed followed by Warren County, Lincoln County and Greene County, who dropped to fourth following final-week losses to Towns and Lincoln.

Washington Wilkes enters as the No. 5 seed, Lake Oconee Academy is 6th, Aquinas finishes 7th and Taliaferro County rounds out the standings.

"Hopefully, we will go down (to Warren County) next week and pick up the region championship and earn the ability to play the state playoffs at home," said Hunnicut.

Lady Indians enter region tourney with back-to-back wins

By Daysha Pandolph
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The Towns County Lady Indians basketball team closed the regular season with a 16-8 record last week after defeating both Greene County and Washington-Wilkes.

Earlier in the season, Greene County beat Towns County by 67-55, but last Tuesday, Feb. 6, the Lady Indians redeemed themselves with a 68-52 victory in a thrilling match that tested the adeptness of the team's younger players.

Greene County held a 13-point lead during the first quarter, which Towns managed to decrease to only five points by halftime. Going into the second half, they trailed Greene County at 27-22.

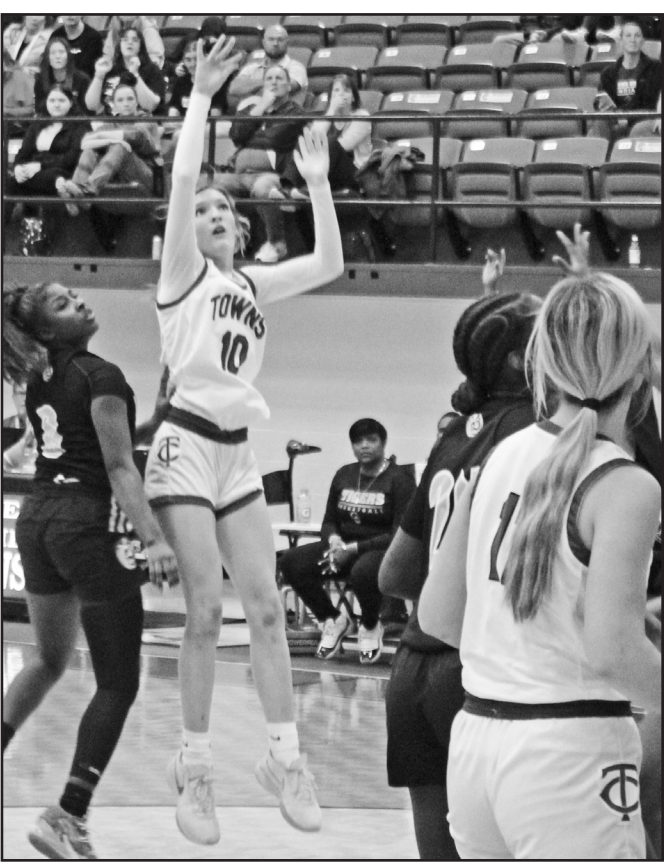
By the end of it, however, they had fought hard and played very physically to steal the 68-52 win.

Kaleigh Beaver led the Lady Indians in scoring with an impressive 20 points, eight rebounds, four blocks, three steals and three assists.

Also instrumental in pulling off the victory were Breelan Sieveking with 13 points, eight rebounds, three steals and three assists and Ansleigh Hardin who scored just under Sieveking with 12 points, six rebounds, six assists and one block.

Laura Mauldin had 10 points, five rebounds and five assists; Emma Lalletment finished with nine points, six rebounds, three assists and one block and Mary Lee Durham added four points and three boards.

Jamie McCarter also contributed with five rebounds. The win vs Greene County set the team up with the confidence they needed to defeat Washington-Wilkes by 57-42



Junior Kaleigh Beaver led the way with 20 points in Towns County's win over Greene County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

the following Friday, Feb. 9.

Once again, Beaver led in scoring with her eighth double-double of the season. She scored 17 points, 13 rebounds and three steals.

Lalletment matched Beaver in scoring and contributed eight rebounds, four steals and three assists.

Hardin had 10 points, five assists, four rebounds and two steals; Mauldin scored seven points, six steals and four rebounds and Sieveking scored seven points and three steals.

McCarter contributed two points, rebounds and steals.

"This game got sloppy, but we had girls rebounding hard and playing hard to help this team be successful," commented coach Shea Taylor. "We have girls trying to battle

through injuries and it's very admirable what they are doing for their team."

"Injuries and sickness have hindered us since November, but we are not giving up," he said. "This team keeps fighting and finding ways to win games."

The girls will rest for only a few days then begin preparing to face Aquinas in the region tournament on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Washington-Wilkes.

"We are still trying to win this region," shared Taylor. "We are playing for the opportunity of hosting a playoff game and (so that we can get) the best seed we can get for the state playoffs. Goals we set earlier in the year are still obtainable, we just have to come out and execute."

Wrestling: Towns County qualifies two for State Championships in Macon

By Daysha Pandolph
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Dublin - The Towns County Wrestling Team spent last weekend in Dublin, where they participated in the GHSA Class 1A Section A tournament on Saturday, Feb. 10.

Everyone from Towns County wrestled well with

two of the three participating wrestlers moving on to the State Tournament this week, Feb. 15-17 in Macon, Georgia.

The tournament will be Jack Stowers' first state series, which he paved his way into by finishing fourth in Dublin.

Mason Deal will also move forward after finishing second over the weekend.

The third Towns County wrestler, River Chauncey, will

not be pushing further into the season despite a well battled match.

"Chauncey was outstanding," said coach Clay Livingston. "(He) beat the one seed from another area before an injury in his second match slowed him down a bit. He fought through it to give himself a chance to move on, but came up just short."



River Chauncey (far left), during the Area Tournament earlier this month. Chauncey battled through injury and drew praise from head coach Clay Livingston.