

Lady Indians...continued from page 1A

most 3-pointers made in a regulation game. She just missed setting the National Record by a pair of 3-point baskets.

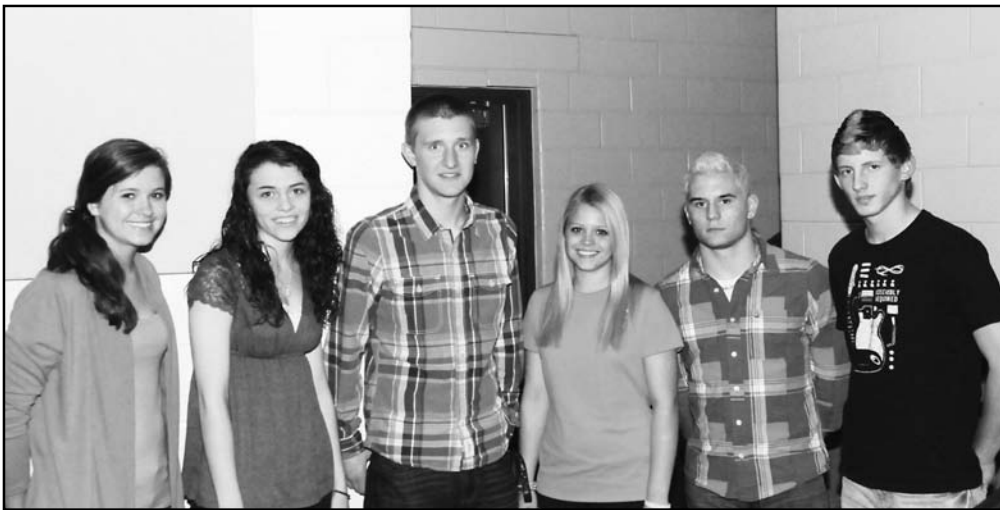
She hit 40 percent of her 3-point attempts this season and averaged 15.3 points per game. In addition, Arencibia averaged 4 rebounds, 3.2 steals, 2.5 assists and 1.3 blocks per game. She was named a Second Team Region 8-A selection and also earned the title of Blitz (Windstream Channel 4) Player of the Year.

The school board also recognized Lady Indians Head Coach Jim Melton, who was named Region 8-A Coach of the Year by a panel of his coaching peers.

"I can't tell you how proud we are of this group of special athletes," Towns County High School Principal Roy Perren told the Board of Education. "They experienced an incredible season."

Other athletes recognized by the Board for their outstanding athletic achieve-

ments include Towns County softball star sophomore Claire Wilson, who was recently named All-Region for the second consecutive season; senior Bradley Swanson, who was named First Team All-Region and scored a career 943 points in an Indian uniform; Tyler Hoffman, who competed in the Class A state wrestling tournament at 152 pounds and Tim Collier, who finished fifth in the state wrestling tournament at 135 pounds.



Left to right, Jordan Moss, Gabby Arencibia, Bradley Swanson, Claire Wilson, Tyler Hoffman and Tim Collier were honored for their athletic achievements by the Towns County Board of Education on Monday night. Photo/James Reese

Lawsuit...continued from page 1A

Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment rights were violated, that the March 19, 2010 traffic stop was in fact racial profiling and that he was a victim of false imprisonment and battery at the hands of the Towns County sheriff's deputies.

The Towns County Herald has determined that the stop happened at around 10 p.m. on the night of March 19, 2010. According to the lawsuit, Brannon allegedly was giving a white friend a ride to her place of employment in Blairsville at

the time of the traffic stop.

The suit also alleges false imprisonment by officers and battery when officers touched Brannon during a physical search during the traffic stop.

Brannon was released and no charges were filed against him.

Prior to the suit being filed, attorneys for Brannon filed an anti-litem notice with a \$100,000 for not filing the lawsuit, according to unsolicited documents sent to the Towns County Herald from the plaintiff's attorney.

The Herald also received unsolicited documents detailing the lawsuit from an anonymous source. The lawsuit also was posted on TOPIX by an anonymous source.

The suit does not specify a specific amount sought by the plaintiff. It does however seek damages from each defendant, compensatory and punitive, and asks for reasonable attorney fees, expenses and costs of litigation.

Brannon's attorneys have requested a jury trial.

HOPE...continued from page 1A

least 26. Their entire tuition cost will be covered as long as they maintain a GPA of 3.3 throughout their college career."

The biggest change made to the program in this legislation, that is now awaiting the governor's signature, is that HOPE benefits will be decoupled from tuition rates. In other words, the scholarship amount will be adjusted annually based on lottery revenues.

"This is simply fiscal responsibility," said Sen. Butterworth, who helped craft the legislation.

"Gov. Zell Miller left a great legacy to Georgia students when he left office: the HOPE Scholarship Program," Sen. Butterworth said. "His efforts to make Georgia a national leader in education made Georgia a shining example for higher education and innovative, healthy growth."

However, Sen. Butterworth said, the program was in danger of not being able to meet its future obligations.

"In an effort to curtail the program's impending demise, I have worked di-

rectly with Gov. Deal, General Assembly leadership and Georgia's families to ensure that HOPE endures," Sen. Butterworth said. "While considering changes to this successful program may be unnerving to some, we must bring positive reform or we will lose this successful program forever."

In the fall of 2011, as long as HOPE scholars maintain a 3.0 Grade Point Average, they will receive 90 percent of their tuition covered instead of the entire amount. Private school students will receive 90 percent of the current private college HOPE award, which will amount to \$3,600.

"Further, a low interest loan program was established to help students to bridge the gap between actual tuition cost and costs covered by HOPE once the bill is enacted," Sen. Butterworth said. "Changes like these will ensure that Georgia's HOPE will remain the most generous scholarship program in the nation. Up to this point, it has

provided more than \$5 billion to over 1.2 million students since its inception."

"In the fall of 2011, HOPE recipients will receive 90 percent of the Fiscal Year 2011 grant award. They will be required to earn a 3.0 GPA by the first HOPE check point once enrolled in technical college courses," Sen. Butterworth said. "Again, by making these changes, we are ensuring that future generations will also be able to benefit from the program."

Sen. Butterworth also believes that the Georgia Lottery Corporation needs to share in some of the cost reductions.

"In this bill, a limit is placed on bonuses paid to GLC employees," Sen. Butterworth said. "Bonuses will be no more than 25 percent of their salary and they will be contingent on an increase in net proceeds from the year before. The commission paid to lottery retailers will be lowered from about 7 percent to no more than 6 percent of gross sales. This change will bring us in line with the national average."

Licklog Players present another Neil Simon winner

As the Licklog Players' 2011 season opens, it's a good time to revive Neil Simon's 1971 hit play, Prisoner on 2nd Avenue, which deals with economic meltdown, urban unease, and a family living on the edge.

The play sounds like a tragedy, but Simon is determined to send his audience home happy. He's like the proverbial "fly on the wall," observing everyday family problems, then cushions them with skillfully-placed humor.

Prisoner on 2nd Avenue is the sixth Neil Simon production by the Licklog Players.

The Licklog cast in Prisoner on 2nd Avenue is sure to bring this winning production by the gifted playwright to the Peacock Playhouse.

David Layfield is the hapless Mel Edison personified. Janice Minette, as his long-suffering wife, Edna, performs comedy, drama and musical with equal self-confidence and ease. Like Minette, Tom Payne also brings star quality to any role he portrays, and he does so as Harry, Mel's older brother.



(L-R) Kate Scroggs, Tom Payne, Lynne Joynes, Chelsea Smith, and Janice Minette. Photo by: Jacob Harris

one of Mel's sisters, is a newcomer to the Licklog stage, but not to the theatrical world.

"I've loved theatre all my life," she said at rehearsal. "But mostly I work backstage wielding a hammer or paintbrush. In this show, I'm happy to be on stage. I love being a part of it."

Chelsea Smith, as Pauline, and Kate Scroggs as Jessie, Mel's other two sisters, complete the amicable cast of six.

In preparing the wardrobe for the performers, Costumer Eileen Adams found the task easy.

"It was fun," she said. "It was just a matter of provid-

ing clothes that were fashionable in the 1970s, when the play takes place. In fact," she laughed, "Tom Payne found a 1972 suit with wide lapels in his own closet which still fit him. "The only challenge," she admitted, "was dressing the young girls to look older than they actually are."

Show dates for Prisoner on 2nd Avenue are April 8, 9, 10 and April 15, 16, 17. Tickets go on sale on March 28 at the Peacock Playhouse Box Office. Prices are adults \$13, students and children \$8. Rated PG. For further information, telephone 828-389-8632 or toll free 1-877-691-9906.