



Towns County Herald's Sporting News



Towns County High School Pep Rally Team Shot



Photo by Lowell Nicholson

Lady Indians hold 100 innings softball fundraiser

JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

It was a loooong ball game. About a hundred innings but never the less, an annual fund raising affair. The game provided all the middle and high school players plenty of playing time in preparation for the upcoming season.

According to one of the coaches in charge of the fundraiser finances, despite the poor economic conditions, the Indians made \$4,500 in pledges and concessions at the ball game. According to Head Coach Shannon Floyd, the monies raised at the 100 innings game and at their concessions booth at the Georgia Mountain Fair will be used to purchase uniforms and equipment. As for the fans, the stands seemed almost a filled as during the regular season games. Good Luck to the Lady Indians when the varsity and middle schools season begins.

By the time this article publishes in the newspaper, the Tribe will have played the Union County Panthers in a scrimmage game on the campus of Young Harris College. As the rains came the Cats were up 3-0 in the first inning before the delay. Due to a muddy field the next day, the game was officially called.



Heather Hamilton fouls off a bunt attempt early in the 100 inning game.



Andrea Coleman waits for the ball from pitcher, Emily Anderson.



Ashley Thrasher puts the boink on Andrea Coleman in a slide at third.

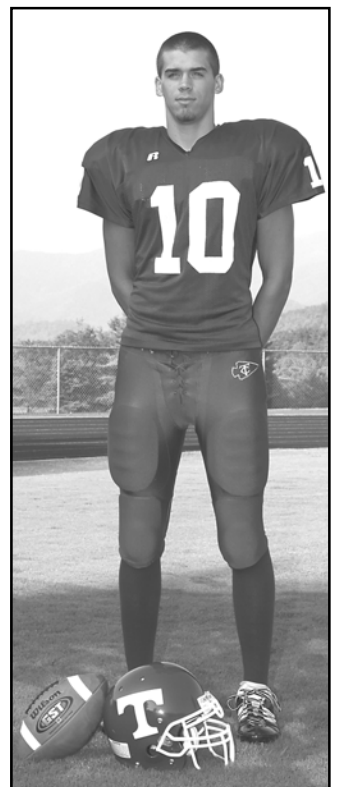
Wide receiver John Bleckley named Pre-season All-State

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He has the inches, I have the pounds. It was team photo day at the stadium and when John Bleckley stood up for his individual, I stood next to him. He draws rain but I top the scales. At 6' 4" and weighing in at a mere 195 pounds, Bleckley is a TCHS Indian senior. The wide receiver is expected to be on the receiving end of many passes this season, having caught his share as a junior in the 7-3 season.

Bleckley joins two other teammates listed in the Georgia High School Football Magazine as collegiate prospects. Playing basketball as well as football, Bleckley could go either or both ways. The most prestigious award however is his selection by the same magazine as a Class A Pre-season All-State player. Wow! Talk about pressure. It's now time to hit the grid-iron and prove his metal.



John Bleckley selected to the Class A as a Pre-season All-State. Photo by Jim/Lisa Bryant

The Great Outdoors by Jim Bryant

More campfire cookery

ALUMINUM FOIL COOKERY

The early Native-Americans cooked much of their foods in leaves and clay. Cooking in aluminum foil is the modern equivalent to this skill. It is easy to clean and there are no pots or dishes to wash. Foil cooking is used to broil, braise, fry, sauté and steam foods. Steaming is the most common method whereby the food is sealed inside the foil so that moisture cannot escape.

A good two inch bed of coals is necessary for foil cooking. BE REMINDED THAT YOU USE COALS, NOT OPEN FLAMES FOR COOKING UNLESS YOU WANT YOUR MEAT TO TASTE LIKE SOOT. Such a fire can be obtained with wood or charcoal. If using firewood, you need to have a mixture of both soft and hardwoods to get good cooking coals.

When cooking with foil, it is recommended that you purchase the heavy duty aluminum foil as it is much more durable for cooking. This type of foil cooking will depend on the type of foods to be cooked. Foil cooking can be useful in many other ways:

- For warming breads and precooked foods.
- Frying foods.
- Boiling small amounts of water.

Steaming fish or vegetables.

Cooking complete dinners in one foil pouch.

In campfire cooking, but especially foil cooking, the temperature of the coals is very important. Too hot and the outside burn and the inside is raw, too cool and the food never gets cooked. You may estimate the temperature of the coals by using your hand as a thermometer. Holding the hand over the coals, the count is "one and one," "two and two," and so on for the seconds you can stand to hold your hand over the fire 12"-18" from the coals.

If the coals are very hot or if you are using briquettes, you can prevent food from overcooking by rolling the first package in foil in three layers of newspaper before wrapping it in the second layer of foil.

Another method is to place vegetables with a high moisture content around the food. For example, wrap a meat loaf in cabbage leaves; slices of onion around a hamburger patty or tomato around fish.

A third method is to continually turn the food every 3-5 minutes to prevent one side from getting too hot and overcooking. An adjustable wire rack can also be used to raise the level above the coals.

Hand Removed At Count	Heat	Temp
6-8	Low	250-350
4-5	Moderate	350-400
2-3	Hot	400-450
1-Less	Very Hot	450-500



Emily Anderson rocks and fires the ball in a pre-season fundraiser game. Photos by Jim and Lisa Bryant

WILD Facts: The line on skinks

If you have rotting logs, stumps or rocks in your yard, you probably also have five-lined skinks. After breeding in the spring, the female lays four to 14 eggs and guards them until they hatch in early summer.

The young have bright blue tails with five white or yellowish stripes down the length of their black bodies. At maturity, this species reaches 5-8½ inches long, the lines fade and the whole body turns gray. To escape predators, skinks run fast and have tails that break off when necessary. The lost-tail survival technique

works well but means a loss of stored fat and protein until the tail grows back.

WILD Facts is a regular feature written by Linda May, a wildlife interpretive specialist with the Georgia DNR Wildlife Resources Division.



Heartbreak opener for Lady Indians softball season

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The Towns County Lady Indians got started on the wrong foot on Friday as they took one on the chin in the season softball opener against the Social Circle Lady Redskins. Coach Shannon Floyd's

Lady Indians were shutout by the Lady Redskins 12-0. Earlier, the junior varsity jumped out to an early lead only to fall drastically short of a victory.

The Lady Indians JV fell 19-6 to the Lady Redskins JV.

The Lady Indians now look ahead to the weekend as they take part in the Commerce softball tournament in Commerce.

Towns County opens up

the tourney with a match up against the Banks County Lady Leopards at 10 a.m. The Lady Leopards are off to a 3-3 start following the Lanier Pointe Tournament last weekend in Gainesville.

Banks County finished the 2008 softball season with a 13-14 record.

The Lady Indians are hoping to build on a 4-17 2008 campaign. The Lady Indians are

still a young squad with youngsters Ali Bleckley, Jessica Rogers, Taylor Shook, Lacy Weaver and MaKayla Moody leading the way.

The Lady Indians will look to seniors Chelsey Noblet, Heather Hamilton and Haley Ledford for leadership.

Come to Commerce on Friday and Saturday and cheer on the Lady Indians.



Photos by Lowell Nicholson

Towns County Herald

Local sports covered by Carl Vanzura, Jim & Lisa Bryant, Jerry Kendall, Charles Duncan and Lowell Nicholson