

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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Indians drop a heartbreaker to Lakeview Academy 23-12

By James Reese
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Friday night the Towns County Indians crossed the mountain seeking their fourth straight victory. In their path awaited a den of Lakeview Lions at Jock Hornor Field. The tempo took on that of a two play act.

The Indians jumped out to a quick lead in which they maintained through out the first half but were faced with a hard running fullback and stingy Lion defense in the second dropping the game 23-12.

Just one minute into the game on the third play from scrimmage, junior Noah Calhoun raced past the Lions defenders en route to a 59-yard scoring run. Throughout the first quarter, the Indians 6-0 lead held up due to tough defensive stands by the Tribe.

With an ineffective passing game in the early ongoing, Lions Head Coach Matt Gruhn turned to fullback Nick Drury to supply an offensive spark. The Indians defense forced a fourth-and-long situation to close the opening quarter.

Rather than punting the ball from the Towns County 38-yard line, Gruhn opted to go for the first down. The Lions ran a surprising reverse pass play resulting in a Matt Askounis touchdown on the first play of the second quarter. The Lions jumped on top 7-6.

Forcing another Lion fourth down punting situation deep in their territory, the Indians offense took over in great field position at the Lions 37-yard line.

The Indians reclaimed a 12-7 lead needing just three plays on a Jackson Noblet 11-yard touchdown run midway through the second quarter.

The Indians protected that lead as the half drew to a close.

However, the Lions threatened to reclaim the lead, driving the ball inside the Towns 1-yard line with just seconds remaining in the half. Lions quarterback Jackson Wells attempted to stop the clock with a routine spike. The attempt deflected off an unassuming offensive lineman into mid-air and was intercepted by Indians' linebacker Wesley Bloodworth. Unable to advance, Bloodworth was tackled at the one yard line with just six seconds remaining in the half.

Indians' Head Coach Kyle Langford opted to stack the backfield sending in lineman Josh Goodwin for ball protection. However, the snap was mishandled for a fumble recovered by the Indians in the end zone resulting in a 2-point safety. The Lions were awarded a free kick and stopped on the return as the clock ran out in the first half.

The Indians took a 12-9 halftime lead to the locker room.

The Lions received the ball to open the second half. They took a 16-12 lead on a Nick Drury 47-yard touchdown run. Later in the 3rd quarter, Drury also scored from 60 yards out, giving the Lions a 23-12 commanding lead. With Drury leading the charge, Gruhn chose to grind out the clock and melt



Running Back Noah Calhoun breaks loose on a 59-yard touchdown run.



Quarterback Jackson Noblet punches it in for a score.



Jackson Noblet breaks loose on a long gainer.



Indians stop Lions Fullback Matt Askounis.



Dylon Nelson makes the defensive stop for the Indians.



Devin Henderson stops the Lions' Trevor Price.

away the fourth quarter. With less than four minutes remaining, the Indians received the ball and a chance to draw closer as they drove to the Lions' goal line. Nevertheless they were unable to punch it in before the clock ran out giving the Lions a 23-12 home win. The Indians take on the visiting Hebron Christian Lions Friday on Senior Night at 7:30 p.m. at Frank McClure Stadium.

Season ends for 7 and 10-year-old Indians

By James Reese
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Saturday meant the last hoorah of 2010 for a pair of Towns County youth football teams.

Both losses came at the hands of the Rabun County Wildcats.

In the early game, the 7-year-old visiting Wildcats struck first against the Indians and never looked back. The Wildcats, fueled by long runs from Bryce Gragg went up 25-0. Deep in the third quarter, Indians' Head Coach Rodney Thomas changed things up a bit. He lined running back Peyton Ivester in a shotgun formation which resulted in several long runs and capped off by an 18-yard Ivester touchdown run.

From there the Wildcats were able to run out the remainder of the clock ending the 7-year-old Indians' season with a 25-6 defeat.

In the afternoon game, the 10-year-old Indians also faced the Rabun County Wildcats.

In a hard fought defensive battle, the Indians were unable to crack the scoreboard as the Wildcats took a 13-0 victory back to Tiger.

Congratulations to both squads for outstanding winning seasons.

One Youth Football team remains alive and standing in the playoff chase. The 5/6-year old Termites look to improve upon their undefeated 8-0 regular season



7-Year-old Peyton Ivester breaks loose on an 18-yard touchdown run.

The Mighty Termites earned a first round bye over the weekend.

On Saturday morning at 9 a.m., the Termites will take on the 4-4 Dawson County Tigers in Blairsville at Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium in their playoff matchup.

The Tigers are a team in which the Termites demolished twice in the regular season by the scores of 26-7 and 27-6.

Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall approved the Termites to take a bus to

Blairsville. The Termites led by quarterback Kyle Oakes, look to be 9-0 following Saturday's game. The Termites are primed and ready to take on the winner of the Rabun-Gilmer game. The winners will face off in Dahlonega at the Recreation Department's Super Bowl.

Towns Youth Football Coordinator Jimmy Smith said that he'd like to express thanks and congratulations to all the coaches this season and a special thanks to Indians' Varsity Head Football Coach Kyle Langford for painting the field for the home games.



10-year-old Indians defense puts the stops on the Wildcats.



10 year old Indians put the stop on the Wildcats.

Towns County Lady Indians Cross Country team is headed back to Carrollton High School

The Towns County Lady Indians Cross Country team is headed back to Carrollton High School to compete in the state cross country championships.

The Lady Indians took a third place finish at the Region 8-A finals in Athens to earn another state berth.

Led by freshman Ansley Vardeman's 22:19 finals run, the Lady Indians beat out George Walton Academy for the third spot in a tiebreaker moment during the Regionals held at Athens Academy.

The top four teams in each region advance to state.

When the final scores were tallied and unattached runners factored out, the Lady Indians were in a tie with newcomer George Walton Academy.

In the event of a tie, the tiebreaker reverts to each team's sixth place team runner. The Lady Indians' Taylor Moats had beat George Walton Academy's sixth place runner to give the Indians the third spot and another trip to state.

Coach Jeannie Ledford said that one of this year's goals is to finish better than ninth in the team standings. That's the team's personal best coming two years ago at Carrollton. The Lady Indians finished 15th in the state last year. Lady Indians' freshman Caitlin Sheffield ran the best race of her season at Regionals, coming in 15 followed by Taylor Vardeman 24, Cassie Buck 26, Kristin Fuhs 27 and Taylor Moats 29. In the Men's bracket, the



Caitlin Sheffield ran the best race of her season at Regionals in Athens last week.

X Country Indians finished a respectable seventh.

Walker Guss finished with a time of 21:19 to finish in a tie for 43 with fellow Indian Zach Whitehead, Corbin Gilfilian followed at 44, Jordan Woodard at 45, Kyle Tyler at 46, Austin King at 49, Johnny Arrowood at 55. Despite the back to back finishes in

the middle group, the hard fought effort to make the trip to state fell short.

The Lady Indians will leave Friday for the state championships. The Lady Indians will run the Class A race at 9 a.m. on Saturday at Carrollton High School.

Ansley Vardeman named Blitz Player of the Week



Ansley Vardeman honored.

Towns County freshman, cross country standout, Ansley Vardeman was recently named Blitz Player of the Week by Windstream Channel 4. She is the first Towns County athlete and only freshman to receive

this award. Ansley not only leads her team with her athletic performance but also is a star in the classroom as an A student, in the Marching Band, and a member of the Fuzion Dance Team at Brasstown Dance


Academy.

The 2010 Towns Co Cross Country Teams look on as Cross Country Coach Jeanie Ledford presents Ansley with her Blitz Player of the Week plaque.


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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK


Each Player of the Week will receive a FREE Pizza from Big Al's Pizza of Hiwassee!



Josh Barnes
Offensive #75



Dylan Nelson
Offensive #72



Wesley Bloodworth
Defensive #42