

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians whip Prince Avenue Christian and Providence Christian

By Jerry Kendall
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The Towns County Lady Indians Varsity Basketball Team continued their winning ways last week as they took the measure of Prince Avenue Christian School in Bogart near Athens by a 61-36 score on Tuesday and defended their home court with a 58-26 win over Providence Christian Academy of Lilburn on Friday.

With the two Region 8A victories, the Lady Indians improved their overall record to 12-8, including 8-2 in the region with four region games and a non region visit to Hayesville on February 7. The Hayesville game was postponed from its scheduled date of November 22 due to the Yellow Jackets football team being involved in the state playoffs.

The Prince Avenue Lady Wolverines entered the game with the Lady Indians with an overall record of 11-5, including 6-3 in Region 8A while the Providence Lady Storm's record stood at 5-12, including 1-5 in region play.

**Lady Indians 61
Prince Avenue 36**

Athens -The first four and a half minutes of the first quarter was a see saw battle between the Lady Indians and Prince Avenue as there were five lead changes with the fifth giving the Lady Indians a lead they would never relinquish. A trey by Karlie Albach gave the



Senior Eryn Cochran blows past a Providence defender on her way to a deuce. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

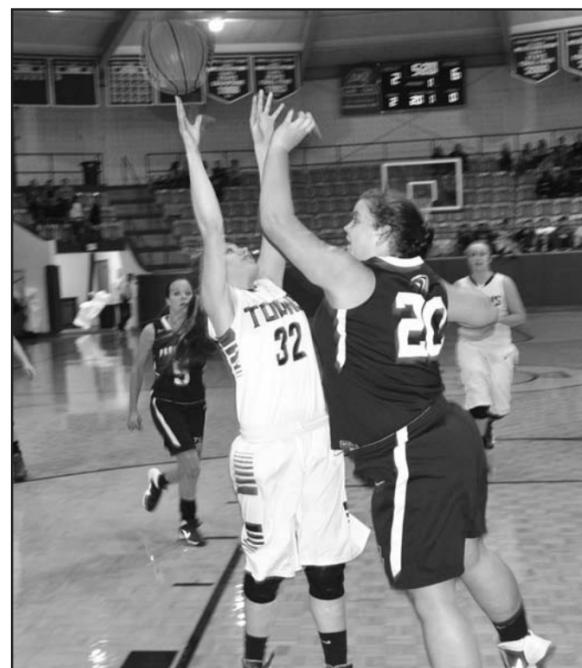
Lady Indians a 3-2 lead, a steal and three point play by Eryn Cochran a 6-4 lead, and a trey by Jocelyn Byers at the 3:41 mark a 9-7 lead they would extend to as much as 12-7 but have reduced to as little as 12-11 and then 14-11 at the first quarter break.

After the Lady Wolverines closed to within 14-13 just eight seconds into the second quarter, Cochran responded with a trey for a 17-13 Towns lead and the Lady Indians gradually increased their advantage to 35-20 by intermission with a couple of individual scoring runs highlighting the quarter. Misty Lindemuth scored six

of eight Lady Indian points on four for four free throw shooting and a field goal between the 5:52 and 3:18 marks as the Lady Indians extended just a 19-15 lead to 27-18.

And then back to back treys by Bailey Sutton at the 1:38 and 1:16 marks further extended the lead to 33-18 which became the aforementioned 35-20 advantage at half-time. Cochran scored twelve first half points with nine of them resulting from steals and drives from near mid court to the basket for layups, including the early three point play.

After the Lady Indians opened the third quarter with



Misty Lindemuth goes up strong and draws contact early in the contest with Providence. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

a 6-0 run for a 41-20 lead, the two teams played on virtually even terms the remainder of the quarter for a 51-32 Towns lead entering the fourth quarter with Kelsie Cowart returning from first half foul difficulty and leading the scoring with six points. The Lady Indians broke the game open the final quarter with Cochran scoring eight of the points in a 10-2 run giving them a 61-34 lead which became 61-36 by game's end.

Cochran led the Lady Indians in scoring with 23 points, with fifteen of them coming as a direct result of steals and drives to the basket, with other

scoring leaders being Lindemuth with 9 points, Cowart with 8, and Byers and Sutton with 6 each on two treys each. Cochran also led in assists with 9 and steals with 10 while Byers, Lindemuth, and Mckenzi Moss contributed 2 assists each and Karlie Albach and Byers followed in steals with 4 and 3 respectively. Lindemuth led in rebounds with 7 and was followed by Byers, Cowart, Madison Johnson, and Moss with 3 each.

**Lady Indians 58
Providence 26**

A long two point basket

Indians make vast progress in losses to Prince Avenue, Providence, Riverside

By Jerry Kendall
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It may puzzle some readers to read that the Towns County Indians Varsity Basketball Team made great strides last week while losing three basketball games but a close look at the progression of the three games should bring some clarity.

And this summary doesn't even take into consideration a most impressive victory by the Indian JV's over Providence Christian Academy on Friday covered in a related article.

To say the Indians got off on a downward trend the first three quarters of their Tuesday game at Prince Avenue Christian School near Athens would be an understatement to say the least.

But the final quarter of that game and the two games against formidable home court opponents Providence Christian Academy and Riverside Military Academy on Friday and Saturday elevated the Indians to near victory and great promise for the future.

Of utmost importance for the Indians was the return of Dallas Manus to action on Friday and Saturday after missing three straight games due to a flare up of an ankle injury which had kept him sidelined the first half of the season.

After seeing somewhat limited action against Providence Christian on Friday, the ankle held up well and Manus put together a marvelous game with lots of playing time on Saturday against Riverside Military.

The Indians would not secure a victory but came oh so close during a season of most formidable opponents with deadly scoring runs by their opponents in the two weekend games just enough to deprive them of a win but especially in the Riverside game which wasn't decided until the final minute of play.

**Indians 34
Prince Avenue 62**

Athens - It quickly became a matter of who was hot and who was not in the Indians' game at Prince Avenue on Tuesday but that description unfortunately isn't really adequate as it was more a matter of the Wolverines being red hot and the Indians ice cold the entire first half. A pull up jumper by Major Moss at



Senior Garrett Bradshaw elevates for two against Providence Christian Academy. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

the 6:55 mark of the first quarter matched an early Prince Avenue basket for a 2-2 tie but the Wolverines struck for the next twelve points and eventually held a 28-5 lead after one quarter.

The Wolverines continued their control of the game through the second and third quarters for a 47-12 lead at intermission and 61-17 after three quarters before the Indians dominated the fourth by a 17-1 margin while using combinations of the five freshmen—Adam Barrett, Darringer Barrett, Brady Moss, Major Moss, and Jackson Taylor—dressed for the game and sophomore Jake Pырlik.

Trace Moss scored eight of the Indians' first half points while highlights of the fourth quarter included seven points by Adam Barrett and treys by Taylor and Brady Moss as each of the freshmen entered the scoring column. Freshmen Kobe Denton and Will De Vries both missed the game with Denton out of action due to illness and De Vries not quite ready for return after suffering a broken arm back in the home game against Pinecrest Academy on December 14.

Trace Moss led the Indians in scoring for the game with 8 points with other leaders being Adam Barrett with 7, and Taylor and Major Moss with 5 each. Major Moss led in assists and rebounds with 5 of each and Adam Bar-

rett followed in rebounds with 3.

**Indians 49
Providence 61**

The Providence Christian Storm entered the game with the Indians on Friday with a 9-9 record which took on much luster when considering they had won five straight games, including four in Region 8A.

The first of the five wins was by a 58-49 margin at Class AAAA Lanier with the four region wins being by scores of 65-40 at Commerce, 69-53 at Pinecrest Academy, 76-45 over Tallulah Falls, and 63-55 over Lakeview Academy.

Prospects for a competitive game for the Indians did not look good in view of the Indians having been defeated by each of the region opponents, with only the Commerce game having been competitive, but it would require a brief but decisive 19-1 run by the Storm late in the first quarter and early in the second for them to come away with a 61-49 victory.

The Indians followed an opening Storm basket with field goals by Kobe Denton, Trace Moss, and Boone Moss for a 6-2 lead by the 3:47 mark of the first quarter and they would lead for most of the first half, including by scores of 11-8 after one quarter and 25-23 at intermission.

The Storm scored the first five points of the sec-



The energy was electric, especially during the final minutes of the Indians' Homecoming showdown with RMA. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

ond quarter for a 13-11 lead but freshmen Darringer Barrett, with a trey included among seven points, and Adam Barrett, with four points, struck for eleven straight Indian points for leads of 20-13 and then 22-15 by the 2:09 mark and a Boone Moss basket had them leading 23-16 with 1:46 on the clock.

The Storm followed with the previously referenced 19-1 run, however, finishing the quarter on 7-1 run for the 25-23 deficit and opening the third with twelve straight points for a 35-25 lead in less than two minutes by the 6:18 mark. That ten point lead would eventually be increased by just two points the final fourteen minutes of the game although the Indians would get as close as seven points in the third quarter and within eight late in the fourth while the Storm would hold as much as a 50-36 lead entering the fourth quarter and a 52-38 advantage early in the fourth.

Highlights of the final two quarters for the Indians included Adam Barrett's first career trey at the 3:05 mark of the third quarter getting the Indians within 41-34 and five point fourth quarters for both Adam Barrett and fellow freshman Major Moss with an old fashioned three point play by Moss at the 3:10 mark of the fourth quarter and a second trey by Barrett at 2:29 reducing a 57-43 Storm lead to just 57-49 with enough

time remaining to perhaps overtake the Storm. The Indians would not score again, however, and the Storm sank a field goal at 1:46 and two free throws at 1:05 to set their final margin of victory at 61-49.

All ten Indians seeing action in the game entered the scoring column with leaders being Adam Barrett with 13 points, Darringer Barrett and Trace Moss with 7 each, Boone Moss with 6, and Garrett Bradshaw and Major Moss with 5 each. Leading rebounders were Boone Moss and Major Moss with 8 each, Adam Barrett with 6, and Garrett Bradshaw with 4. Darringer Barrett and Major Moss led in steals with 2 each and Major Moss and Boone Moss led in blocked shots with 4 and 3 respectively. It was an especially productive day for Adam Barrett as he played the maximum number of quarters for one day of two in the earlier Indian JV victory over the Storm and three in the varsity game, scoring 13 points in each game and then adding more heroics in the varsity game against Riverside on Saturday night.

**Indians 71
Riverside 75**

The Indians had a tough night against Riverside in Gainesville when they took it on the chin in a 73-36 loss on December 12 with the Eagles sinking

by Eryn Cochran just eight seconds into the game gave the Lady Indians a 2-0 lead over Providence Christian and they brushed off a game tying basket by the Lady Storm in building an 8-2 lead by the five minute mark of the first quarter and a 14-4 advantage by quarter's end before breaking the game wide open in the second for a 31-5 lead at intermission. Cochran took the scoring lead with six points in each quarter while Savannah Dyer added six in first half action.

The Lady Storm opened the third quarter with a 7-0 run in just over two minutes of playing time to reduce the TCHS lead to 31-12 but the Lady Indians followed with a 19-4 run the remainder of the quarter for a 50-16 bulge entering the fourth quarter and an eventual 58-26 victory. Karlie Albach scored eight points on four deuces in the third quarter and added a trey in the fourth while Cochran scored five points in the third quarter and Jocelyn Byers sank a trey in each of the last two quarters.

The Lady Indians were led in scoring for the game by Cochran with 17 points, Albach with 15, and Byers and Dyer with 6 each while Cochran and Bailey Sutton led in assists with 3 each and were followed by Kelsie Cowart Misty Lindemuth with 2 each. Leading in rebounds were Cochran with 7, Cowart with 6, Lindemuth with 5, and Dyer with 4 while Cochran contributed 6 steals and was followed by Albach and Cowart with 5 each.

fourteen treys in the win. And the Eagles entered the game against the Indians on Saturday night after having taken Jefferson, the top team in their Region 8AA with a 15-5 overall record and 6-0 in the region, into overtime on Tuesday but the Indians would surprise the Eagles by taking them to the final minute of play before falling by a 75-71 score with numerous individual heroics performed throughout the game by the youthful Indians.

The game was a real battle for more than three and a half minutes at the start with a trey by Dallas Manus giving them a 3-3 tie, a basket by Boone Moss at 5-5 standoff, a coast to coast run by Manus a 7-5 lead, and a Garrett Bradshaw bucket a third tie of 9-9. At this point, the Eagles appeared to be taking control of the game, however, as they included three treys, giving them four in the quarter, in a 15-0 run for a 24-9 lead.

The Indians bounced back themselves, however, as Trace Moss sank a trey near the one minute mark for a still one sided Riverside lead of 24-12 at the first quarter break but the Indians used the trey as a springboard for some dominance of their own in the second quarter. They embarked on a 12-6 run in less than three minutes at the start of the quarter with highlights being two free throws and a field goal for Adam Barrett and a field goal and two treys at the 5:49 and 5:14 marks by Trace Moss for just a 30-24 deficit.

A 7-2 run by the Eagles had them ahead 37-26 by the 2:55 mark but field goals by Barrett, Trace Moss, and Boone Moss between the 2:47 and 2:02 marks had the Indians back in the hunt with just a 37-32 deficit which became 42-34 after a drive for two points on a last shot basket by the Eagles before intermission.

Manus then had the hot hand in the third quarter when he sank three treys and a deuce for eleven points with the treys being well spaced throughout the quarter and reducing Eagles leads to 44-37, 51-44, and 54-49. As at the end of the second quarter, however, the Eagles sank the last shot of the quarter on a putback for a 56-49 lead entering the fourth quarter.

The Eagles started and ended the first minute of play in the fourth quarter

See Down to the wire, Pg 9A