

# SPORTS



Photo by MICHAEL BOWEN

Quinzaibian Jackson (center) races down the court as Lawrence Murray (left) and Malik Ware (right) follow



Jordyn Wellborn barges past an Aquinas player

## Lady Tigers maul Aquinas

The Washington-Wilkes Lady Tigers beat Aquinas 39-26, January 3.

Though Aquinas scored first, the Lady Tigers swiftly overtook their opponents through a combination of successful free throws and shots. Leading the game into the second quarter, the home team struggled on defense. Aquinas did not falter and drew themselves up to par with the Wilkes County team. Rallying, the Lady Tigers lunged ahead to restore their lead

before halftime. With Wilkes County leading 21-15, Aquinas quickly set to chipping away at the Tigers' lead. Jordyn Wellborn, Kiariah Smith, and Cameron Rogers kept Aquinas at bay however with several successful shots, clawing the Lady Tigers ahead to a 31-21 lead by the beginning of the fourth quarter. Despite Aquinas' best efforts, they were no match for the aggressiveness of the Lady Tigers, scoring six points to the Tigers' seven.



Dalen Cobb leaps to score against Towns County

## Tigers narrowly miss victory against Towns County

Despite a brilliant effort on the part of the Tigers, the home team came up short in their January 7 game against Towns County, losing 63-59.

The first quarter began poorly for the Tigers as Towns County lurched to an early lead. Dalen Cobb kept them in check with a shot however, keeping the visiting team within reach. Towns County was unphased and continued to steadily add points to the board. By the second quarter, Towns County remained in the lead. Desmond Cofer was the first to manage a successful shot. Cobb contributed a second shot shortly after. Slowly but surely, the Tigers began to gain ground on the visiting team. Finally, Lawrence Murray took the shot that inched Wilkes County ahead by one point. For the briefest of moments, the Tigers led 25-24. But Towns County regained the lead with free throws and a successful shot. Lacking only two points, and with only seconds remaining, Cobb blazed down the court to beat the clock. But it was not to be. As he leapt to shoot, the clock sounded ending the first half.

Upon returning from halftime, things continued to heat up. The Tigers and Towns County competed fiercely. Changing leads multiple times, both teams struggled desper-

ately to gain the upper hand. Despite a dramatic increase in points on the board, neither team had made any significant progress in beating the other. But the Tigers had managed to gain a lead of 48-47.

Going in to the fourth quarter, Towns County got the drop on the Tigers with a two-point shot. Despite two free throws for Washington that tied the game yet again, Towns County continued to inch ahead. Shot by shot, and free throw by free throw, the visiting team took the lead. Trailing 55-49, the Tigers boosted themselves with a two-point shot. But time was running out.

After a timeout with 2:13 remaining in the game, the battle of inches continued. Towns County was winning. As time ticked, the Tigers recovered themselves and began to gain ground. Scoring multiple times, they pulled themselves within four points of victory. The board registered 61-57 against the Tigers. 18 seconds remained. Towns County scored. A foul resulted in two free throws for the Tigers. Hope glimmered but time dwindled. Towns County recovered the ball and retained it in spite of the best efforts of the Tigers, buying themselves the final precious seconds of the game to achieve a narrow victory.

## Tigers outpace Aquinas 70-57

Battling hard for victory, the Tigers' boys varsity basketball team smashed Aquinas 70-57 in their game January 3.

Jaylen Quinn dealt the first two successful shots of the evening for Wilkes County, followed by Ja'Marquez Tyson and Lawrence Murray. Dalen Cobb managed a successful shot as well before the end of

the first quarter. Leading 16-10 at the beginning of the second quarter, the Tigers only continued to score. Play after play, they clawed ahead of Aquinas and maintained the lead into halftime. The scoreboard read 35-17.

Despite their rocky first half, Aquinas emerged from halftime almost a new team.

Seizing the Tigers by the tail, Aquinas pounded the Wilkes County team. Scoring shot after shot, they closed the distance between themselves and the Tigers with alarming speed. By the beginning of the fourth quarter, Aquinas only lacked 14 points to overtake the Tigers. The onslaught continued. After a timeout with 6:57 remaining on the clock, the Tigers seemed to show some signs of life, managing two successful shots. Another timeout was called at 4:31. The score was 52-45. In a last-ditch effort to finish strong, the Tigers rallied. Scoring multiple shots seemingly out of the blue; the stunning change of pace was just enough to knock Aquinas on their heels where they would stay for the remainder of the game. The visiting team was not finished yet however, and managed to score three successful shots. It seemed that Aquinas would have the last word. But in the final seconds of the game, in a dizzying whirl of speed, Cobb seized the ball and sprinted down the court to dunk the last two points of the game for yet another Tiger triumph.



Desmond Cofer takes the battle to Aquinas

### Washington-Wilkes Tigers 2021/2022 Boys Varsity Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time/Score
December 7	Oglethorpe County	Away	Win 71-67
December 10	Harlem	Away	Win 78-58
December 11	Monsignor Donovan Catholic	Home	Win 82-69
December 14	Thomson	Home	Loss 81-58
December 17	Greene County	Away	Win 65-38
December 18	Monsignor Donovan Catholic	Home	Win 74-58
December 21	Harlem	Home	Win 74-61
December 23	Thomson	Away	Loss 91-74
December 28	Oglethorpe County	Home	Win 58-38
December 30	Prince Avenue Christian	Home	Win 70-52
January 3	Aquinas	Home	Win 70-54
January 4	Commerce	Away	Win 65-62
January 7	Towns County	Home	Loss 63-59
January 10	Aquanis	Away	8:30
January 11	Social Circle	Away	7:30
January 15	Calhoun Falls Charter	Away	6:00
January 21	Lincoln County	Away	8:30
January 25	Greene County	Home	7:30
January 28	Towns County	Away	7:00
February 1	Social Circle	Home	7:30
February 5	Lincoln County	Away	5:30
February 8	Commerce	Home	7:30

\*Denotes a Region Game



The Roy L Burns Senior Center Schedule: Monday, January 17-BINGO at 10 a.m. Tuesday January 18- Winter Art Class-Please sign up! Wednesday, January 19- Exercise at 10 a.m. Thursday January 20- BINGO at 10 a.m.

Zumba classes will be offered by certified instructor Tiffany Weser on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month at 8:30 A.M. at the Curry Colvin Rec Complex Gym-

nasium, 1962 Rowland York Dr., Lincolnton. Classes are \$5 per class or \$15 per month.

The Wilkes County Democratic Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Reverend GL Avery Third Shiloh Missionary Baptist Association Building in Washington. All registered Democrats are welcome to attend.

The Wilkes County Sunday School Union will convene at Reeves Chapel Baptist Church January 29-30. The session will begin Saturday morning at 10 a.m. All Sunday Schools will receive a letter from the secretary.