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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHIPOLA HOOPSTERS OPEN CONFERENCE WITH WINS OVER TALLAHASSEE

MARIANNA—Both Chipola basketball squads opened the conference season with wins over Tallahassee on Wednesday, Jan. 8.

The Indians improved to 14-5 and 1-0 in the conference with 70-69 win over the Eagles.

Head coach Ryan Cross said, “We had some chances to build our lead and put the game away at times, but they hung around and actually had the lead late in the game.” Brandon Freeman made a big three to give the Indians the lead late in the game.

JueMichael Young led Chipola with 22 points and 10 rebounds. Freeman scored 19 points. Michael Wilds added 10.

The Indians travel to Okaloosa-Walton on Saturday, Jan. 11. OW is ranked first in the country, but they defeated Gulf Coast by only one point on Wednesday. Cross said, “They haven’t lost at home in four or five years, so it will be a big test for us Saturday night.”

Cross is optimistic about his team’s chances this season. “This is the best team we’ve had in my three years. And we’re finally at full strength with everybody healthy. Wednesday was the first time in a while that we’ve had our whole team together. I think we should start playing our best basketball.”

Starting point guard Nick Williams, a pre-season All American transfer from Kansas State, returned to the CJC lineup this week.

The Lady Indians improved to 10-6 and 1-0 in the conference with a 63-53 win over the Lady Eagles on Wednesday.

Kayla Ard led Chipola with 22 points and 6 rebounds. Lanita Carter scored 12 points and pulled down 10 rebounds. Reginette Maddox scored 9 points with six rebounds and five assists. Rebecca Montz scored 9. Chipola led 31-26 at the half. Both teams travel to Okaloosa-Walton on Saturday, Jan. 11. TCC was ranked 17th in the nation. Head coach Jason Keene said, “It was a good win for us to start the conference with a win at home. The girls did a good job.”

Maddox leads the squad in scoring, averaging 15.5 points per game. She is also tenth in state in scoring. Montz is averaging 11.8 points a game, putting her at number 22 on the state scoring list.

The Lady Indians welcomed back Amber Bryant on Wednesday, who returned following ACL surgery.

For the latest scores, call the CJC Hotline at 718-2CJC.

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