

Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



E-mail: tcherald@brmemc.net

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Hiawassee, Georgia

Lady Indians win Middle School Soccer Championship



The Towns County Lady Indians Middle School Soccer team was crowned champions on Saturday at White County Soccer Complex in Cleveland. The Lady Indians completed a perfect 12-0 season with a 4-0 championship win over the Lakeview Academy Lady Lions. Photo/Myra Arrowood.

By Jim Melton
Special to Towns County Herald

The Towns County Middle School Lady Indians are soccer champions in just their second year of existence.

The Lady Indians capped an undefeated regular season with a 4-0 championship victory over the Lakeview Academy Lady Lions on Saturday at White County Soccer Complex in Cleveland.

The title game victory capped a perfect 12-0 soccer season for the Lady Indians.

The Lady Indians, under the direction of Head Coach Paula Whitehead, only allowed four goals to be scored against them in 10 regular season games, while scoring 32 against their opponents.

Schools in the soccer league included Lakeview Academy, North Habersham, South Habersham, Lumpkin County, and White County.

The Lady Indians finished the regular season as the First Place team and earned themselves an opening game bye in the League Tournament held Saturday at White County Soccer Complex.

The Lady Indians faced North Habersham in their first game. With goals from Faithe Robinson, McKenzie Moss, and Makayla Underwood, the Lady Indians easily disposed of the Bobcats from North Habersham with a score of 3-1.

The Bobcats could not get any offense going due to the swarming defense of Taylor Underwood, Kaila Reece,

Vanessa Eller, and Destiny Blythe.

Following the North Habersham win, the Lady Indians faced Lakeview Academy in the Title game. The Lady Lions came out ready to play and it was plain to see that their game plan was to be physical with the Lady Indians and the officials were going to let the game be decided on the field, rather than by them.

After numerous hard shoves and pushes, arm-grabbing, and jersey-pulling by the Lady Lions, Faithe Robinson got the first goal as she took a forearm to the back. McKenzie Moss slipped a header by the goalie and Makayla Underwood bent a long winding shot from the left side around the Lakeview goalie for a 3-0 halftime lead.

The second half saw excellent defense again from Taylor Underwood, Reece, Eller, and Blythe. Also the Lady Indians had great minutes from Kirsten Cox, Mia Manto, Alley Settles, Alyssa Pyle, and Elizabeth Turner.

Taylor Vardeman may have saved her best game of the season for the Championship game as she was all over the field. Bailey Sutton used her speed and toughness as she was constantly harassing the Lady Lions.

Towns County goalie, Taylor McCarter, was solid in front of the net all day long. McKenzie Moss concluded the Lady Indians scoring for the day as she captured her second goal of the Championship Game with a few minutes left to play and a 4-0 victory. For the season, Towns scored 39 goals and only allowed 5 goals to their opponents and cumulated a perfect 12-0 season.

Vipers 14-U Fastpitch Travel Softball team wins Championship



Front - Madison Garrett, Breanna Rogers, Paisley Staton, Cheyanna Penland Back - Doc Staton, Rachel Benson, Kelsey Nix, Anna Grace Roach, Brittany Ledford, Tori Golden, Wade Benson

The Vipers 14-U Fastpitch Travel Softball team are back to their winning ways. They had a brief falter, at their last tournament at Dalton, GA, where they broke their winning streak and came in third. The Vipers pulled it together and became tournament champions once again at this weekend's "I Feel The Heat" Tournament in

Clarkesville, GA.

Seven teams were in their age group in the tournament, with one dropping out after pool play. Obviously, the Vipers were not yet awake for their 8 am, pool play game. The Vipers pulled it together and won the next 4 games, clinching the championship.

Wade Benson and Doc Staton, coaches, are proud of the girls and want to thank them for their determination and the effort they have displayed this season. Of the four tournaments the Vipers have played thus far in 2010, they have won three and came in third at one. Congratulations ladies!!!

Indians back on winning track

By Charles Duncan
TOWNS COUNTY HERALD
charlesduncan@brmemc.net

The Blue Ridge Bobcats out of Blue Ridge, NC were just what Coach Shannon Moss' Towns County Indians needed on Monday.

The Bobcats came to town with hopes of jumping on a tired baseball team. However, the Indians liked every pitch they saw.

Towns County jumped out in front early and cruised to a 16-1 victory over the Bobcats.

"Timely pitching and timely hitting will win games for you every time," Coach Moss said. "They really needed a win, and this was the best medicine we could have hoped for as a team."

Prior to Monday's heroics, the previous week was tough for the Towns County Indians baseball team. They lost three crucial Region 8-A games.

The Indians started off the week losing a 6-5 heartbreaker at Prince Avenue Christian. Things got progressively worse as the week went along.

They lost to Commerce at Indian Field by a score of 17-2 and didn't do much better in a match up with the Social Circle Redskins, losing 16-6 at Social Circle.

The Indians have seven games left and the pressure of

making the state playoffs has vanished into thin air. However, the Indians have a chance to play spoiler in how Region 8-A shapes up.

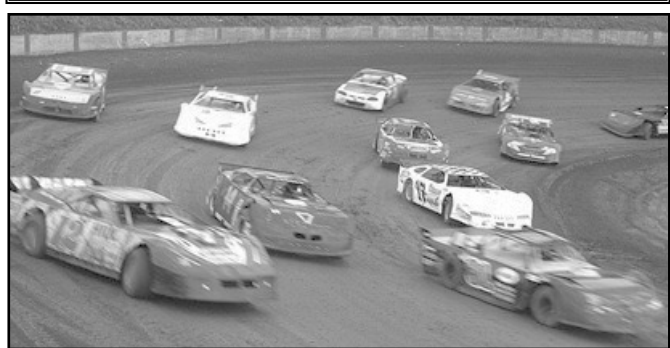
The Indians still have Hebron Christian, Lakeview Academy and Athens Academy left to play on the region schedule. They also take on

Andrews, NC, Tallulah Falls, Hayesville, NC and the Bobcats of Blue Ridge, NC prior to the end of the 2010 season.

"This team will gut it out, they won't quit," Coach Moss said. "They've been that way all year. I guess it's something that you really can't coach, but they don't give up."

Local Racing Action

By: Carl Vanzura



Cars will return to Tri-County Race Track for the 46th season this Saturday night.

Tri-County Race Track opens this Friday and Saturday

After two successful Saturday practices Tri-County Race Track in Brasstown, NC will open for its 46th season. This Friday night, the go karts will headline the dirt oval as they start the second season with a new oval from the one they ran on last year. There is a class for every one from age eight up.

On Saturday night, there will be six classes run weekly, Late Model Sportsman, GM Performance Late Model, Cornwell Tools Modified Street, Street Stock, Mini Stock and Road Runners. Gates both nights open at 4 p.m.

There were some really big races all over the area this week. Hall of Fame dirt track racer Ronnie Johnson won the inaugural Volunteer Racers Series race Friday night at Boyds Speedway in Dalton, Georgia and then traveled to Green Valley Speedway in Alabama to win the Southern Regional

Racers Series 40 lapper, picking up \$3,000 at both races. Ray Cook picked the win Friday at Green Valley and ran sixth Saturday. Jacob Grizzle held on to the points lead in the S.R.R.S. with a sixth and 14th place finishes.

Todd Morrow won for the first time this year at Cleveland Speedway. Tony Knowles took the win at North Georgia Speedway in Chatsworth. Frank Ingram took opening night honors at Dixie Speedway in Woodstock. Benji Cole won the super feature at Lavonia Speedway. The Southern All Stars East race at Cherokee Speedway was won by Johnny Pursley as he edged Casey Roberts out at the finish line. Chris Madden won the Commonwealth 100 at West Virginal Speedway and took home \$25,000 for his efforts. Jonathan Davenport had another great race, taking home a third place finish that saw 56 cars entered. N/Apr21-08jgg

YHC women's soccer team honored for academic excellence

Young Harris College's women's soccer team has been honored as one of the National Junior College Athletic Association's Academic Teams of the Year.

The Mountain Lions are just one of 22 women's soccer teams in the entire NJCAA to receive the honor. With a 3.36 team grade point average, Young Harris had the fifth best overall GPA in the nation last semester.

"I am extremely proud of my team's accomplishments in the classroom," Young Har-

ris head coach Kathy Brown said. "We have a very bright sophomore class that has set the stage for the freshman this year. Those sophomores have done a fantastic job of letting the freshman know what is expected academically. The freshman have stepped in and worked hard to follow the example."

"I have been very fortunate to work with such a fantastic group of young women," Brown said.

The minimum grade point average required for consideration for the honor is a team GPA of 3.00.

The honor caps off an excellent year for the Mountain Lions, which reached the semifinals of the NJCAA Region XVII Tournament and saw Brown earn the region's Coach of the Year honor. YHC was ranked as high as No. 6 nationally by the NJCAA during the season.

Next year, Young Harris will leave the NJCAA and compete at the four-year level in all sports. Many of Brown's players will return for the 2010 season.

"I'm excited that many of our high achieving sophomores have signed on to be part of our first ever junior class of soccer players," Brown said.



Towns County Indians' third baseman Billy Meier can't get around on the off-speed pitch thrown to him during the Indians' 17-2 loss to Commerce on Thursday. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Once again Towns County Indians' senior hurler John Bleckley pitched effective baseball last week. The Indians however, didn't fare as well, losing all three games and pulling themselves out of contention to make the state playoffs. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Towns County Indians head coach Shannon Moss share's some base-running logic with the Indians' Matt Beni last week. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Towns County Indians' Head Baseball Coach Shannon Moss has a brainstorming session with his team during a region match up with the Commerce Tigers last week. The Indians lost all three Region games last week and pulled themselves out of contention to make the state playoffs. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

This Saturday Night

April 24, 2010

Six Classes Nightly

- Late Model Sportsman
- GM Performance Late Model • Modified Street
- Street Stock • Mini Stock • Road Runner

• Pit Gate opens at 4 p.m. • Spectator Gate opens at 4 p.m.
• Racing Activities start at 7 p.m.

Spectator Admission \$10 • Seniors \$8 • Children under 10 Free

GO KART SEASON OPENER FRIDAY APRIL 23