

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Indians Basketball wraps up stellar season in State Playoffs

By Jeremy Foster  
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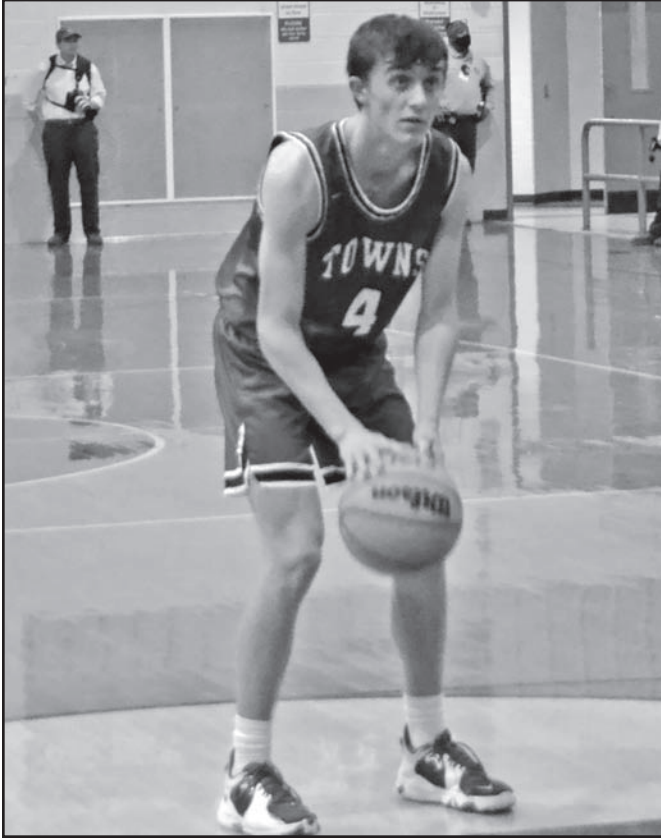
Making it all the way to the "Elite 8" of the Class A Public State Championship Playoffs is no small feat, especially after graduating so many seniors last May, and the Towns County Indians finished up a spectacular season on Wednesday, March 2, at Manchester High School.

Unfortunately, the Indians were not able to advance for a chance to reclaim their previous accolade from the 2020-21 season of becoming State Champions, though they certainly etched themselves into the annals of Towns County Basketball history.

Playing on Manchester's home turf, the Indians lost last week's playoff game 64-45 in a matchup that was back and forth all the way through.

"It was a hard-fought game staying close through the first half," Boys Head Coach Brian Hunnicutt said. "Manchester came out, and the press took control in the second half of the game and stayed at a 10 to 12-point game until Towns had to foul at the end of the game and Manchester hit their free throws.

"I am so proud of the boys; they played their guts



Indians sophomore Tanner Cunningham is one of four underclassmen that appeared in all 28 games this year. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Towns County head coach Brian Hunnicutt guided the Indians to a 20-win season, an Elite 8 appearance and a Battle of the States title in his first year at the helm. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

and they will be greatly missed: Zion Henderson, Dade Joyner, Cabe Poston, Kyle Oakes and Collin Crowder.

"They did a lot for Towns County, and I am also extremely proud of our Towns County

fans. We had tremendous support in the community throughout and had a lot of people show up to the game down here in Manchester."

Further cementing his admiration and appreciation for

the beloved Towns County community, Hunnicutt said that the season had been "an exhilarating ride, and I am so thankful to God that I was allowed to be a part of it. Go Indians!"

Congratulations to the

Towns County Indians Basketball Team for a superb season that ended 20-8 overall and 9-8 in region play. To keep up with the new season of Indians Sports, visit [www.townscountyathletics.com](http://www.townscountyathletics.com).

## Soccer: Lady Indians 6-0 in region; Indians win big against Greene County

By Jeremy Foster  
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Towns County Indians and Lady Indians Soccer continued last week, beginning with games on Monday, Feb. 28, at Greene County High School.

Up first, the fourth-ranked Lady Indians earned a 10-0 blowout victory against the Lady Tigers. Freshman Abby Gardella led the game with 5 goals, junior Sarah Shook had 2 goals and 2 assists, and freshman Kya Smith, junior Abby Pate and sophomore Emma Lallement added 1 goal apiece.

"It was a great night because some young girls got a lot of minutes," Girls Head Coach Clay Livingston said.

The boys played next, feeding off the momentum from the ladies' game to earn a big 6-3 victory themselves. Senior Lane Lallement scored all six of the goals.

"We are still figuring out how to slow the tempo defensively and prevent conceding goals on losing possession in the midfield and losing our



Gali Quijada advances up the field during a recent Lady Indians' home match. Photo/Jacie Wood

shape in the back," Boys Head Coach Rollie Thomas said.

Wednesday, March 2, saw a pair of games hosted at home against Lake Oconee Academy.

The girls played first and notched another win, 3-0.

"Senior Bazya Smith opened the scoring with a

beautiful unassisted goal from outside the 18-yard box; senior Rylie Livingston scored on a corner kick from Smith; and Shook capped it off with a goal assisted by senior Miranda Spain," Livingston said. "Every region win is important."

Next, the boys lost their game to No. 2-ranked Lake



The Towns County Indians in action at home during last Friday's Region 8-A Public match with ninth-ranked Commerce. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Oconee by a score of 10-0.

On Friday, March 4, only the Indians played against Commerce High School, as Commerce's girls basketball team made it to the "Final 4" of the State Championship Playoffs, so the girls' game will be rescheduled to a later date.

Against No. 9 Commerce, the Indians saw another loss, 10-1. Senior Lane Lallement had the lone goal on a penalty kick he drew from an early counter, marking his seventh goal this week. Prior to the game, Lallement was first in the region in scoring with 16 goals in seven matches.

"We just got basketball players back, so here is to things looking up," Thomas said.

The Lady Indians and Indians were set to play after press time on Tuesday, March 8, in another away region game versus Social Circle High School.



The Lady Indians prepare for kickoff during last week's region clash with Lake Oconee Academy. Photo/Lowell Nicholson