

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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No. 5 Lady Indians blank Washington-Wilkes, survive vs. GMC

Towns County men win two of three games last week

By Daysha Pandolph
Staff Writer
Towns County Herald

Following a brief scoring slump, the 5th-ranked Towns County Lady Indians soccer team got back on track last week with two big region wins against Washington Wilkes and Georgia Military College Prep School.

They started the week out strong last Tuesday, March 19, with a sweeping 7-0 victory over Washington Wilkes.

Abby Gardella pushed the Lady Indians forward all night with four goals. Kya Smith also played a convincing game with two goals and one assist. The other point was provided by Emma Lallement, who scored one goal and had two assists.

Reagan Rogers, Halie Arrowood and Chloe Sutton were also crucial to the win, assisting several of their teammates in scoring.

On Friday, March 22, the Lady Indians faced GMC at Lake Oconee Academy due to weather. Despite the unfamiliar field, both teams played competitively. In the end, Towns County claimed the 2-1 victory over GMC.

Late in the first half, Lallement assisted Arrowood in the first goal of the night. Arrowood returned the favor late in the second half when she and Sutton assisted Lallement in scoring the game winner.

"We have put ourselves in a good position to host in the first round of the playoffs," commented coach Clay Livingston.

Although last week's results were positive, Livingston believes there is still a lot of



Towns County soccer seniors were recognized on Tuesday, March 19: (L-R) Haile Arrowood, Brittany Cabrera, Elizabeth Edwards, Emma Lallment, Laura Mauldin, Anabella Willson, Christopher Bechtol and Brock Murray. Photo/Penny Ledford

room for his team to grow and improve in the coming weeks.

"We need to play smarter late with a lead," he said. "That is something we will focus on this week at practice and during film sessions."

The team plays next at Lincoln County on March 26, then at home vs. Banks County on March 29.

Rankings update: The Lady Indians sit fifth in Class A (Div. 2) behind top-ranked Aquinas, No. 2 LOA, third-

ranked Lincoln County and No. 4 Atlanta Classical Academy.

Portal, Hawkinsville, McIntosh County, Wheeler County and Montgomery County round out the top 10.

Boys' soccer - The Towns County Indians soccer team had two great wins early last week, only to lose their Friday match against Georgia Military College Prep School.

On Tuesday, March 19, the boys defeated Washington Wilkes 2-1 with goals scored

by Jordan Lopez and Cruz Kitchens. Caden Coggins also contributed to the win with one assist, and Dustin Barrett had eight saves and gave up one lone goal.

"Defense came up big at the end of the game," commented coach Art Cartee. "With the win, we locked up the four or five seed in the state playoffs."

The next night, the Indians earned another victory over West Oak. Two goals by Reed

Adams and one by Coggins put the team ahead, then Barrett secured the win with six saves from the goalpost. Adams also contributed an assist.

"Defense and midfield played a wonderful game," shared Cartee.

Finally, on Friday, March 22, the Indians were defeated by GMC 5-0.

Going into halftime, Towns County was only down 2-0, but couldn't recover after giving up three goals in the

second half.

"(We had) a mixture of starters and subs to prevent injuries in the pouring down rain," said Cartee, who shared that GMC is the state's top team.

"(I'm) super proud of the guys and the way that they have played the No. 3, No. 2 and No. 1 teams in the state for Class A-D2. We continue to improve as a team primarily made up of freshmen and sophomores."

Baseball: Indians' bats explode in region sweep of Lincoln County

By Daysha Pandolph
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Towns County Herald

The ninth-ranked Towns County Indians baseball team (9-5) had quite a victorious week over the Lincoln County Red Devils, sweeping the three-game Region 8-A series.

The winning streak began on Tuesday night, March 19, when Towns County finished their home matchup with a 4-0 shutout.

Kade McConnell had a busy night, pitching over 6 innings and recording the win with nine strikeouts. He was relieved by Zane Floyd, who threw the final 2/3 of an inning.

Other key players included Eli McNabb with two hits, one run and two RBI's and Connor Chastain with two hits and one RBI. Tanner Cunningham also executed a perfect squeeze on Tuesday, but for an insurance run late in the game.

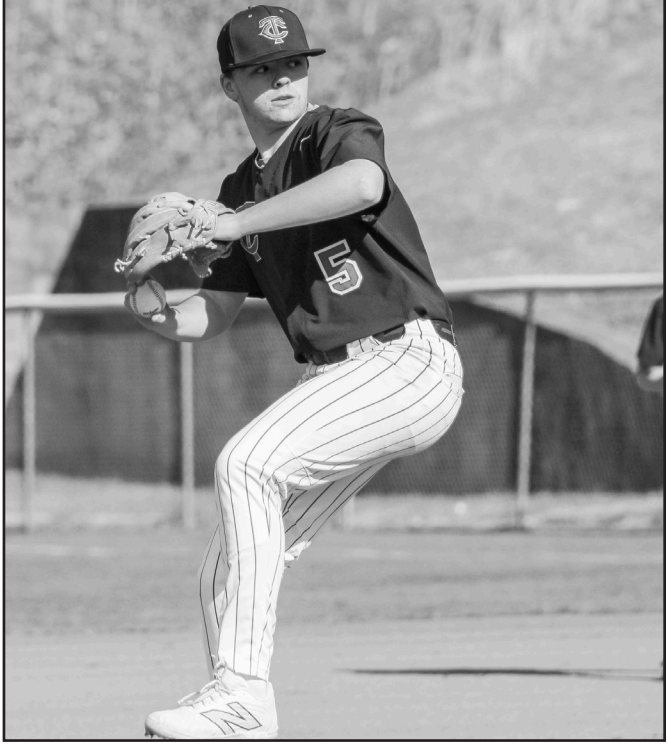
Chastain, who ended with two doubles, and McNabb each finished 2-for-3.

A few nights later, the Indians traveled to Lincoln County to face the Red Devils in a doubleheader.

The first game was explosive and ended in a 14-3 Towns County victory.

Stone Chauncey led the team by driving in four runs with a grand slam. Floyd, McNabb, Connor Chastain and McConnell also contributed hits and runs driven in throughout the night. Cunningham, Cale Kirby, Matthew Chastain and Morgan Walker added hits as well.

Brayden Barrett served



Braydon Barrett picked up a win vs. Lincoln. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

his team from the pitcher's mound for over 4 innings, giving up four hits and four walks and three earned runs. He totalled seven strikeouts before Oliver Serafin came in to pitch the remaining 2/3 of an inning with one strikeout and giving up one hit.

The Indians won the second game of the doubleheader 17-4.

Once again, Chauncey drove in four runs, which included his second home run of the night. He also collected two hits.

Floyd and Connor Chastain added multiple hits; Kirby and McConnell collected three hits, two runs and an RBI; and Matthew Chastain and Cunningham each collected a hit

and drove in runs.

Floyd, who impressed fans with his leadership skills, was also featured on the pitcher's mound, where he pitched five innings and gave up zero runs. He struck out 11 while scattering seven hits.

"Lincoln County began the (fourth) inning with two hits, and Floyd hit a batter to load the bases with nobody out," commented his coach and father, Shannon Floyd.

"(He) then showed some senior leadership, striking out the next two batters. Tanner Cunningham caught the third out and left field to preserve the lead over the next two innings."

Serafin pitched the sixth inning to finish out the game



Stone Chauncey homered twice last week, including a grand slam. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

and the series.

"This week will prove to be a big week for the Indians," said coach Floyd, looking ahead to games vs. Lake Oconee Academy.

"This series may determine if the Indians will host a playoff series at the end of the regular season. The Titans of Lake Oconee are in second place in the region [and ranked No. 10], while the Indians are sitting in third place.

"Towns County will need to win the series against Lake Oconee to host a home playoff game. We would like to invite everyone to Larry Kimsey Field on Friday night to see the Indians battle the Titans."

The Chatuge Shores Men's Golf Association Season starts on April 1

The Chatuge Shores Men's Golf Association announces the start of their 2024 summer season beginning April 1st and running through Oct. 31. Their winter season, which runs from November through March, is just wrapping up. If you missed it, you missed some very nice golf days. Here's your chance to catch up.

The group plays every Monday and Wednesday mornings, weather permitting, meeting at the Chatuge Shores Golf Course by 8:30 AM. They welcome any level of golfer to join them, which enjoys a lot of fun and friendship along with handicapped- golf competition.

Current members consist of part time and year round residents, have handicaps ranging from a 4 to a 25 and are from the local surrounding area - Clay, Cherokee, Towns and Union Counties. Membership dues are \$30 per year which includes a luncheon at the end of the season. Establishing a handicap is required and they can assist you with that process. If you have an interest in our group, please contact President Steve Hackley at 706-994-7660 or Secretary/Treasurer Richard Purdy at 303-909-1090 for more information.

Y'all come and join us for some summer fun! TMar27J1JH