

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians rebound with 14-run outburst in game three of Lincoln series

By Todd Forrest
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Towns County avoided its second straight Region 8-A sweep by taking the final contest of last week's three-game set vs. Lincoln County.

The Indians erased a 6-1 second-inning deficit with two in the bottom half of the frame and six in the third en route to a 14-6 victory.

During Tuesday's series opener in Lincolnton, Towns County couldn't protect a 5-0 lead, eventually falling 6-5 via a seventh-inning walk-off single with two away in a tie game.

The series moved to Hiwassee on Friday, where the Indians were on the business end of a Red Devils' 2-hitter during a 7-1 loss in the first game of the doubleheader.

The Indians host Lake Oconee Academy (LOA) on Tuesday at 4 p.m. before the series shifts to Greensboro on Friday.

Indians 14, Lincoln County 6 - The Indians exploded for six in the third before adding four insurance runs in the sixth in a 14-6 game-three victory.

Seth Gillis and Kade McConnell combined to finish 6 for 9 with 4 RBIs and three runs, while Matthew Chastain tossed five shutout innings in relief.

Tied 1-1 in the second, Lincoln put up two runs before Towns got five back in the bottom half of the frame, capitalizing on two walks, a hit batter and an error.

A bases-loaded balk brought home the first run, followed by Gillis' run-scoring single that cut the deficit in half at 6-3.

Chastain worked a 1-2-3 third, setting the stage for the Indians' six-run breakthrough in their half of the third that started with seven straight Indians reaching base.

Stone Chauncey walked and scored on a passed ball and Caleb Berrong was plunked with bases loaded, making it a 6-5 game. Zane Floyd tied it up on an RBI single and Gills brought home the go-ahead



Junior Zane Floyd totes the rubber during Friday's doubleheader vs. Lincoln County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

run courtesy of a fielder's choice. Connor Chastain laced a two-run single to cap off the six-run inning with Towns County out front 9-6.

Matthew Chastain escaped a two-on, two-out jam in the fourth and Gillis played Cale Kirby with a single in the Indians' half of the inning.

Matthew Chastain opened the four-run sixth with a single, and later, Gillis and Berrong were both hit by a pitch. Chauncey's two-run double broke things open at 12-6; McConnell made it 13-6 with an RBI single and an error off the bat of Tanner Cunningham extended the margin to 14-6.

Gillis finished 3 for 4 with 3 RBIs and a pair of runs. McConnell went 3 for 5, scoring once and driving in another run. Chauncey walked three times, scored twice and drove in two during a 1-for-2 day; Connor Chastain plated two runs while going 1 for 5.

Floyd went 1 for 4 with a walk and an RBI; Cunningham scored twice and walked during a 1-for-3 performance. Kirby finished 1 for 1 with three runs and two walks. Matthew Chastain scored during a 1-for-3 game.

Morgan Walker and Grayson Youngblood added one run apiece.

Braydon Barrett worked two innings, allowing six hits and five earned runs. Matthew Chastain punched out seven in five innings, giving up three hits and two walks.

Indians 5, Lincoln County 6 - The Red Devils took advantage of a catcher's interference with one away in the bottom of the seventh inning of Tuesday's game one, eventually coming around to score via a walk-off single.

Towns scored four in the top of the first, the first two courtesy of Gillis' two-run inside-the-park homer. The Indians added two more on a



Tanner Cunningham scored twice during the Indians' 14-6 victory over Lincoln County on Friday. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

walk and a hit batter with the bases loaded.

Gillis made it 5-0 when he scored on Connor Chastain's second-inning triple, but that proved to be the final

Indians run of the day.

Lincoln got four in the fourth with three of those runs scoring via back-to-back two-out singles. Another two-out single made it 5-5 in the

sixth, setting the stage for the Red Devils' seventh-inning walk-off.

McConnell got the nod and tossed 5 2/3, allowing 11 hits and five earned runs. Matthew Chastain gave up one hit in 1 1/3; Floyd surrendered two hits during the seventh.

Floyd and Connor Chastain each went 2 for 4 at the dish. Gillis drove in two during a 1-for-3 day; Chauncey went 1 for 3 and Berrong was 1 for 4.

McConnell and Kirby recorded one RBI apiece.

Indians 1, Lincoln County 7 - A McConnell single and a Kirby double accounted for the only Towns County hits during the first of two Friday home games.

Floyd sat down eight over 6 2/3, giving up 12 hits and seven earned runs. Chauncey fanned the only batter he faced in the seventh.

Lincoln put up five runs in the first before Towns got one back in the fourth via an error and an RBI groundout by McConnell that scored Berrong.

Up next: Towns County hosts Lake Oconee Academy at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, then the Indians travel to Hiwassee Dam, North Carolina on Wednesday for another 4 p.m. first pitch.

The region series heads south on Friday for a 4 p.m. doubleheader at LOA.

Soccer: Lady Indians thump Wilkes, GMC; shorthanded Indians fall short in PK shootout

By Todd Forrest
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With two 8-0 wins last week, the Towns County Lady Indians remain in the mix for a State playoff spot ahead of Tuesday's Senior Night clash with No. 4 Lincoln County - a matchup that will determine the 3-seed in Region 8-A.

Meanwhile, the men were dealt a 10-0 defeat to No. 1 ranked GMC before suffering a heartbreaking penalty-kick loss at Washington Wilkes while playing a man down due to a second-half red card.

Lady Indians 8, Washington-Wilkes 0 - Jayden Taylor led the blowout with three goals and one helper.

Abby Gardella logged three goals; Sarah Shook scored a goal and dished out four assists; Halie Arrowood had two assists; Cheyenne Doche scored a goal and Alana Stowers chipped in one assist.

Lady Indians 8, GMC 0 - Taylor paced the Lady Indians with her second hat trick of the week.

Halie Arrowood finished with a goal and three assists; Shook had two goals and two assists. Emma Lallement notched two assists, while



The Lady Indians handled their business last week to remain in the hunt for the No. 3 seed in Region 8-A. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Stowers and Brelan Sieveking found the net one time apiece.

Indians 2 (2), Washington-Wilkes 3 (4) - The Indians came up short 4-2 in the penalty kick shootout at Washington-Wilkes last week following a 2-2 tie through 100 minutes.

Brock Murray awarded Towns an early lead but the Tigers raced ahead 2-1 during the second half. Dren Green equalized at 2-2 on a PK after Cruz Kitchens drew a foul in the box.

Unfortunately, Green's second yellow card resulted in a red card which sent him to the

sideline during the 65th minute.

The Indians held Wilkes at bay, despite playing a man short over the final 15 minutes and two overtime sessions.

Indians 0, No. 1 GMC 10 - The top-ranked team in Class A handed Towns County a 10-0 home loss on Friday, March 24.

"GMC is a whole other league, we couldn't hang with them," Towns County coach Rollie Thomas said.

Up next: Towns County hosts Lincoln County on Tuesday for Senior Night. The girls start at 5:30 p.m.

Jala Stamey crowned Individual Invite Champion

On Monday-Tuesday, the No. 21 Truett McConnell University women's golf team traveled to compete in the Golden Tigers Spring Invitational, hosted by Brenau University, where the Lady Bears finished runners-up out of nine teams, with a final team score of 648 through two rounds. Most notable, sophomore Jala Stamey was crowned individual invite champion out of 54 golfers.

No. 4 Southeastern University was crowned overall invite champions with a team score of 642, while TMU was featured besting No. 13 Milligan University (649), Tennessee Wesleyan (666), Brenau University (689), Point University (738) and St. Andrews University (782).

"The ladies had their physical and mental strength tested this week due to cold temperatures, wet conditions, and strong winds," said Head Coach Steve Patton. "I was pleased with our effort and perseverance. It was exciting to see Jala get her first collegiate win and to see the ladies battle down the stretch. We currently have 4 ladies ranked inside the national top 150 in golfstat which is the first time in our history this has been accomplished. We have a few



Jala Stamey loose ends to tie up over the next couple of weeks before our next big tournament in Nashville. The girls and I are ready to get back to work."

Stamey was crowned champion after shooting a 75 through round one and an 82 through round two. Mary Grace Davidson finished tied for seventh after shooting an 84 and cut off six strokes for a 78 in round two, followed

by Sylken November who finished in 12th with an 81 and 83, respectively. Madison Panter tied for 13th while shooting an 83 and 82, followed by Erin Dorsey who individually finished in 16th shooting an 81 and 86. Audrey Grace Holder finished tied for 20th with an 88 and 84, while Lauren Weaver individually finished in 36th, shooting an 84 and 101. N(Mar29 25)CA

Lady Bass Angler's Association Pro Bass Tour

The LBAA, Lady Bass Angler's Association, women's Pro Bass tour is traveling to Lake Chatuge, May 1-5, with the tournament launching out of Georgia Mountain Fairground Hiwassee, GA.

May 4-5, Pro angler (boat-er) and co angler are welcome, you can go to LBAA website to register. Everyone welcome to come and watch weigh-ins May 4-5 around 3:30 PM.

Any question give us a call Cheryl Bowden 214-738-7518; cbowden@ladybassanglers.com.

Annual Rec Department Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8 at 11 AM

The Towns County Parks and Recreation Department is holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Baseball Fields at The Georgia Mountain Fairground Saturday, April 8th at 11 AM.

There will be three age groups: Toddler-4; 5-8; 9-12.

Among the regular 3,000 candy-filled eggs, each field will have 'golden eggs' that will be redeemed for prize Easter Baskets.

We want to thank the Hiwassee Baptist Association who will once again be helping with putting out the eggs and organizing the groups.

