

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

www.townscountyherald.net • E-mail: tcherald@windstream.net

Boys and Girls Soccer Region Champs after beating Lincoln County

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County High School Soccer Teams won their region after beating the Lincoln County Red Devils on Thursday, March 28.

Both teams remain 5-0 in the region with one region game left.

The Lady Indians beat the Red Devils 4-2 to earn a home field playoff game. And with only three games remaining in the regular season, if they are able to defeat the Red Devils in Lincoln County, it's possible they may earn two home playoff games.

Senior Taylor Cornett finished the first half with a hat trick, but the Red Devils were able to get one score just before the half.

Starting the second half with a score of 3-1, the girls stuck mainly to defense to keep the Red Devils from getting back into the game with another goal.

Cornett was not done scoring yet, as she made her fourth goal for the game in the second half.

The Lady Indians seemed very confident after Cornett scored her fourth goal, but they allowed Lincoln County to put one more up before finishing the game 4-2.

"I know what our team is capable of, and with playoffs not far away, we should be playing at



Taylor Cornett moves the ball upfield. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

the highest level we know how," Head Coach John Cornett said. "I'm very proud of how they played, and winning the region gives us a home game in the postseason."

The Boys Team was in a close match with the Red Devils heading into the half, with the score tied at one. The Indians were also playing for the chance to win

the region and go into spring break 5-0 in their region.

The Indians came out after halftime with one goal in mind — to win this match and the region. They successfully controlled the second half and were able to score another four goals, beating the Red Devils 5-2 and winning the region for the first time in school history.



Players and coaches from Towns County's youth soccer teams were recognized during a TCHS Varsity match last week. Photo/Chad Stack

Sophomore Peyton Barrett scored two goals from penalty kicks, sophomore Garrett Oakes scored one goal, and sophomore Garrett Murray scored two goals in the win over the Red Devils.

As the teams shook hands and the Indians celebrated, the boys gave first-year Head Coach Rollie Thomas an ice bath.

"I enjoy coaching this group," Thomas said. "It's a combination of great attitudes and passion for the sport. They're playing at a high level, and it's all thanks to their fight and eagerness to work and improve as a team

every single day.

"To win the region in my first year as a head coach shows me more about the character of the student-athletes buying into new ideas and a new culture. That takes incredible discipline. It's been remarkable to see the capability of each player in his role."

Between the boys and girls games that Thursday, the Towns County Youth Soccer Teams were announced as they walked on the field, being met with a standing ovation.

"I'd like to thank the youth teams that came out to support the

varsity programs for Thursday's match against Lincoln County," Thomas said. "The future looks bright for Towns County Soccer."

"My hope is increased interest in the youth within the community. I'd love to see the sport continue to grow, and I plan to do what I can to make that happen."

The next Towns County Soccer games are on Wednesday, April 10, at home against Banks County, with Lady Indians starting at 5 p.m. and the boys beginning at 7 p.m.

Baseball: Towns wins back to back games against Copper Basin at home

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Indians Baseball won both games of a doubleheader at home against Copper Basin, Tennessee, on Friday, March 29, snapping an eight-game losing streak.

They've dealt with a lot of adversity this season, struggling with depth on the mound due to having a very young group of pitchers and an injury to the Indians' ace senior Seth Fullerton.

Fullerton has been trying to get healthy to help his team win games, which, looking back a month ago, the Indians were above .500 with a 4-3 record and getting better every day.

The Indians play in a tough region that is mostly made up of private schools, with Towns County and Commerce being the only public schools in the 8-A Region.

Private schools seem to have an easier time filling their franks with athletes who play one sport year-round.

Since Towns County is one of the smallest schools in Georgia, it means their top athletes play three and sometimes four sports in a year.

On Friday, the Indians were able to get their ace back on the mound, and in three in-



L-R: Seth Fullerton delivers to the plate in a win over Copper Basin. The Towns County dugout remains engaged with the on-field action. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

nings, Fullerton had pitched a shutout ending in a 15-0 Copper Basin defeat.

Fullerton has pitched in three complete games this season, and he has pitched a no-hitter and two shutouts.

"Having him back out there pitching like he has been all year really helps the team, and they know if he's on the mound pitching, we have a chance to win no matter who we are playing," Head Coach Shannon Floyd said.

Fullerton is not only a tremendous asset on the mound but also terrific at the plate, and on Friday, he went two for three with two hits and two runs.

In the first game of the doubleheader, nine different Indians scored and eight were able to hit the ball to get on base.

Senior Trent Bradshaw started on the mound for the second game and had a stellar outing. He pitched into the



sixth inning and only allowed one hit, one earned run, two walks, and had eight strikeouts on 77 pitches.

The game was scoreless through the top of the third inning until the Indians put three runs on the board, and the Towns County offense never slowed down, scoring 10 more runs in the next three innings.

Eight different Indians were able to generate hits with five players getting doubles.

Senior Devyn Burrell was called from the bullpen to close the game in the middle of the sixth inning. Burrell pitched two innings without allowing a hit and no runs, while striking out two batters.

The Indians defeated Copper Basin 13-2 in the second game, and the boys look forward to building off the momentum from Friday's games as they head into the second half of the season.

"I'm really proud of

this team and how they have fought," Floyd said. "A lot of kids would have hung their heads after losing eight in a row, but not these kids. They play for each other, and it shows in how they are able to overcome adversity."

The Indians had a home game on Monday, April 1, against Hiwassee Dam, North Carolina, which occurred after press time.

Baseball stats available on Page 3B

Indians win three straight; Lady Indians continue to improve through the green

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Boys Golf Team won its third match in a row on Thursday, March 28, playing against Fannin County at Brasstown Valley and Resort.

Senior Will Travis received low medalist honors for the second time in the last three matches, continuing his stellar play of late.

Travis also posted the low score when the boys played the Rebels in Fannin County on Monday, March 18.

Sophomore Nick Sisco was the second medalist for the Indians. Sisco has really improved his game this season. He is the only non-senior on the boys team and has been swinging the club very nicely this year.

"Sisco has been consistently posting lower and lower scores each time he competes, and that is a true testament to how hard our team works," Head Coach Brain Hunnicutt said.

The Lady Indians dropped their match against Fannin but had some highlights that spoke to their continued improvement.

Senior Summer Swanson was again tied for low medalist. She has consistently been the leader for the Lady Indians.



Towns County's Will Travis. Photo/Chad Stack

Gleaton tied Swanson as the low medalist, posting her best score in her two years as a Lady Indian golfer.

"Gleaton has worked hard to improve her game, and the dividends are starting to pay

off for her," Hunnicutt said.

Sophomore Vanessa Floyd has been getting better, too, and she is fighting through an ankle injury from the last playoff basketball game the Lady Indians played.



Towns County girls in action earlier in the season. Photo/Todd Forrest

Both golf teams will have the week of spring break off before returning to compete for a chance to win the area.

"The teams will then begin their final push toward the area tournament at the end

of April," Hunnicutt said. "We have a great group of golfers, and if the boys are able to make another run at the GHSA State Championship this year, that would be four years in a row for the seniors on the team now."

Last year, the boys golf team finished in Third Place and have continued to climb each year, so maybe this year they can make a run for the Top Spot in and walk away with a State Title.