

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians wrap up season; Lady Indians headed to playoffs

By Jeremy Foster
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The action last week for Towns County Soccer closed the boys' season and saw the girls' team heading to the upcoming Georgia High School Association State Playoffs starting next week.

Games began on Tuesday, March 29, away against No. 2 Commerce High School. The fifth-ranked Lady Indians kicked things off and had a loss of 6-0.

"The score was not indicative of how we played," Girls Head Coach Clay Livingston said. "We had some early opportunities to score and were just unlucky. Commerce scored a couple late to make it look worse than it was."

Next up were the Indians, who likewise lost to No. 10 Commerce, 5-0.

"This was an improvement from our first matchup earlier this season, and they are the strongest overall attacking team in our region," Boys Head Coach Rollie Thomas said. "We played them tight in the first half, going down 2-0 but getting chances on our attack.

"Senior Lane Lallement missed a penalty kick which hurt our momentum, and we conceded three more (goals) pretty close together later in the second half."

Next up, Towns County played on Friday, April 1, on Indians home turf against Social Circle High School.

The Lady Indians took on the first match, only losing by one point with a score of 4-3 to the No. 1-ranked Redskins.

"We finally played a complete game versus a top-tier



The fifth-ranked Lady Indians are gearing up for postseason soccer where they will visit fourth-ranked Armuchee (9-3) in round one. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

opponent," Livingston said. "Sophomore Halie Arrowood had the hat trick assisted by senior Bazya Smith on each goal.

"We played well in all phases of the game and got great minutes from the bench. It is exactly what we needed going into the playoffs."

The Lady Indians have a 10-4 region record and are scheduled to begin the playoffs as Region 8's No. 3 seed against Region 6's second-seeded Armuchee High School

on Armuchee grounds in Rome, Georgia, on Tuesday, April 12.

Also taking on Social Circle last Friday were the Indians, who had a close match with a loss of 4-2 to the No. 5-ranked team in the state.

"We took Social to halftime at 0-0, and less than three minutes into the second half, Social scored," Coach Thomas said. "Less than two minutes later, Lallement scored off a beautiful through ball assist from junior Grant Ingram to

make it 1-1.

"About five minutes later, Lallement earned a free kick wide outside our attacking 18. Sophomore Jay Grimsley then assisted a Lallement header for his second goal of the match, giving us the lead at 2-1.

"We held there for 20 minutes before suffering two defensive collapses on counterattacks for through balls to give Social the lead, 3-2. A late effort to gain a tying goal resulted in a breakaway one versus one for

Social against our keeper, senior Justin English, giving them the 4-2 win.

"With Lallement included in the seniors we are losing, he is now second in the region in scoring with 27 goals for the season and is also the second leading goal scorer in Towns County Boys Soccer history.

"That was our last match of the season. We played well, and it was a good one to end on, despite the result. We are done and no playoffs for us this year,

but we are looking at a more experienced group next year with some strength in our rising freshman class."

Congratulations on a hard-fought season by the boys, who finished 6-8 in region play. They may have wrapped up their playing but will undoubtedly continue to support the Ladies as they head to the playoffs next week.

Best of luck to the Lady Indians in the upcoming competition. Go Indians!

Baseball: Indians unsuccessful in road trips to Hiwassee Dam, Union

By Todd Forrest
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The Towns County Indians gave up two runs in the bottom of the seventh during a walk-off loss at Hiwassee Dam, North Carolina, then surrendered an eight-run first at Union County 24 hours later.

Towns County rallied from a 3-0 deficit at Hiwassee Dam on Thursday, March 31, seizing a 5-4 lead in the top-half of the seventh. However, the Eagles answered with two in the bottom of the frame to escape with a 6-5 victory.

Trailing 3-0 in the second, Towns County put up a two-spot in the second before yielding another run in the third. But the Indians began chipping away with one in the fifth, eventually tying things up with another run in the sixth.

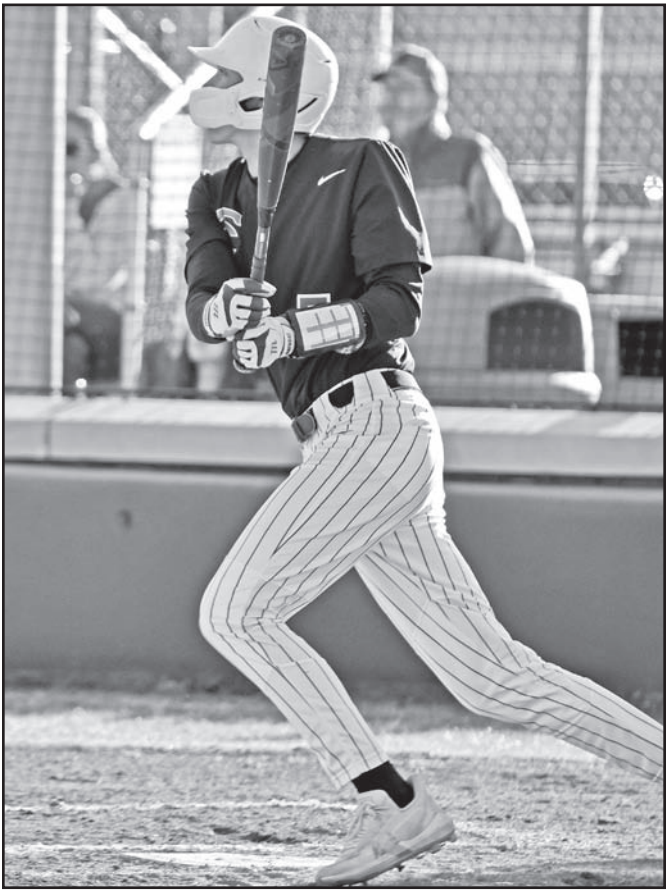
Towns County grabbed its first lead of the day with a run in the seventh but couldn't nail down the come-from-behind win.

A day later, Union County scored eight in the first and two in the second en route to an 18-6 Panthers' victory.

Down 10-1 after two, the Indians cut the margin in half with four in the third but the home team answered with four in their half of the inning, building what proved to be an insurmountable 14-5 advantage.

Collin Crowder started his day on the rubber but lasted just 2/3 of an inning, allowing four hits, seven runs (three earned) and one walk.

Cabe Poston spelled Crowder with two away in the first and lasted 2 1/3 innings. The Indians' southpaw yielded eight hits and seven runs before giving



Sophomore Zane Floyd drives in a run during Towns County's four-run third at Union. Photo/Todd Forrest

way to Matthew Chastain in the bottom of the fourth. Chastain gave up four runs on four hits while issuing a pair of walks.

Meanwhile, the Indians touched up Union County senior ace Lake Hughes to the tune of nine hits and six runs over 4 1/3 innings. Seth Gillis doubled, knocked in a run and scored twice during a 2-for-3 day at the plate.

Connor Chastain scored once and plated two during his 2-for-3 performance. Tanner Cunningham also went 2 for 3 with one run and a ribby.

Kade McConnell doubled while ending his day 1 for 3

at the dish. Stone Chauncey walked and scored while turning in a 1-for-2 outing.

Zane Floyd went 1 for 3 with an RBI; Crowder walked and scored in the first and Kemp Walker recorded a pinch-hit RBI via a fifth-inning groundout.

Towns resumes region play with a three-game set vs. Lake Oconee Academy, beginning Tuesday, April 5 in Hiwassee. The series shifts to LOA for a Friday doubleheader at 2 p.m.

The Indians host Union County in a rematch on Monday, April 11. The first pitch is scheduled for 5 p.m.



Collin Crowder beats a tag at first. He later scored to spot Towns a 1-0 lead at Union. Photo/Todd Forrest



Cabe Poston replaces Crowder at Union with two down and one aboard in the first. Photo/Todd Forrest