

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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

Indians, Lady Indians make Top 10 rankings, will both compete in state playoffs

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Both Towns County Soccer Teams have punched their tickets to the state playoffs and remain unbeaten in region play.

On Tuesday, April 9, seniors Taylor Cornett, Tia Bauer, Lea Neumyer, Corbin Henderson, Nicholas Bradley and Chase Crawford received special recognition for Senior Night.

In their game against Banks County that evening, the Lady Indians extended their winning streak to four games, beating the Leopards 6-2. In fact, they ran away with the match, scoring five goals in the first half and holding their opponents to one goal in each half.

After the big win over 4-A Banks County, the Lady Indians moved up in the Georgia High School Single A Public rankings from eighth to fifth in the state.

The Indians team has been making a historical run this year, having earned a ranked of fifth in the Single A Public rankings, and they remained unbeaten in the region with a 5-0 record as they hosted the 4-A Leopards.

The boys team had won three in a row before Tuesday night's match against Banks County and will host a home playoff game. The Leopards were able to beat the Indians



Towns County soccer seniors during last week's Senior Night festivities. Photo/Chad Stack

1-0, as they scored the only goal of the match in the first half.

The non-region matchup between Banks County and the Indians was very intense, and the Indians, who are short-handed on reserves, could not afford for any of them to get a red card.

Unfortunately, two of the Towns County starters – Nicholas Bradley and Nick Houser – got hit with red cards, causing them to miss the next two games, against North Murray County on Friday, April 12, and the team's last region game against Lincoln County.

After the Indians lost Tuesday night's game, they fell in the Single A State Public rankings from fifth to 10th.

On Friday, April 12, the Lady Indians improved their winning streak by defeating North Murray 4-1 to make it five wins in a row with two games left in the regular season.

The girls team dominated the game and stayed aggressive as Freshman Miranda Spain and Senior Taylor Cornett took several shots, with Cornett getting the first one.

The Mountaineers an-

swered back, scoring a goal to tie the match at one apiece, but freshman Alisa Moss was able to score a goal and to take a 2-1 lead with less than a minute remaining in the first half.

The Lady Indians extended their lead after Kenzie Livingston scored a goal on a penalty kick, but they were not finished yet, as Cornett and Spain worked together to put the pressure on the Mountaineers' goalkeeper.

Cornett dribbled the ball down the field and spotted Spain, who was in front of the goal with a clear shot, and

passed her the ball for the easy goal, culminating in the Lady Indians defeating North Murray 4-1.

"I'm happy we are winning, and most importantly, they are staying aggressive," said Head Coach John Cornett. "They know what they are capable of doing and they all believe and trust each other."

The Indians, missing two of their starters, had the tough task taking on the 11-2 North Murray Mountaineers, who were a Final Four team in last year's 4-A state playoffs.

Indians Sophomore Liam

King saved and blocked several shots by the Mountaineers as they aggressively took shot after shot, but King played an amazing game with several great saves.

The Indians were able to strike first, taking a 1-0 lead over the Mountaineers as sophomore Garrett Murray scored a goal.

Shortly after the goal from Henderson, the Mountaineers were able to score a goal to tie things up at one apiece.

North Murray scored another goal from a corner kick to take a one-score lead with just over a minute in the first half.

The Indians fought hard and kept the game close, but missing two players and only having one player on the bench to sub in and out for other kids to get a break started to show midway through the second half, as the Mountaineers scored their third goal with just over 26 minutes left in the match.

North Murray sealed the game with a 20-yard goal, and the Mountaineers defeated the Indians 5-1.

The Towns County Indians traveled to Lincoln County for their final region match on Tuesday, April 16, with the girls starting at 5 p.m. and the boys starting at 7 p.m. That game occurred after press time.

Both teams will play their final regular season games at Banks County on Thursday, April 18, starting at 5 p.m.

The first two playoff dates will be April 23 and April 24.



Towns County soccer action photos by Lowell Nicholson



Towns County Baseball to face George Walton Academy on Senior Night

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Indians Baseball Team entered their Tuesday, April 9, game riding a five-game win streak as they faced off against the eighth-ranked Commerce Tigers.

The Indians started their race on the mound, senior Seth Fullerton, hoping he would be able to get the team their first region win for the year.

Both teams were scoreless through the first inning, and the Tigers scored first in the top of the second of a sacrifice groundout.

With two outs and a runner on first, freshman Colin Crowder made a great play at shortstop, picking up a ground ball and making the throw to first for the third out.

The Indians were able to tie things up in the second inning, starting with senior Trent Bradshaw being walked and then stealing second and third bases to put him in scoring position.

Freshman Brack Burrell stepped to the plate with two outs and Bradshaw on third and hit an RBI single, allowing Bradshaw to score the tying run, 1-1.

The leadoff man for the Indians, senior Brett Denton, was at the plate next. He hit a bomb to left center, but the center fielder from Commerce made a great catch for the third out.

After the Tigers got a base hit double in the third, their next batter hit a line drive to second base, and due to a bad throw to first base,



Senior Andrew Griffin at the plate. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Commerce was able to score two more runs to take a two-run lead, 3-1.

The bottom of the third was quick for the Indians, as senior Andrew Griffin hit a fly ball to center field, Aidan Berrong hit a line drive to third base for a throw at first, and Fullerton struck out to close the inning.

The Indians tried to keep it close, only allowing the Tigers to score one run in the fourth, but Commerce kept Towns County scoreless in the fourth and fifth for three straight shutout innings, and the Tigers went into the fifth with a three-run lead, 4-1.

Towns County fought and tried to do everything they could in the fifth inning, as Berrong made a play throwing a runner out at first. Fullerton fielded a ground ball, making the throw to Griffin, who tagged the runner's leg as he scored, but the umpire called the runner safe.

Head Coach Shannon Floyd went to the mound to make a pitching change in the fifth inning after the Tigers hit another RBI double, taking a five-run lead at 6-1. Fullerton pitched four innings, retiring four batters, giving up five hits and a total of seven runs.



Senior Kayden McClure crosses home plate during a recent game. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Floyd called on senior Devyn Burrell, but the Tiger offense just seemed to be too much for Towns County that Tuesday night, as they ended up scoring six runs in the top of the fifth.

The Indians did manage to score two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning as they tried to claw their way back into the game. Senior Lane Denton hit an RBI single, allowing Fullerton and Crowder to score.

Burrell finished the game on the mound, pitching two innings, retiring three batters, allowing five hits and three runs as the Indians fell to Commerce 10-3.

The Indians traveled to Lakeview on Tuesday, April 16, for 5:30 p.m. game that occurred after press time.

On Thursday, April 18, the Indians will host their last

home game against George Walton Academy at 5:30 p.m. Make sure to show up at 5 p.m. for Senior Night festivities.

Chatuge Shores Ladies Golf

April is the month for our pre-season practice rounds. Come on out on Tuesdays. Tee off is 9:30 AM and cost is \$25 for a fun round of golf.

May 7th is our opening day with a 9 hole scramble and lunch to gather and meet old and new friends. Tee time is 9 AM, arrive by 8:30 AM. The membership fee is \$25 and the golf is \$25 for 18 holes. League season is from May

7th to September 17th. If you want to have fun and golf with some great ladies! Chatuge Shores is where it's at!

We invite you to come on out and check out our lovely Chatuge Shores Golf Course and meet some fine ladies.

For more information you may contact Glenda Geddings at frank.geddings@yahoo.com or Mary Mott at marymottcop@gmail.com.