

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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

Crowder, Chastain knock homers; Indians defeat Union 7-0

By Jeremy Foster
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Towns County Indians Baseball has been building tremendous momentum over the last couple of weeks, garnering both individual and team successes.

These successes have included senior Collin Crowder's career-first home run, a grand slam off the scoreboard against Lake Oconee Academy April 4, and sophomore Connor Chastain's career-first homer versus Union County April 11. The Indians won both of those home games.

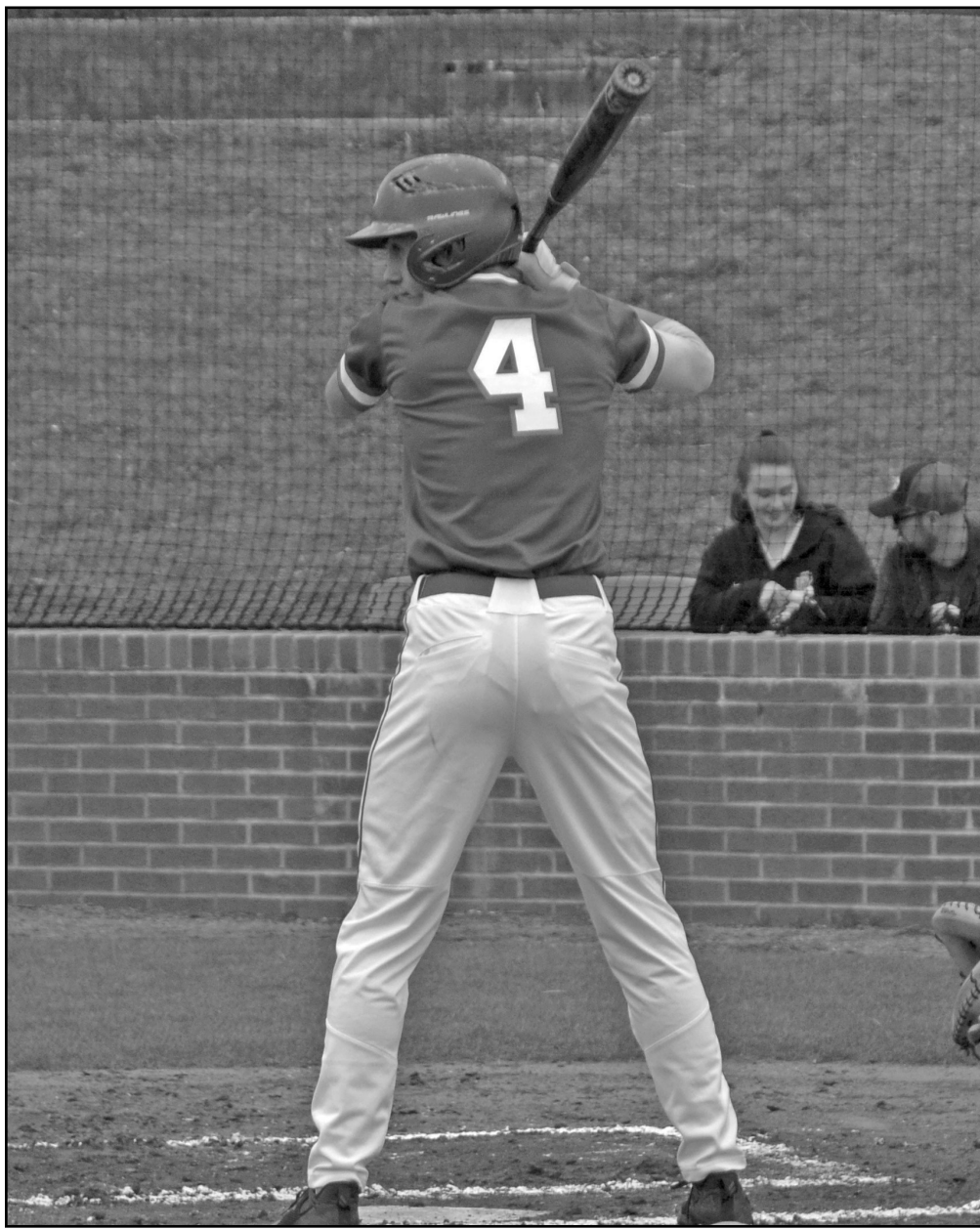
Concerning the action from Monday, April 11, Towns County was dead set on staking its claim in the region in hopes of a higher seeding for the upcoming State Playoffs as the baseball season draws near a close.

Facing off against Union County, the Indians were also looking to avenge their March 31 loss to the Panthers on the latter's turf in Blairsville, and they did so handily by coming up with a 7-0 home victory last week.

The offensive highlight of an offensively excellent game came in the form of Chastain's two-run homer, which landed halfway up the bank beyond right field – every bit of 350 feet. Chastain has enjoyed a remarkable run in the batter's box, reaching base 13 times in his previous 15 at-bats.

Sophomore Zane Floyd threw for all seven innings with an efficient 84 pitches, only allowing three hits while earning eight strikeouts and committing just a single walk, according to MaxPreps.com.

On top of the Indians win, the evening featured an inspiring display of unity, with Enotah Baptist Church providing free meals and pocket Bi-



Sophomore Tanner Cunningham went 2 for 4 with a run. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

bles for not only the residents in attendance and home team but also the players, coaches and bus drivers for neighboring rivals Union.

"Our team is finally coming together individually and collectively," Head Coach Shannon Floyd said. "A big shout-out goes to (sophomore) Tanner Cunningham, (junior) Seth Gillis, Zane Floyd, Collin Crowder and

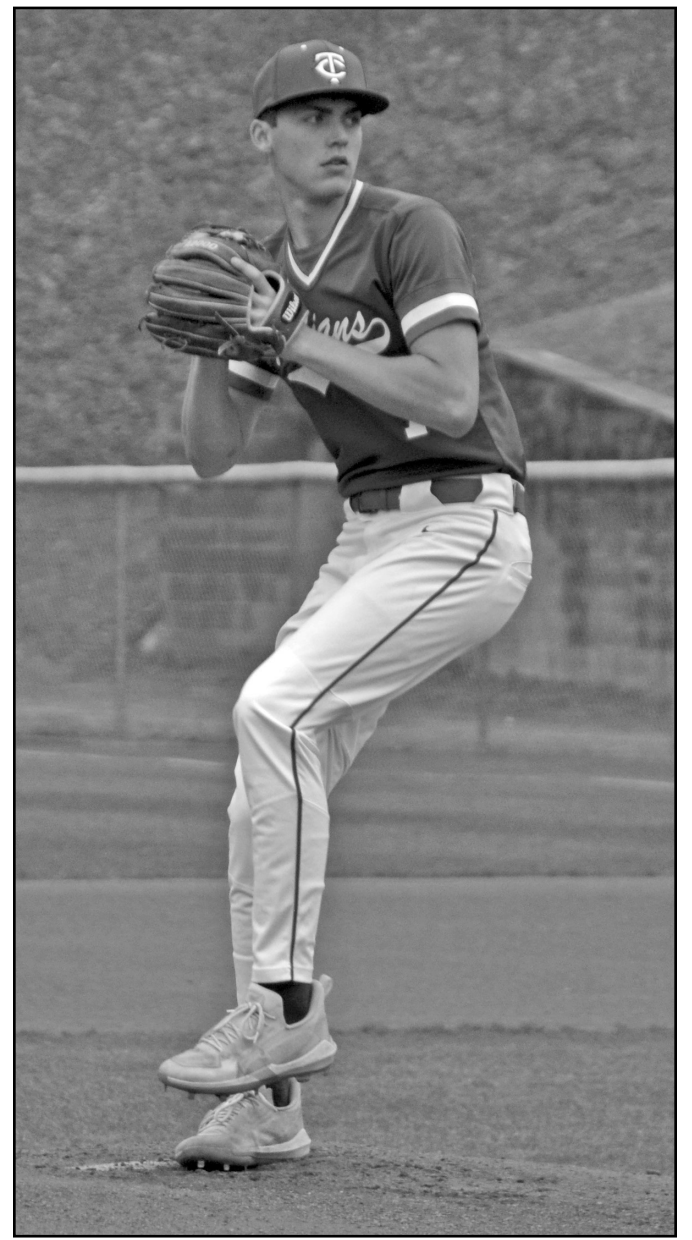
Connor Chastain, as they are all starting to get big hits and really seeing the ball.

"We had a huge spot when we were up 2-0. Zane had walked and stole to second base, and it was a pivotal play, because (senior) Cabe Poston came up with a base knock, and right after that, Zane scored at the plate, so it took us up to 3-0, which is huge.

"We had not seen a lot

of live pitching when our other guys came in from basketball, which is not an excuse anymore. We are starting to put runs on the board, and I am just super proud of them all for supporting one another and being upbeat all of the time and having fun."

Added Floyd, "An important thing we try to remember is, when you are winning, it is a lot more fun. It is easy to



Towns County won its second straight game with sophomore Zane Floyd getting the start on the mound. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

get down on yourselves when you don't have that early success, but when the confidence starts rolling, it is a good feeling, and almost nothing can stop you."

The Indians were prepared to play Copper Basin High School on Thursday, April 14, in a JV/Varsity doubleheader that was canceled due to adverse weather conditions. That matchup will not

be rescheduled.

Next, the Indians were set to take on Lincoln High School in an away game that occurred after press time on Tuesday, April 19. They will play Lincoln again at home on Wednesday, April 20, and on Friday, April 22.

Congratulations to the Towns County Baseball Team for keeping up this great momentum. Go Indians!

Box Score: Towns County 7, Union County 0 - April 11

Lineup	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO
Collin Crowder	3	0	0	0	1	0
Stone Chauncey	4	1	1	0	0	1
Tanner Cunningham	4	1	2	0	0	1
Seth Gillis	3	2	2	0	1	0
Conner Chastain	3	1	3	3	1	0
Zane Floyd	3	1	1	1	1	2
Kade McConnell	3	0	0	1	0	0
Kemp Walker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cabe Poston	1	0	1	1	1	0
Ian Wood	1	0	0	0	0	1
Layne Rouse	1	0	0	0	0	0
#13	1	1	1	0	0	0
Kyle Oakes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	27	7	11	6	5	5

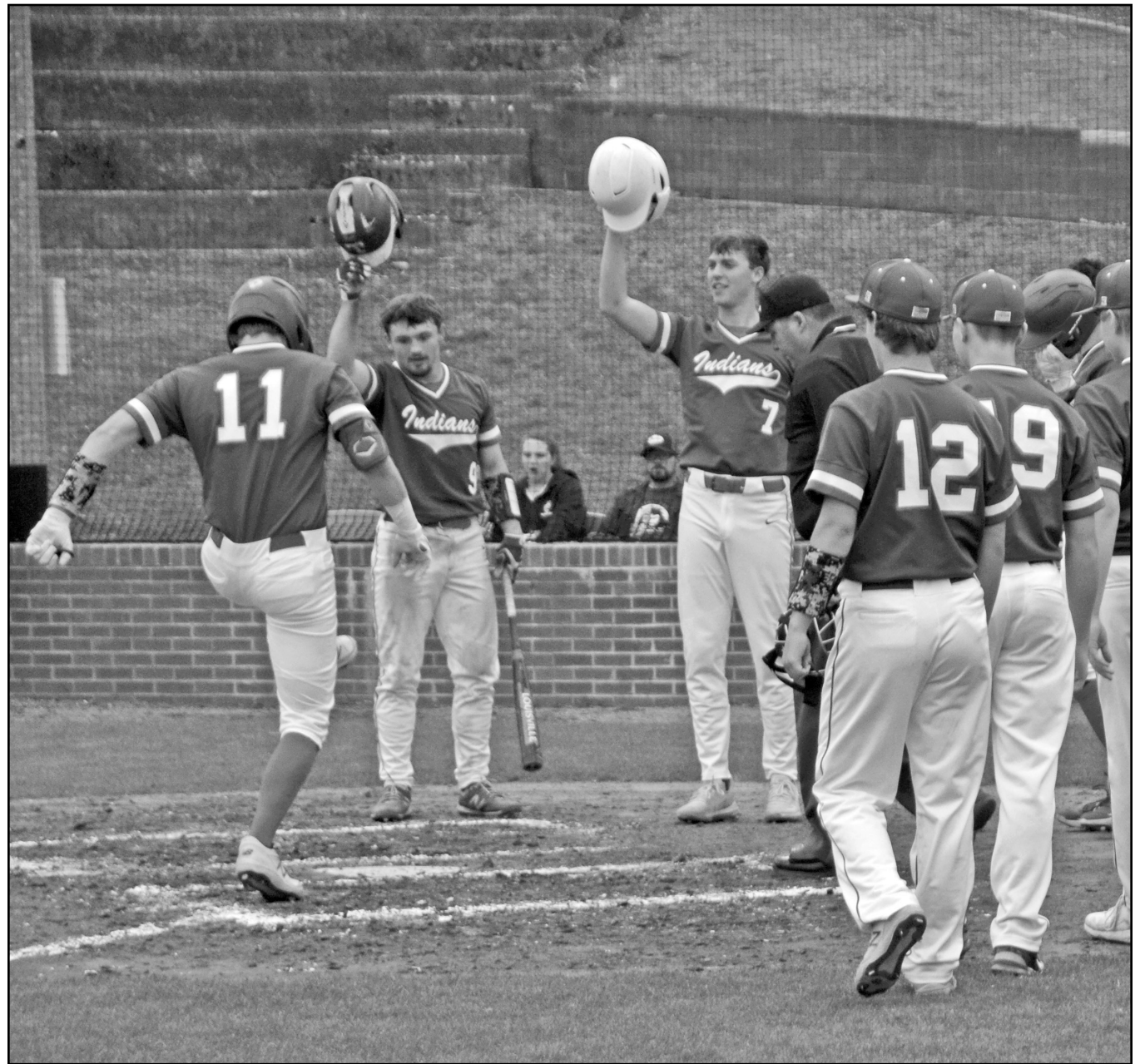
Batting
HR: Conner Chastain
TB: Stone Chauncey, Tanner Cunningham 2, Seth Gillis 2, Conner Chastain 6, Cabe Poston, Zane Floyd, #13
RBI: Conner Chastain 3, Kade McConnell, Cabe Poston, Zane Floyd
SAC: Layne Rouse
FC: Layne Rouse
SB: Seth Gillis, Zane Floyd
PIK: Kyle Oakes

Totals
Team QAB: 15 (45.45%)
 Collin Crowder, Stone Chauncey, Tanner Cunningham 2, Seth Gillis 2, Conner Chastain 4, Cabe Poston 2, Zane Floyd 2, Layne Rouse
Team LOB: 8

Fielding
E: Collin Crowder, Conner Chastain
DP: Collin Crowder, Seth Gillis, Kemp Walker

Pitching	IP	#P	S%	H	R	ER	SO	BB	HR
Zane Floyd	7.0	84	.679	2	0	0	8	1	0
Totals	7.0	84	.679	2	0	0	8	1	0

Pitching
W: Zane Floyd
WP2: Zane Floyd
Pitches-Strikes: Zane Floyd 84-57
Groundouts-Flyouts: Zane Floyd 6-5
First pitch strikes-Batters faced: Zane Floyd 13-24



Connor Chastain (11) is greeted by teammates at home after his two-run homer broke a scoreless tie in the fourth. Photo/Lowell Nicholson