

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Soccer: Fifth-ranked Lady Indians rout Portal 7-3 in Sweet 16

### Towns County travels to No. 7 Hawkinsville for Elite Eight

By Todd Forrest  
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The fifth-ranked Towns County Lady Indians traveled to top-seeded and 7th-ranked Hawkinsville on Monday looking to punch a ticket Final Four vs. either top-ranked Lake Oconee Academy or No. 4 Atlanta Classical Academy.

Results will be in next week's paper.

Towns County advanced to the Elite Eight on Monday, April 17, via a 7-3 road thumping of Region 2-A's second-seeded Portal.

Sarah Shook led the way with a hat trick and two assists. Jayden Taylor collected a brace and chipped in one helper. Halie Arrowood added a brace of her own and Abby Gardella notched one goal. Alana Stowers dished out two assists; Brittany Cabrera logged one.

"We are excited about

moving on to the next round, but also realize we need to clean a few things up and play better each round to have a chance to continue to advance in the tournament," Towns County head coach Clay Livingston said. "The usual suspects provided plenty of offense for us, and the back four, plus both of our keepers played well despite giving up three goals.

"Two of those goals were legit and one was the result of a miscommunication," he continued. "Alana Stowers continues to contribute by not only playing great defense, but by also setting up our mids and forwards with great opportunities off of free kicks. It is always nice to score off set pieces, which we did four times in this game. We are excited to travel down to Hawkinsville for an Elite Eight matchup that should be a great opportunity for us to play even better and advance to another Final Four."



The Towns County Lady Indians celebrate a Sweet-16 victory at Portal. Towns was back on the road Monday at Hawkinsville.

## Baseball: Indians honor seniors, open postseason Thursday at home

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Towns County (18-10, 10-5) dropped two of its three non-region contests last week to close out the regular season ahead of Thursday's first-round doubleheader vs. Mt. Zion-Carroll.

The Indians suffered a pair of losses to Rabun County, sandwiched around a 7-2 victory over Hayesville, North Carolina on Wednesday, April 19.

**Indians 7, Hayesville, NC 2** - Kade McConnell fanned seven and allowed one earned run over six innings on the hill. Meanwhile, Stone Chauncey smashed a two-run homer in the third and finished 1 for 2 with a pair of runs.

Layne Rouse went 2 for 3 with one run and an RBI.

Rouse put Towns on the board first when he singled and later scored on Zane Floyd's bunt. Connor Chastain walked to begin the third, and Chauncey made them pay by sending the first pitch of the at-bat over the left-field fence.

A Towns County error in the fifth allowed an unearned run to come around on McConnell -- cutting the lead to 3-1. But McConnell helped himself out with an RBI single in the Indians' half, and Rouse made it 5-1 with a run-scoring hit of his own. Later in the frame, courtesy runner Cale Kirby came around to score - extending the lead to 6-1.

Hayesville's lead-off double and one-out single cut the margin to 6-2, but Floyd scored



L-R: Seniors Caleb Berrong, Seth Gillis, Ian Wood and Layne Rouse were recognized last Thursday, April 20. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Cherry took the loss on the mound.

**Indians 3, Rabun County 13** - Towns jumped out to a 3-0 lead on Tuesday in Tiger until the Wildcats got four in the third, five in the fifth and four in the sixth to end the game early.

Doubles by Chastain and Cunningham accounted for the Indians' only hits of the day.

Chastain also walked twice and drove in two runs; Gillis walked, scored and plated a run. Braydon

Barrett allowed four hits and three earned over 2 2/3 innings. Rabun tagged Kirby for seven hits and five earned during his 2 1/3 in relief. Chauncey allowed three hits and four earned runs while lasting 2/3 of an inning.

**Indians 2, Rabun County 8** - Towns County lost its final game of the regular season on Thursday in Hiawassee.

The Indians committed four errors and were limited to four hits in the loss.

Floyd got the nod and went five innings, allowing six hits and five earned runs.

Barrett and Gillis tossed one inning apiece in relief.

Rouse and Cunningham each went 1 for 2 with a run. Connor Chastain drove in one during a 1-for-4 day and Floyd went 1 for 3 at the dish.

Gillis swiped two bags and reached on an error.

**Up next:** Second-seeded Towns County opens State

Tournament play on Thursday vs. Mt. Zion-Carroll. Thursday's first pitch is slated for 4 p.m. in Hiawassee with the second game to follow. The if-necessary game would be at 1 p.m. Friday at Larry Kimsey Field.

No. 3-seed Mt. Zion-Carroll finished the year winless in a three-team region. The series winner will either travel to top-seeded Glascock County or host fourth-seeded Chattahoochee County on May 4-5.



Zane Floyd went 1 for 3 and tossed five innings on the mound vs. Rabun. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Connor Chastain drove in one of his team's two runs vs. Rabun County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson