

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Soccer: Lady Indians defeat Bowdon in 6-0 shutout, advance to Elite Eight

By Chad Stack  
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Staff Writer

The third-ranked Lady Indians have advanced to the second round of the Georgia High School Association state playoffs after defeating Bowdon in the first round on Tuesday, April 23.

Towns County made a bold statement in the opening five minutes of the contest, as freshman Miranda Spain and seniors Taylor Cornett and Lea Neumyer took some great shots on goal.

The Lady Indians put the pressure on from the start, delivering several shots before Cornett finally got one to hit the back of the net 15 minutes into the first half.

After the Lady Indians took a one-score lead, Bowdon pushed Cornett, drawing a foul and giving her a penalty kick, though she was unable to score.

Bowdon then tripped sophomore Kenzie Livingston in the box, giving Towns County a free kick, and Livingston made the score to give the Lady Indians a two-point lead.

Cornett extended that lead to four with two more goals before the end of the half,



Towns County State Tournament action: (L-R) Bazyza Smith vs Bowdon and Liam King vs Morris Innovative. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

and the Lady Indians closed the first half with a 4-0 lead over Bowdon.

The Lady Red Devils made another foul 10 minutes into the second half, and Cornett scored an astonishing goal for a hat trick from a corner kick, giving the Lady Indians a five-score lead 14 minutes into the second half.

After Cornett scored

her third goal, she looked to try and get her teammates involved in the scoring, as she assisted on a goal from Macy Brinson with a beautiful pass to bring the score to 6-0.

The Lady Indians held the Bowdon Lady Red Devils scoreless as they advanced to the second round of the playoffs for the second year in a row under Head Coach John



Cornett.

Next up, the girls will host the Academy for Classical Education on Wednesday, May 1, at 5 p.m. in the Elite Eight round as they try to advance to the state semi-finals for the first time in school history.

The Towns County Indians hosted a home playoff game for their first postseason berth in school history, facing

off against Morris Innovative from Dalton.

The Tigers put the pressure on the Indians early in the first half with several shots, but sophomore goalkeeper Liam King was able to make several crucial saves, as usual.

Morris Innovative was called for two fouls within minutes of each other, but the Indians were unable to capital-

ize on the two penalty kicks.

Towns County scored first, as sophomore Peyton Barrett delivered a beautiful assist, allowing sophomore Garrett Oakes to score a goal with a header.

And just like that, the Indians took a one-score lead with 24 minutes left in the first half.

With 16 minutes left in the first half, Barrett was fouled and awarded a free kick, but 15 seconds later, the Tigers were able to catch the Indians with a breakdown in their defense and scored a goal to tie the game.

The Tigers would score another goal to take the lead 10 minutes into the second half, and Morris Innovative never looked back, going on to score another goal with just over 14 minutes left in the match.

The Indians fought as hard as they could as they tried to tie the game, but being down two goals was going to be a challenge, and Morris Innovative handed the Indians their first playoff loss.

Overall this season, the Indians made history as they swept the region and finished as the 11th ranked Single-A Public school in Georgia. They have surely set a high bar for the 2020 season.

## Indians Golf wins 11 in a row as team heads into area competition

By Chad Stack  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Towns County hosted rivals Union County on Monday, April 22, for the Indians' last home match of the year, celebrating Senior Day at Brasstown Valley Resort and Spa.

The Indians defeated the Panthers that day to win their ninth straight match, and senior Kyler Garrett was the low score medalist, shooting his best round of the season.

Sophomore Nick Sisco was the second low score medalist, continuing his stellar play for the season.

The Lady Indians lost to Union County by a slim margin, but the Lady Indians Golf Team has dramatically improved throughout the year, bettering their scores every week.

"The girls have been putting in competitive performances and constantly improving throughout the season," said Head Golf Coach Brian Hunnicutt.

On Tuesday, April 23, Towns County traveled to the Double Oaks Golf Course in Commerce for their last regular season match against Commerce High School and Lake Oconee Academy.

The Indians defeated regional opponents Commerce and Lake Oconee Academy during Tuesday's match in Commerce.

The Indians shot their best score of the entire season, with Will Travis being the low score medalist for the match, finishing with two over par through nine.

Senior Caleb Ledford and Sisco shot their best rounds of golf for the season during the



Towns County golfers hit the links at Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris. Photo/Chad Stack

outing, as Ledford surpassed his best round of golf this season by more than six strokes, finishing with five over par.

Garrett continued his late-season charge by matching his best round of golf this season, and the Indians are now preparing for the Area Tournament, which occurred after press time on Monday, April 29, in Commerce.

"The seniors performed exceptionally, keeping pace with a rival golfer from Lake Oconee Academy who has already committed to play golf for Wisconsin University, a Division I college," said Hunnicutt.

The Lady Indians competed well during Tuesday's contest, as senior Summer Swanson posted her best round of golf ever at the Double Oaks in Commerce.

Sophomore Laura Kate Gleaton finished with an excellent performance as the second low score medalist.

Tuesday's competition in Commerce was bittersweet, as this was the last golf outing of the season for the Lady Indians.

"The Girls Golf Team continued to improve throughout the season," said Hunnicutt. "With only one senior departing,

the Lady Indians will look to make strides in the 2020 season and compete for the area in golf."

Continued Hunnicutt, "Allie Dills, Vanessa Floyd, Laura Kate Gleaton, Ellee King and Natalie Smith will all return for their junior campaign for the Lady Indians Golf Team."

As the 2019 regular season comes to an end, so do the high school careers of six Towns County Golfers.

Senior Summer Swanson has been a four-year letterman for the Lady Indians, and Swanson has shouldered the load for the Lady Indians as the

low score medalist for the past two seasons.

"She has been a leader for the younger girls who have just recently picked up the game, and Summer will be greatly missed by her teammates and the Towns County Golf Program," said Hunnicutt.

The Towns County Men's Golf Team is losing five seniors this year: Connor Kelley, Will Travis, Caleb Ledford, Kyler Garrett and Danny Reagan.

Travis, who is also a four-year letterman in golf along with basketball, has been a consistent golfer, significantly improving every year.

He has been offered several golf scholarships but is looking to advance his golf career to the next level playing for an amateur circuit.

Kelley helped anchor the Indians in last year's Third Place finish in the Georgia High School Association Single-A Public State Tournament at the Double Oaks in Commerce, but he has missed all the 2019 season due to an injury.

Seniors Garrett, Reagan and Travis are looking to make their fourth straight State Tournament this year at Southern Landings Golf Course in Warner Robins on Monday, May 20, and Tuesday, May 21.

"This group of golfers has won over 90% of their regular season matches in the last two years and finished third in the 2018 State Tournament," said Hunnicutt. "Overall, this is arguably the most successful class of Towns County golfers in the school's history."

"The seniors, along with sophomore Nick Sisco, hope to possibly win the area and the State Championship to close out their high school career."

The Towns County Men's Golf Team will travel to Warner Robins on Sunday, May 19, as they the seniors prepare to compete in their fourth straight state tournament.

"We have a solid group of seniors and underclassmen this year, and we all believe that we can compete for a state championship," said Travis. "We have improved each year in the tournament, and last year we finished third. Finishing our second season under Coach Hunnicutt, all of us believe we can win this tournament and bring a championship to Towns County."

## Blue Ridge Motorsports Park Opening Day results

Race Fuel was in the air as Blue Ridge Motorsports Park had their opening day this past Saturday with the demo derby and here is the top five from each class.

Street Stock-Coming in first place was No.169 Jim Weller, Coming in second place was No.19 Jim Gilbert, Finishing third place was No.01 Jacob Lynch, Finishing in fourth place was No.3 James Klaucke, Coming in fifth place was No.192 Jay Lynch

Pony-Coming in first place was No.9 John Smars, Coming in second place was No.71 Tim Bristol, Coming in third place was No.42b Dylan Cole, Coming in fourth place was No.8 Jonny McClure, Finishing in fifth place was No.32jr Franklin Burk.

Hobby 602- Coming in first place was No.17 Brad Thomas, Finishing in second place was No.88 Ricky Smith, Finishing in third place was No.44 Bobby Elkins, Finishing in fourth place was No.81 John How-

ard, Coming in fifth place was No.4 Jacob Parris.

Crate/Limited- Coming in first place was No.9 Brian Kinnersley, Finishing in second place was No.7 Jason Deal, Finishing in third place was No.12w Daniel Wilson, Finishing in fourth place was No.30 Daven Dilbeck, Coming in fifth place was No.2 Seth Wimpey.

FWD- Coming in first place was No.2 Justin Queen, Finishing in second place was No.32 Logan Exum, Coming in third place was No.95t Dale Fortner, Finishing fourth place was No.9 Sean Rice, Finishing in fifth place was No.18 Isaac Hicks.

Beginner 602- Coming in first place was No.66 Trae Kirk, Finishing in second place was No.22 Matt Sandfort, Coming in third place was No.56 Colton Berrong, Finishing in fourth place was No.81 Travis Davenport, Finishing in fifth place was No.7 Steve Brannon.

The Derby Winner was DJ Ray.

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