

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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

Football: Indians lose by 1 point at rival Hayesville, NC

By Jeremy Foster
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Hayesville, NC - Towns County High School Indians Football is back, and the first game of the regular season was a true nail-biter on Friday, Aug. 19, at Hayesville High School across the state line in North Carolina.

The game featured a 15-minute weather delay, and though the Boys in Blue demonstrated non-stop heart and determination throughout the contest, they ultimately suffered a close-call, one-point loss at 13-12.

"First and foremost, I am just really proud of our kids and the effort that they played with and that really jumped off the tape as we watched it this past weekend," Head Coach Jason Roquemore said.

"We had several kids that I thought played really well," he continued. "Our defensive (senior) Chance Schmeltz really jumped off the screen leading our defense, as he had 12 tackles, 1.5 sacks, two tackles for loss and five quarterback hurries."

"And offensively, I think it was a collective effort. I am really proud of (junior) Connor Chastain and the progress that he's made thus far early on and continue looking to see him develop and lead our offensive unit."

"We were leading the game 12-7 going into halftime, and in the third quarter we had several chances to extend the lead, but we made some mistakes and had some penalties that killed some drives."

"We definitely have to get better in that area as we go on into the season by playing much cleaner football, and a little more discipline in all phases."

In what would prove to be the decisive moment of the game for the Indians, Roquemore pointed out a winning touchdown that got called back because of an offensive penalty, "and again, we will just grow from this, move on and get ready for the next one."

"Since summer training, I have been very pleased with



A pair of Towns County receivers line up out wide during the first half at Hayesville. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Towns County junior quarterback Connor Chastain keeps it himself following a play-fake to senior running back Seth Gillis on Friday night in Hayesville. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

our execution this early on," Roquemore said, "and being the first game, I thought defensively it was one of the best efforts that we have played."

"It was the first opportunity for a lot of these kids to play under those 'Friday night lights,' and I thought they handled that well."

Indians players are slated for more gridiron action this Friday, Aug. 26, in their first home game of the season against Lake Oconee Academy. Residents of the Hiwassee Park Senior Living Community will join the athletes on the field for a pre-game community recognition.

"The biggest thing is that it is going to be a great opportunity to play at home as our first home opener, so we are really excited about the community coming out and supporting us while we play," Roquemore said.

Visit www.townscountyathletics.com for complete season scheduling of all sports, and as always, Go Indians!



The Towns County front-five line up in the trenches on Friday night in Hayesville. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Softball: Lady Indians drop games away, at home versus Rabun County

By Jeremy Foster
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Last week on Monday, Aug. 15, and Thursday, Aug. 18, the Towns County Lady Indians Softball Team played back-to-back games against Rabun County High that resulted in 8-0 and 9-1 losses respectively.

"It was a tough week dropping two games to rival Rabun County," Head Coach Clay Livingston said. "The positive was that we came out and competed in game two after not showing up in game one."

"I am not sure what happened on Monday (in Rabun County), but it is my responsibility to have my team ready to play, and I did not do that Monday."

Junior Laura Mauldin continues to lead the Indians at the plate, Livingston said, having picked up two hits and an RBI in the game two home matchup on Lowell Nicholson Field.

"Freshman Delaney Moses continues to impress, scoring our lone run in the game," Livingston said. "(Junior) Hope Chastain and (freshman) Jaycie Cross also contributed a hit each. (Junior) Halie Arrowood has played great defense from



Towns County softball battles Rabun County at home in one of the two meetings vs. the Wildcats last week. Photos by Lowell Nicholson

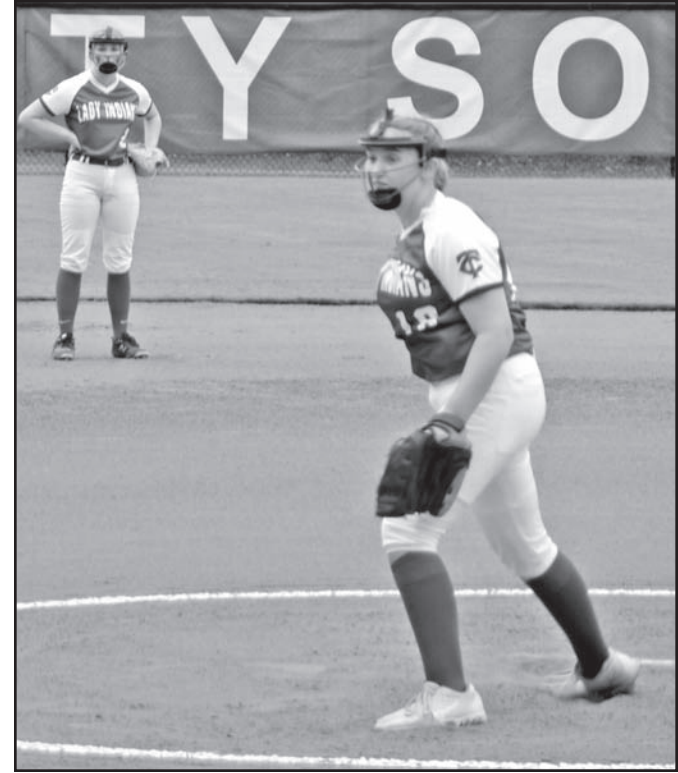
her centerfield spot. "Cross had two solid outings (as pitcher), only walking one in game one while allowing four earned runs. In game two, she only walked two while giving up three earned. She has been throwing strikes and letting the defense work behind

her. "We will continue to improve our game behind her, and when it all comes together, we will be hard to handle."

Pertaining to the game on Thursday, Coach Livingston was very proud of his Lady Indians' effort and attitude in their

re-match against the Wildcats.

"It was a great response to Monday, and it is a good sign moving forward," he said. "Obviously, the eight-run fourth inning was a backbreaker. It wasn't just physical errors; there were some mental errors as well."



Towns County softball battles Rabun County at home in one of the two meetings vs. the Wildcats last week. Photos by Lowell Nicholson

"But we talked about it after the game, and if we learn from those mistakes, it will be a positive for us in the long run."

"You must consider the big picture early in a season. I still feel great about our potential for a great season. We have high-character kids who

I believe will continue to learn and get better."

Next up, the Ladies will be traveling to Cedar Shoals High School in Athens on Wednesday, Aug. 24, and they have high hopes of putting one in the win column starting at 5 p.m.