

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Softball: Lady Indians get first win of season at home against Chestatee

By Chad Stack
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The Lady Indians Softball Team hosted Chestatee High School from Gainesville at Lowell Nicholson Field Sept. 2. Going into the matchup against the Lady War Eagles, the Lady Indians were winless with a 0-5 record – but that would change that Thursday.

Led by only three seniors, Towns County has struggled early in the season due to having such a young and inexperienced varsity squad, but with six games now under their belts, Head Coach Clay Livingston said he has seen a much-improved team.

Livingston and his coaching staff are constantly preaching about perseverance, and when the Lady Indians hosted 2-A Rabun County a couple weeks ago, Livingston said the girls really showed perseverance as they lost a close one, fighting until the end and scoring 15 runs.

Up until that game, the Lady Indians had been averaging just four runs a game.

With the bats finally coming alive, Livingston said he just wanted to see the girls get a win, and the Lady Indians did just that against Chestatee, gaining both a win and some confidence.

On Thursday, sophomore Hope Chastain started on the bump for the Lady Indians, pitching for three and two-thirds innings and giving up just two earned runs on three hits while retiring three batters.

Sophomore Halie Arrowood came in as a relief pitcher on the mound. Combined, Chastain and Arrowood gave up 11 runs between the two of them. Fortunately, their bats kept the Lady Indians in the game.

Towns defeated the Lady War Eagles in their second shootout of the season to



Towns County pitcher Hope Chastain deals during last month's non-region contest vs. Rabun County. Photo/Steve Miller

edge out a 12-11 victory over Chestatee.

Senior Rylie Livingston was 2-for-4 at the plate with 2 runs scored.

Sophomore Laura Mauldin went 3-for-5 and drove in 3 runs with 3 RBIs.

Sophomore Izzy Edwards was 1-for-3 at the plate with 3 RBIs.

Freshmen Drew Livingston went 2-for-5 with an RBI at the plate.

Pitcher Arrowood got the win as the closer on the mound, pitching three and two-thirds innings and only allowing 2 runs on three hits while retiring three batters on Thursday at Lowell Nicholson Field.

The Lady Indians defeated the Chestatee Lady War Eagles 12-11, giving them their first win of the 2021 season.

Towns will host the Fannin County Lady Rebels on Thursday, Sept. 9, at home, with the first pitch to be thrown at 5 p.m.

Following the game against Fannin County, the



The Towns County lineup piled up 12 runs in last week's victory over Chestatee. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Lady Indians will go back on the road, traveling to Washington, Georgia, for a doubleheader against regional foe Washington-Wilkes on Saturday, Sept. 11, at 12:30 p.m. The second game of the doubleheader will start at 2:30 p.m.



Third base coach Chris Vardo looks on as sophomore Izzy Edwards slides safely into home during Towns County's victory over Chestatee. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Lady Indians sophomore Laura Mauldin crosses home vs. Chestatee. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Youth Football is back in Towns County after a four-year hiatus

By Chad Stack
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This fall, the Towns County Recreation Department will have football for the first time in four years.

After 21 years of leading and coordinating the Youth Football Program in Towns, Jimmy Smith retired in November of 2017, and the Rec Department hasn't been able to field youth football teams since – until now.

Towns County Rec Director Matthew Youngblood reached out to Towns County High School Head Football Coach Jason Roquemore and High School Principal Roy Perren this year about trying to get youth football back in Towns County.

Following several discussions between Youngblood, Roquemore and Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw, they decided to offer only Flag Football this year.

Throughout the summer, Youngblood and Roquemore have been doing everything they can to get the word out in the community, and a couple weeks after school started, they had enough numbers to create several teams.

For Towns County High to have continued success with their football program, there needs to be a youth program for kids to be able to learn the game, so in furtherance of this mission, kids



Towns County Youth Football offensive coordinator Evan Woodard with Drew Stack during last week's evaluations. Photo/Chad Stack

10 and under will get to play.

About 50 kids signed up for the 8U and 6U teams also, which Youngblood said will allow for two teams in both age groups. Also, both teams are coed, with quite a few girls having signed up.

Originally, the plan was to have an all-girl 8 and under team, but because they didn't

have enough to form an all-girl squad, Youngblood said that he and Roquemore decided to go coed.

"It worked out real good," Youngblood said. "Now with both age groups being coed, they are able to form two teams in each age group. Having two teams will allow for in-house games."

Roquemore's assistance with the youth football program has turned out to be a great success, Youngblood said, as Roquemore has coaches lined up and has even helped with the evaluations.

On Tuesday, Aug. 31, Roquemore and some of his staff organized and hosted the evaluation process, setting up

five stations in Frank McClure Memorial Stadium. The stations allowed for the High School coaches to better evaluate the kids to help form teams.

After the 50 or so students were done with their evaluations, the 10 and under kids got on the field to work with the high school coaches.

After Tuesday's evaluation

process, Towns County will now have two 6 and under coed teams, two 8 and under coed teams, and two 10 and under boys' teams.

Practice started on Tuesday, Sept. 7, on the Foster Park football field in Young Harris, and currently, Youngblood is working with Union County and Clay County, North Carolina, to set up games.