

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Lady Indians continue to improve their record, now 6-7

By Shawn Jarrard
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For a while there, the Sept. 7 home softball game against Providence Christian Academy was a real nail biter – at one point, the Lady Indians were down 7-0.

“It started off pretty rocky,” said Lady Indians Head Coach Brandon Rowland. “They jumped on us the first two innings. They only scored one in the first, but then the second inning we fell apart, making all kinds of errors, and they scored six on us there.

“It’s 7 to nothing at this point. I called them all in and gave them a little pep talk right there, and told them, ‘This is a region game, you know what’s at stake. I’m not going to sit here and holler at you, you know the mistakes you made, but let’s try to turn this game around.’”

Seniors Jordan Hyatt and Zandra Churchill also joined in the coach’s talk to pep their fellow players up, and their combined efforts must have worked, because the very next inning the Lady Indians scored five runs, and in the fourth inning, they went on to score another eight runs.

In fact, every Towns County player who stepped into the batter’s box that day scored at least one run, contributing to the team’s 15-8 overall victory and giving the Lady Indians a crash course in bouncing back in the face of adversity.

“They all worked together and ended up finishing the game strong,” said Coach Rowland. “It was no single player. I commend the team. They all came together.”

As of press time Monday, the Lady Indians were 6-7 on the



The Lady Indians at the plate vs Providence Christian last week. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

season, with a 4-3 region record that had them in third place in Region 8-A at that point in time.

Hebron Christian will be traveling to Towns County for a Sept. 14 home game against the Lady Indians, another region game that starts at 4:45 p.m. on Lowell Nicholson Softball Field above the baseball diamond.

Earlier in the season, the Lady Indians defeated Hebron 13-0.

“The biggest game of the year is going to be when we play Commerce again,” said Coach Rowland, referring to a ballgame that was initially scheduled for

Sept. 12, though the fate of that particular matchup date was in question at press time due to uncertainty surrounding Hurricane Irma.

Continued Rowland: “We had such a close game with Commerce last time, losing in extra innings. If we could pull that game off right there, I’m pretty sure it would lock us into the Top 24 in the state to be able to go to playoffs.”

Thanks to Hurricane Irma and a statewide emergency declaration from Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal, school was canceled on Monday, Sept. 11, meaning the

Lady Indians are once more looking to reschedule their region game against Athens Christian, which had previously been rescheduled from Aug. 24.

The Sept. 5 game against Rabun County was rained out early during play, though the Lady Indians were ahead on the scoreboard when the game was canceled due to stormy weather.

“Hopefully, we’ll get that one in later on, but with this weather coming in this week, we both decided not to schedule it yet until we get all of our region games scheduled,” said Coach Rowland.



The Lady Indians are now 4-3 in region. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Indians fall 28-0 against Prince Avenue Christian in Athens

By Shawn Jarrard
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Staff Writer

ATHENS – They played with heart and they played to win, but victory eluded the Towns County Indians for the second week running, this time at Prince Avenue Christian School on Friday, Sept. 8.

Despite a loss of 28-0, which saw a Wolverines touchdown and extra point in each quarter of the game, the Boys in Blue battled their way up and down Brad Akins Field that night.

Prince Avenue Christian is one of the best Class A football teams in the state, and the Wolverines have been region champs for the last six years, but that didn’t stop the Indians from going whistle to whistle until the game finished.

“Every single player on the field tonight played his heart out, so I can’t get mad at any of the players, they fought hard,” said Indians Head Coach John Cornett. “It’s 14 to nothing at the half – I guarantee (the Wolverines’) halftime, it wasn’t pretty, and I guarantee that we’ve probably never played Prince Avenue that close.

“After the game, I saw



Coach Cornett at Prince Avenue Christian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

their players hugging and shaking hands with our players before the clock ran out, giving us respect. I felt like we moved the ball better tonight than we did last week. We just keep getting better and better, and the good news, we’ve got a winnable game next week.”

Coach Cornett is looking ahead to this Friday’s game against Riverside Mil-

itary Academy, which kicks off at 7:30 p.m. in Gainesville.

“They’ve got a new coach, he seems to do a good job, and he’s got some great athletes, so it’ll be another great game,” said Coach Cornett, whose Indians are now sitting at a 1-2 record for the season.

Both the Towns County Middle School and Junior



The Indians defense making the open field tackle at Prince Avenue on Friday. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Varsity teams played home games against Riverside Military on Thursday, Sept. 7, and Indians Football Coach Jeff Stowers said the younger players were excited to get out on the field as a unit.

The middle school team is back in action after a couple-year hiatus, and though the players had some jitters for their first game of the season, Coach Stowers said

the kids were ready.

“We’re starting lots of sixth-grade kids, and we played pretty well up front,” said Coach Stowers. “We lost our starting quarterback in the first quarter, and were able to overcome some adversity there and shuffle some kids around and still make some plays.

“We missed some opportunities, we’ve got a lot to work on, but the kids played hard, and they just kept digging and kept fighting. Couldn’t be prouder of the effort they put forth. It’s all about heart and effort.”

The middle school won its game 14-6, while the JV

team lost 18-8 that Thursday, though not without putting up a fight.

“Our JV kids play hard,” said Coach Stowers. “They don’t get enough reps as a unit because they have to help us prepare our varsity kids for varsity games.

“We didn’t know for sure if we were going to have enough kids to play, but we’ve committed to play, and we’re going to make a concerted effort to get those kids more reps as a group.”

This week, the middle school and JV teams will play home games against Prince Avenue on Thursday, Sept. 14, starting at 5 p.m.

Brasstown Valley hosts Swing for the Kids golf tournament



Tournament participants celebrate great day of golf and giving at Brasstown Valley Golf Course.

Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa, managed by Coral Hospitality-GA, recently hosted the third annual Swing for the Kids golf tournament benefiting Christ’s Starfish Foundation. From August 25-27, the resort welcomed over 150 guests for a weekend of golf, celebrity meet and greets, fellowship and fundraising. Approximately \$25,000 was raised, 100 percent of which will go to help families of patients at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.

Christ’s Starfish Foundation is a non-profit organization that assists and comforts children that are ill or injured

at local children’s hospitals and provides financial assistance to families in need due to their child’s illness. For the past two years in metro Atlanta, Christ’s Starfish Foundation, has provided more than \$63,000 to approximately 650 patient families at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta hospitals.

“It is an honor to continue our partnership with Christ’s Starfish Foundation,” said Heath Carter, regional vice president of sales and marketing at Coral Hospitality. “The Swing for the Kids golf tournament is an event we look forward to every year and we are committed to sup-

porting this charity and all the great work they do to help local children and families.”

This year’s Swing for the Kids brought together a record number of sport celebrity attendees, including several notable professional football, basketball, baseball, golf and Olympic all-stars. Among those include Ed Lee “Too Tall” Jones, 1977 Super Bowl winner and defensive end for the Dallas Cowboys; Tony Womack, former middle infielder for the Arizona Diamondbacks and 2001 MLB World Series winner; Gus Williams, professional basketball player who led the Se-

attle SuperSonics to the 1979 NBA championship; George Rodgers, former University of South Carolina 1980 Heisman winner; and Phil Niekro, baseball Hall of Famer.

The weekend event, aimed at raising awareness of the organization’s mission featured a celebrity dinner and silent auction on Friday evening, a five-person golf scramble on Saturday with a celebrity paired with each team, and a cookout following the tournament with prizes.

“We are blown away by the number of people who come to participate and support this event every year,” said Charles Burton, general manager of Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa. “We are happy to host this amazing tournament and watch as this event continues to grow.”

Sponsors for the 2017 Swing for the Kids Golf Tournament include: Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa, Coral Hospitality, PSAV and Walters Management.

For additional information about Coral Hospitality, visit www.CoralHospitality.com or call 239-449-1800. For more information about Christ’s Starfish Foundation visit www.christstarfish.org.

VFW Golf League

The VFW Golf League plays each Thursday at the Chatuge Shores Golf Course. It is open to all members of the VFW and American Legion regardless of post affiliation.

Today was a great day

for golf at Chatuge Shores. Nine teams played and the winning team of Ash Todd, Mel Halfon and Sam Wilson took the day with an impressive 9 under par. Congratulations on a well played round! T(Sep13.F1)SH

Youth basketball registration

Registration for the 2017-2018 basketball season will begin September 1st and will run until October 8th. We will offer 12u, 10u, and 8u for both boys & girls. Be sure to create an account and register your child online to secure a spot in our program for this Winter on our website townscountyrec.com. If you have any questions about creating an account check out the “Online Registration” under “Quick Links” on the home page or give us a call at (706) 896-2600.

After you finish creating an account, be sure to download the SI Play app to your mobile device to get

practice and game reminders, see rosters, schedules, standings, and also have the ability to communicate with other parents straight from the app.

Parents who are interested in coaching will need to check out the “Want to Coach” tab and follow the instructions there.

These applications will need to be received by the Recreation Department by October 2nd so that we can have coaches selected and ready once registration ends. Background checks will be mandatory for all coaches selected.