

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

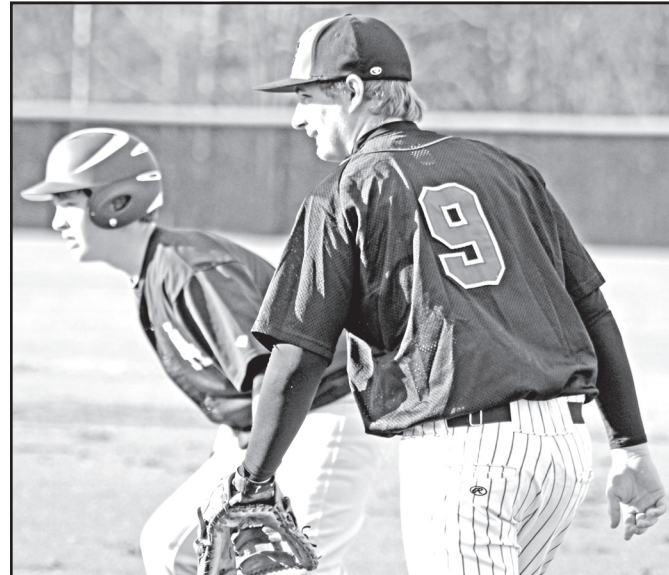


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## Towns County Middle School Indians off to best baseball start in years



Coach Rick Ellis has got the Middle School team playing ball. Photo by Marty Roberts.



Jared Shook holds a runner at first against Lakeview. Photo by Marty Roberts.



Coby Denton smacks a hit against Lakeview. Photo by Marty Roberts.



The Indians are off to their best start in years. Photo by Marty Roberts.

By Charles Duncan  
Towns County Herald  
cduncan.tch@windstream.net

The Towns County Middle School baseball team wasn't around to witness the domination of Class A's most powerful baseball program.

However, they've heard the legend of those Larry Kimsey teams and they want to experience that and reinvent the glory days of the Mighty Indians on the baseball diamond.

They're giving it their best shot.

The TCMS Indians put one on the Lakeview Academy Lions on Thursday last week by a score of 8-4 at Kimsey Field.

Catcher Dylan Roberts had two hits and two RBIs, first baseman Jared Shook had a good day at the plate also, driving in two runs and Russell Cox

drove in one. Dillon Ingram paced the Indians on the mound and the Towns County baseball tradition continues to mount a comeback.

Curtis Swanson and Gavin Langelier followed Ingram on the hill to secure the win.

The Indians (3-4) were anxious to play Commerce on Saturday. That didn't happen as Mother Nature forced the game's cancellation.

The Tribe will play three games this week and the results of one, against Rabun County on Monday, were not available at press time.

The Indians play Lumpkin County at Kimsey Field at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, and travel to Commerce on Saturday to play against the Tigers. Coach Ricky Ellis has the



Dylan Roberts relays the sign to Dillon Ingram. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

boys playing baseball and the Indians would like their fans to come out to see them. The Indians have three home games before the Middle School Tour-

namment takes place at Rabun County on March 31 in Tiger. Come on out and watch the TCMS baseball Indians.



Curtis Swanson delivers against Lakeview. Photo by Marty Roberts.



The Indians hate rainouts of any scheduled game. Photo by Marty Roberts.

## Diamond Indians lose a 2-1 heartbreaker to Riverside



The Indians pray for a rally against Riverside. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

By Charles Duncan  
Towns County Herald  
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Dillon Diehl was dealing on Friday.

He was hitting too; a pair of doubles and a RBI.

In the bottom of the seventh inning with two outs and nobody on, he smacked one to right center that was about 48 inches from going yard at Kimsey Field. Diehl settled at second base instead.

Unfortunately for Diehl and the Indians, he was left stranded at second base as the

Towns County Indians dropped their Region 8 matchup with Riverside Military Academy 2-1.

Head Coach Chris Vardo could only shake his head and exclaim that baseball is what it is, a game of inches.

"He mixed it up, he hit his spots and kept hitters off balance," Coach Vardo said. "That's all we can ask him to do. I was very impressed with him on the mound, and also, he got the key hits for us today. That last double was oh so close."



Dillon Diehl brings it down against Riverside. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

The Indians matched up well with Riverside.

"Both teams played solid defense, the pitchers threw strikes and it came down to timely hitting with runners in scoring position," Coach Vardo said. "We out hit them, but the thing is, they got the hits with runners in scoring position."

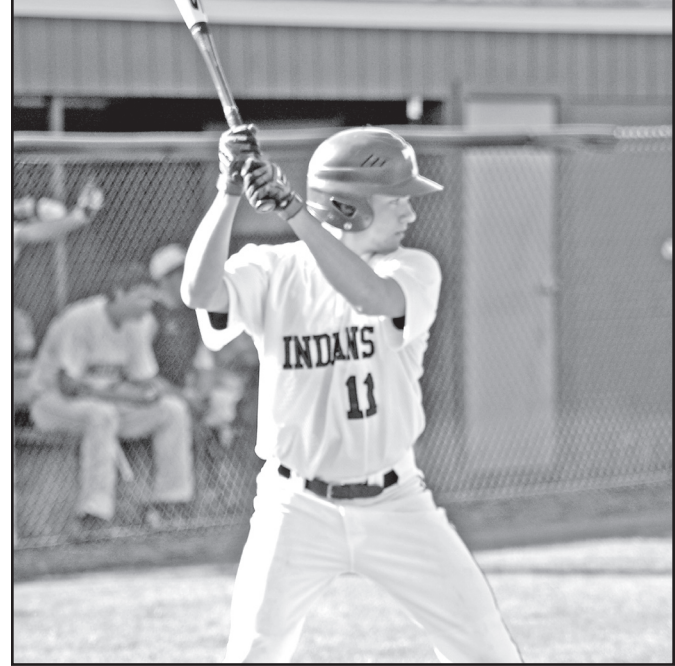
The Indians are young, with only one senior on the team. They've got a solid core, with freshman Boone Moss at first, junior Luke Parker at third, freshman Cruz Shook at second, Bradley Smith, Jake Mullins and Payton Chambers in the outfield.

And of course, sophomore Vonya Baldwin is the quarterback behind the plate.

"We're a young group, a resilient group and every day we're making strides," Coach Vardo said. "We've got one senior, we're starting two freshmen and a lot of sophomores, so, you never want to be happy with a loss, but today was a moral victory."

Diehl threw 70 pitches, walked one and went the distance in taking the loss.

"He was pounding the strike zone," Coach Vardo said. "That's what we ask for, throw strikes and let the defense work



Dillon Diehl had a solid day at the plate also, slapping two doubles and driving in a run. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

it. Put it in play and let the defense do its job."

The Indians lost a tough one on Tuesday to Hebron Christian and another on Thursday to Lakeview Academy.

Their record on the season is 0-10, but it's not indicative of the way they've played this season.

"When these guys get more at bats and more experience, I believe they'll push through some wins," he said. "The Riverside game was something that we can build on. These guys are playing hard, they don't quit. We've had some youthful mistakes, but

we're getting there."

The Indians traveled to Athens on Tuesday to take on the Tribe. The game originally was scheduled as a home game, but a conflict with the Indians Middle School team prompted the switch with Tallulah Falls. Game time is 5 p.m.

On Friday, the Indians play host to the Redskins from Social Circle. Game time is 5:30 p.m.



Catcher Vonya Baldwin talks it over with sdearmer Dillon Diehl. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.



Luke Parker picks a runner trying to reach third. Photo by Lowell Nicholson.

### Tourism Association presents 2012 Community Support Award



(L to R): Candace Lee, Chandler White, Hilda Thomason and Jane Holland.

Towns County Tourism Association presents Chandler White, President of the Young Harris Fishing Club, a check in the amount of \$1000 for the 2012 Community Support Award. Families and college students from Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and other states come to Towns County for these tournaments, shopping, dining and staying in the area which is a boost for

the economy. Congratulations to Young Harris College for their winning team! TOMar21,11)SH

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