

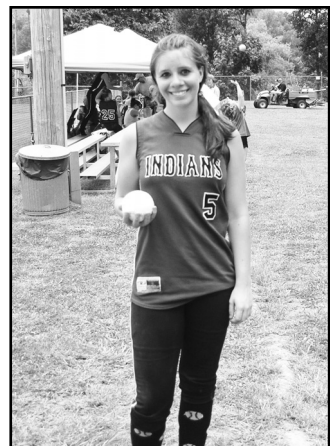
Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports



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Lady Indians take their fast-pitch game to state



Brittany Ledford with Home Run ball



Brittany Leford nails down the win in Game Two



Carly Gilfilian tags out a Banks baserunner in a rundown



Emily Ledford pitches Towns past Banks County in Game Two



Kerri Ivester Doubles Home two runs in Game Two

By Ethan Burch
Towns County Herald
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The Towns County Lady Indians 14 and under Fast Pitch Softball team is headed to state.

The Lady Indians captured the District title on Saturday taking two out of three from the Banks County Lady Leopards.

Game One didn't give

any indication that the Lady Indians would be state-bound as they fell to the Lady Leopards 10-8, despite a two-run inside-the-park home run by Brittany Boyer. The Lady Indians also picked up RBIs from Emily Ledford, Tori Morgan and Jasmine Forrester.

Game Two looked eerily similar to Game One until the third inning with the Lady Leopards leading 5-3. That's when the Lady Indians rallied

and tied the game and literally took the momentum from Banks County.

The Lady Indians kept rolling, taking a 7-6 lead in the bottom of the fifth inning. They stretched that lead to 10-6 with a three-run homer by Brittany Ledford. Later in the inning, Kerri Ivester gave the Lady Indians a 12-6 lead with a two-run double.

Banks County rallied for a run in the top of the sixth in-

ning to narrow the gap to 12-7.

In the bottom of the sixth, Emily Anderson drove in a run for the Lady Indians to extend the Towns County lead to 13-7.

Brittany Ledford came on in relief of Emily Ledford in the seventh to nail down the win to even the series at one win apiece.

In the third and final game, it was all Towns County

as they eliminated the Lady Leopards in a three-inning, 24-2 romp to advance to the state 14-and-under tournament. All 10 Lady Indians scored at least once, with some scoring two and three times each.

The Lady Indians scored 16 runs in the second and eight runs in the third to make this one look easy.

"The girls hit the ball the best I've seen all year," Coach Penny Ledford said.

The Lady Indians advance to the state Georgia Parks and Recreation Association tournament in Appling County, scheduled for July 8, 9 and 10.

The Lady Indians want to thank the Towns County Parks and Recreation team for hosting Saturday's event and offer a special thanks to Alan Rogers.

North Georgia American Legion Team has players from Union, Fannin, Towns, Hayesville

North Georgia defeated Cumming with defense and timely hitting. North Georgia led early 3-2 and trailed 6-7 going into the top of the ninth inning, when they pulled out the win. In the first inning, singles by Farmer and Nix drove in Sullivan and Everett. In the third, Dean drove in Sullivan after he had been hit by a pitch. Sullivan reached on an error to start the fifth, Dean singled and stole second, and both scored on a double by Everett. Everett scored on a single by Nix. In the top of the ninth, Walker singled, Coyne walked, and Sullivan drew a walk. With bases loaded and two out, Dean hit a Triple down the right field line scoring. Everett drove in Dean with a single. Farmer was hit by pitch and Gordon drew a walk to load the bases. Walker hit a single up the middle scoring Everett and Farmer. Farmer picked off runners, Walker had an assist throwing out a runner out trying to stretch a single, and gunned another runner going to third. Sullivan had an assist as he hit his cut off man to throw out a runner trying to score.

North Georgia faced North Hall in a non-legion game. Sisson had two hits and scored twice. T. McClure and Everett each scored once and had



Coleman Sullivan connects

Photo by Norman Cooper

a hit. Dean had two hits, two runs scored and one RBI.

Farmer and Walker both had two hits and drove in a run. Vardo had a hit, scored once and drove in a run.

North Georgia faced Canton in a doubleheader, winning the first game 5-2. Sullivan singled and scored on a single by S. McClure. In the

second, Walker singled, stole a base and scored on Coyne's double. In the third, Sullivan got hit by a pitch and scored on a single by Thomas. Thomas scored on a single by Gordon. Sullivan delivered a two-out single and scored on a base hit by Thomas, making the score 5 to 1. In the sixth, Canton scored. McClure pitched a six innings with seven strikeouts.

North Georgia American Legion 19 & Under Roster

#	Name	Residence
1	Andrew Walker	Union County
2	Brett Bradshaw	Towns County
3	Nick Sciales	Union County
4	Ryan Nix	Fannin County
5	Nick Dean	Fannin County
7	Coleman Sullivan	Union County
8	Daniel Coyne	Union County
9	James Bennett	Fannin County
11	Skylar Smith	Union County
12	Garrison Sisson	Fannin County
15	Dalton Everett	Union County
20	Kyle Vardo	Hayesville
21	Trey Thomas	Union County
22	Zach Cox	Hayesville
25	Tyler McClure	Fannin County
27	Brock Gordon	Union County
33	Seth McClure	Fannin County
40	Jordon Farmer	Fannin County
	Coach/Manager	Ivan Walker
	Coach	Jed Larkin

third At bat in the fourth, Sisson and Sullivan walked and both scored on a double by Dean. Farmer hit a two-run round tripper to narrow the deficit to 7-11.

North Georgia sent nine batters to the plate in the fifth. Cox singled, Sisson reached on an error, Sullivan singled (scoring Cox), and T. McClure singled (scoring Sisson). Dean doubled (scoring Sullivan). Farmer smashed a three-run home run (scoring McClure and Dean) to give North Georgia a 13-11 lead.

Cumming responded with six runs in the sixth for a 17-13 advantage.

North Georgia sent 10 batters to the plate in the sixth and emerged with a 18-17 lead. Walker drove in three runs (T. McClure, Dean).

Cumming tied the score in the top of the seventh, and North Georgia took back the lead in the bottom of the seventh, 20-18. In the top of the eighth Cumming tied the game at 20. In the bottom of the eighth, Walker doubled, Coyne hit a single, and Sisson walked to load the bases. McClure hit a double, driving in two runs. The win moved North Georgia American Legion's record to 3-1 and the overall record to 3-2

Prepare for severe summer weather

Summer in Georgia brings camping trips, cook-outs and afternoons by the pool. Unfortunately, the warm weather also brings severe storms and other heat-related hazards that can turn summer fun into summer threats.

Luckily, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency's (GEMA) preparedness campaign Ready Georgia can help you get ready for the worst while you are enjoying the best of what summer has to offer.

"Harm from summer threats can be mitigated, and Ready Georgia recommends three simple steps to being ready for whatever comes our way: prepare, plan and stay informed," said Lisa Janak Newman, spokesperson for GEMA. "So before packing your beach bag, be sure to pack your Ready kit."

Ready kits should include a flashlight with extra batteries, a first aid kit, a NOAA Weather Radio and other affordable household items.

Ready Georgia offers a full checklist of recommended supplies at ready.ga.gov.

In addition to a Ready kit, Janak Newman advises developing a communications plan that includes emergency contact information and an evacuation route out of your neighborhood, something only 35 percent of Georgians have identified, as found by a recent Ready Georgia survey.

Summer will inevitably bring days with extreme heat. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, across the nation an average of 1,500 people die each year from heat exposure, so it is best to stay indoors and drink plenty of water when temperatures soar. Janak Newman says to insulate your home, shade windows and never leave children or pets alone in closed vehicles. Also, become familiar with the medical conditions that can result

from over-exposure to heat, including heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

High temperatures often lead to severe thunderstorms and lightning, which caused over \$400 million in property damage last year in Georgia alone. All thunderstorms, Janak Newman says, are dangerous because they can produce strong winds, lightning, tornadoes, hail and flash flooding. She advises taking shelter in a home, building or hard top automobile if severe weather hits and to postpone outdoor activities if a storm is headed your way.

Extreme heat can also lead to drought. Georgia residents should be careful during these times to conserve water use. According to the Metropolitan North Georgia Water

Management District, 54 percent of water use in Georgia is residential, so the best prevention starts at home. Janak Newman said it is good to know how to conserve water in your household: wash only full loads of dishes and laundry, fix household leaks and install low-flow toilets and showerheads. Also, be aware of local water restrictions and listen to the directions of water authorities.

For more information on emergency preparedness

in Georgia this summer, visit Ready Georgia at ready.ga.gov and listen to the summer threats podcast on the Ready Georgia website for tips on managing specific threats. Georgians who use the campaign's interactive planning tool from now until July 19 are also entered to win a NOAA Weather Radio.

Preparedness now can reduce stress later, so prepare, plan and stay informed to make those days by the pool much more relaxing. NTU0623.Y2JSH

A Tuna Christmas presented by The Blue Ridge Community Theater

Seasons Greeting from A Tuna Christmas, the hilari-

Murphy author publishes first book

Cathy Tanner's new book, God's Will (published by AuthorHouse), is a unique story about love, compassion and the power of God that is inspired by events from the author's own life.

"I didn't always love to read or write," recalls Tanner. "I had trouble reading and writing when I was in school and even now I have to read something more than once and look things up in a dictionary." Tanner says that she believes this is what has provoked her most to write a book. "I don't like people telling me I can't do something... I also believe God was with me all the way."

In God's Will, readers are introduced to a courageous woman named Samantha and her relationship with Will, her husband. Will wears braces around his legs to correct his gait and throughout the story readers discover the trials that the couple has faced. Candid and full of heart, God's Will reflects on their life together with compassion, reveling in the fact that it is possible to overcome obstacles of circumstance with God's loving guidance.

Cathy Tanner lives in Murphy, NC, with her husband Stephen. The couple has four children between the ages of eight and 21. Tanner says she enjoys being creative in everything she does, including painting, sewing, reading and writing. God's Will is her first book. TU0623.F1JSH

ous sequel to the hit comedy, Greater Tuna. Come spend the holidays with all your old favorite citizens of Tuna, Texas and make some new friends while you're there. Master comedians Sears and Williams, along with some split-second costume changes, portray all 24 citizens of Texas' third smallest town, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. This time, it's 24 hours before Christmas and all comic hell is about to break loose as the delightfully eccentric characters attempt to cope with seasonal trauma such as a disaster prone little theatre production of A Christmas Carol, and a yard decorating contest that is being sabotaged by a mysterious Christmas phantom! Bring the whole family and join in the holiday fun!

Performances are July 1-11th, Thursday, Friday and Saturday Nights at 7:30 and Sundays at 2:00.

2591 East First Street in Blue Ridge. Across from the Swan Drive In.

Reservations are recommended! Reserved seating is \$15 plus tax.

Call the box office any time: 706-632-9223 or visit us online at www.blueridgecommunitytheater.com. NTU0623.C7JAC

Retired entomologist hopes to help you with your hemlocks



The adelgid adult and her eggs, covered by a woolly covering, is a sign that your tree is infected.

Dr. Wendell Snow, a homeowner in Helen for the last seven years, is a retired entomologist (a person who studies insects).

He spent the last ten years of his career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture conducting research on various tree pests at the USDA facility in Byron.

At his river home on Unicoi Street, he has three large hemlock trees that have come under attack by the hemlock woolly adelgid. Snow went in to action against the small insect that is the size of a period at the end of a sentence.

"The tiny insect attacks newly-formed hemlock leaves," he said. "As the adelgid matures, it produces a white waxy filament and covers itself and its eggs."

He added, "Seeing this white material under the needles is the best way to know if your trees are under attack."

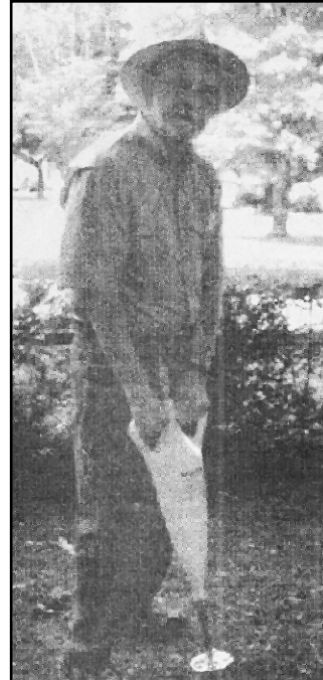
"These trees usually die within a few years after attack," he added. "Most hemlocks in Towns County are infested and will eventually be gone with control."

One reason hemlocks are so important is that they provide needed shade to creeks and rivers for trout habitats. Because of this threat, Snow has licensed himself with the Georgia Department of Agri-

culture as certified to treat the adelgid with pesticides.

He has started a business under the name Hemlock Adelgid Control. He is available to treat your trees using two methods, and both methods use soil injection. The specific cost depends on the situation and number of trees.

Control usually lasts for two years or more. For free estimates or advice, call Dr. Snow at 478-213-0113. TU0623.J1JSH



Dr. Wendell Snow injects pesticide into soil around infected trees.