

# Towns County Sports

*Towns County's Leader In Sports*

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## Soccer: Towns County sweeps Banks County on Senior Night

By Shelly Knight  
Staff Writer  
Towns County Herald

Towns County soccer sent their seniors off in style, scoring two easy wins over Banks County.

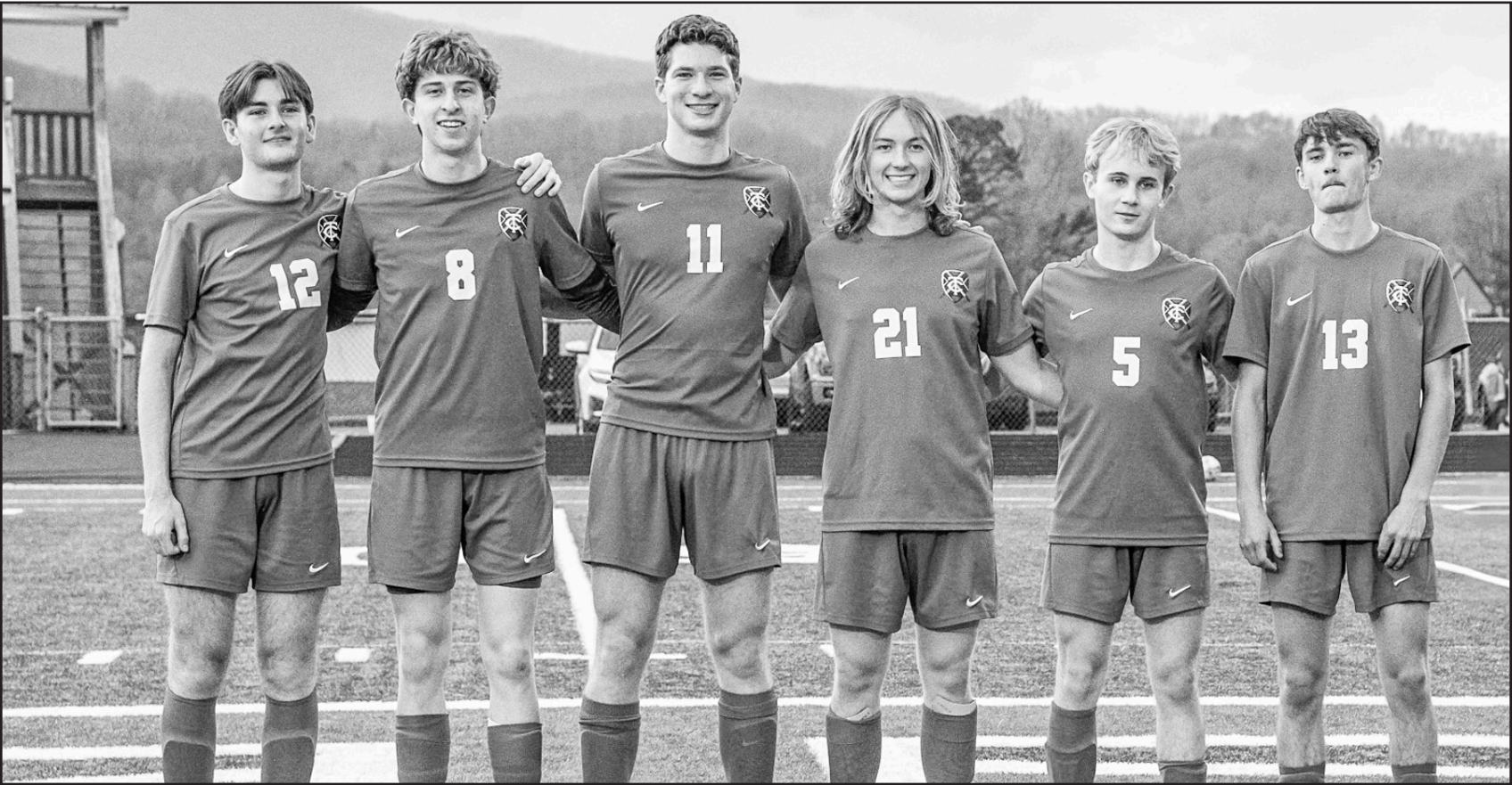
**Lady Indians** - Another win for the ladies and it was all the sweeter because it was senior night.

The girls took on Banks County and won with a score of 4-0, bringing their season record to 9-1 and making them second in the region.

Coach Clay Livingston really enjoyed a special night with all the girls, but deserves a shout out as he coaches his daughter Drew Livingston in her last season as an Indian.

"We had two big wins this week. First, on Tuesday we traveled to Washing Wilkes and won 4 - 0," said Livingston. "This was an important region win that secured us a home playoff game in the first round. We were paced in scoring by Scotlyn Fain who had two goals and an assist. Abby Gardella pitched in with a goal and an assist. Emma Wilson had a goal and Kya Smith contributed with an assist."

"Next, we picked up the Banks win. All four goals were scored by seniors with Abby Gardella picking up the hat trick and Kya Smith scoring on a nice one



Towns County seniors (L-R): Alex Awtry, Connor Williams, John Durham, Justin Cantrell, Max Baron, Blake Gleaton. Photo/Penny Ledford

tough goal from 20 plus yards out. Our seniors on the back end, Keeper Drew Livingston and defenders Ansleigh Hardin and Lilly Cannon helped secure the shut out."

**Indians** - On Thursday,

April 3, the Towns County Indians took down Banks County with a score of 2-1.

That pushed their season record up to 11-1 with the win, which was their sixth straight at home. They are second in

the region.

Those home victories came thanks in part to their offensive performance across that stretch, as they scored 24 goals over those six contests. Cruz Kitchens won the Player-of-the Match and has 50 steals

this season.

Other top producers are Caden Coggins with 13 goals on the season and Conner Williams with 10. The team and the parents celebrated senior night, wishing the boys only the best as they begin the next

chapter in their lives. Towns County Seniors are Alex Awtry, Max Baron, Justin Cantrell, Caden Coggins, Conner Williams, John Durham, and Blake Gleaton.

The Indians close the regular season April 18 at Pickens.



Towns County seniors (L-R): Lilly Cannon, Kya Smith, Drew Livingston, Ansleigh Hardin and Abby Gardella. Photo/Penny Ledford

## Indians swept by Lake Oconee Academy

By Shelly Knight  
Staff Writer  
Towns County Herald

The Towns County Indians dropped three against Lake Oconee Academy, beginning with game one last Tuesday, April 1 in a disappointing 11 - 2 loss.

It was a tough match up against a region powerhouse.

"We knew this would be a tough one coming in," said Coach Shannon Floyd. "The final score really wasn't reflective of the game. I felt like we gave a couple of runs away early, but we knew this was the best team coming in."

"We can beat them, but I felt like the game could have been 5-2 or 6-2 max. We made some mistakes. That's the region pitcher of the year [we faced], and we knew he was going to be tough. They've even got a kid that already committed to college that's going to pitch to us on Friday down there. We knew it, and I don't think we played horribly, but we didn't help ourselves."

Towns lost twice to Lake Oconee again on Friday, April 4 by scores of 6-2 and 16-0.

This loss brings their season record to 12-11 and puts them at out of contention to win



Freshman Sam Sarafin vs. LOA. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

the region.

"The kids really do their jobs, and I wish we had a full JV season where we could get all those guys in but with only

16 healthy bodies, we don't have enough to run full teams. That hurts because they don't get the practice they need," said Floyd.

## Young Harris College Athletics Postseason in Sight: Mountain Lions Gaining Momentum

Young Harris Athletics rally as the postseason window gets closer! YH Baseball had another big weekend, this time against regional ranked foe, the University of Mount Olive. With conference standings on the line, the Mountain Lions swept the No. 1 Trojans in dominating fashion. The final scores of the series read 19-5, 10-0 and 6-4. Nine collective homeruns in the series led YH to victory.

Alongside the sweep, two YH Baseball players were recognized on a larger scale. First baseman Jeremy Begora was named Conference Carolinas Player of the Week and Southeast Region Player of the Week (NCBWA) after an incredible weekend at the plate. Begora drove five balls out of the park in a span of two days, with 12 RBI.

Mountain Lion starting pitcher Austin Ritchie was named Conference Carolinas Pitcher of the Week after an impressive outing on the mound against UMO. Ritchie allowed just six Trojans to reach base and punched out five in the win, his sixth win of the year.

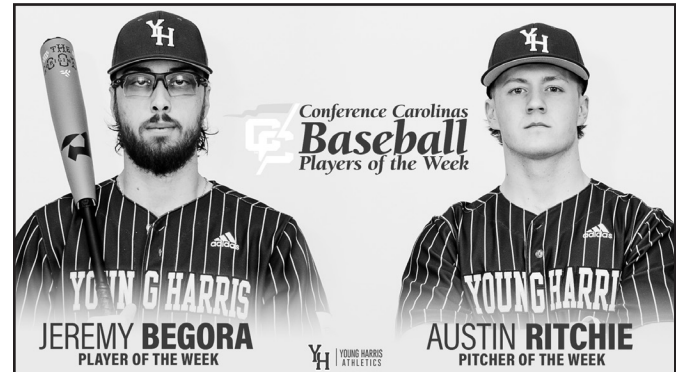
The Purple & White of Women's Lacrosse earned a crunch-time victory in extra minutes against Emmanuel University 14-13. Regulation concluded with each squad having 13, but it was YH's Riley Parker who had the winning goal in overtime... she had an outstanding five goals and 11 shots. Young Harris did a fantastic job holding Emmanuel's main shooters to minimal points, in addition to goalkeeper Abbie Gallagher having a great game with 17 clutch saves.

Young Harris Men's Golf competed at the Music City Invitational this weekend and had two top finishers. Senior Will Ranieri finished in sixth place with an opening-round 67 (personal best) and maintained a steady performance throughout. Freshman Adrian Ronn finished tenth and recorded back-to-back even-par rounds before closing with a 69. Both these performances helped the team place eighth overall.

Quick reminder: YHC Athletics will have the Mountain Lion Club Inaugural Spring Auction to raise funds for stu-



Riley Parker Gravitating Toward the Goal



Begora & Ritchie Pick Up Region Accolades

dent-athlete scholarships THIS MONTH! The auction will consist of a 14-day online bidding period from April 10 at 8 a.m. to April 24 at 7 p.m. and a live event with free food and drinks on April 24 from 6-8 p.m.

In the final regular season stretch, the Mountain Lions gear up for postseason battles. YH Softball is set to take on Belmont Abbey in a double-header this Wednesday at 2/4:30 p.m. - this

is the only action taking place on campus in the midweek, hope for a big crowd!

For the weekend slate, we have both Baseball and Women's Lacrosse hitting the fields. Baseball will take on Belmont Abbey at home Friday, April 11th, at 6 p.m., followed by the typical Saturday (April 12) 1/4PM double-header. Women's Lacrosse will face the Trailblazers of North Greenville at 4 p.m.

## Chatuge Shores Ladies Golf League Season Opens on May 6

Our official season opens Tuesday, May 6 with play beginning at 9:30, and league play dates continue through Sept. 30. To get acquainted with new members and reconnect with former members, we will have an opening day lunch at El Charro in Young Harris after our round.

We have the pleasure of playing golf with vistas of Lake Chatuge and the surrounding mountains. We have a different game each week, and members

of our league are from all over the tri-county area. We like to have fun while honing our skills!

Membership dues are \$30/year, and the weekly course fee is \$35, which includes a cart. An official handicap is required. If you have no handicap established, the league can easily help you.

Come join us for the fresh air, beautiful scenery, and a good round of golf. For more information, call or text Debbie Estes at 352-284-8854.