

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Indians improve to 9-11 with three wins at home

By Chad Stack
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

With wins against Hiwassee Dam on April 1 and Atlanta Jewish Academy on April 2, the Indians Baseball Team improved its winning streak from two games to five last week.

The Hiwassee Dam Eagles scored first with a run in the top of the first inning of the April 1 game.

In the bottom of the first, Towns County fired right back after senior Brett Denton went home on an RBI single by sophomore Aidan Berrong. Denton had reached base on a walk as the leadoff batter before successfully stealing second and third bases to get into scoring position.

Senior Seth Fullerton, the team's ace pitcher who started the game fielding first base, stepped up to the plate next.



Towns County's Lane Denton slides safely into home on a wild pitch. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

During Fullerton's at-bat, Berrong stole second and third bases, and he went home on an RBI groundout by Fullerton to give the team a 2-1 lead heading into the second.

The Eagles scored another run in the third, setting up a 2-2 tied game, as senior Lane Denton took the plate at the bottom of the third. Denton made it to second base on an Eagles error after hitting a ground ball to the pitcher, who failed to connect at first base.

Then, Hiwassee Dam's pitcher walked two Indian batters, Brett Denton and Andrew Griffin, to load the bases with no outs, resulting in an Eagles pitching change.

The new pitcher walked Berrong, forcing Lane Denton across home plate. Once again, the bases were loaded with no outs, and the Eagles pitcher walked Fullerton, bringing Brett Denton home.

Next up, freshman Colin Crowder hit an RBI single,

scoring Griffin, but the Eagles were able to make a double play, throwing Fullerton out at second and tagging Berrong as he tried to score.

With two outs and Crowder on first, the Indians had taken a commanding three-run lead in the third.

But the Indian Offense wasn't done yet. Senior Trent Bradshaw hit an RBI single of his own, scoring Crowder to give the team a four-run lead and a score of 6-2 before the Eagles were able to end the inning.

Hiwassee Dam answered right back in the top of the fourth, scoring four runs to tie the game once more.

Senior Devyn Burrell, who started on the mound for the Indians, pitched a total of four innings and struck out seven batters while allowing five hits and six runs.

Head Coach Shannon Floyd sent Fullerton to the mound in the fifth, and he pitched three shutout innings

to keep the Eagles scoreless for the remainder of the game.

However, Coach Floyd had to remove Fullerton with only one out remaining in the seventh inning, as a single additional pitch would have made him ineligible to throw the following day against Atlanta Jewish Academy.

Crowder came in to pitch the last out, scooping up a short ground ball to make the throw to first base, ending the game in a 12-6 win over the Eagles.

The very next day, on Tuesday, April 2, the Indians played a doubleheader at home against Atlanta Jewish Academy, winning both contests and outscoring the Jaguars 29-4 to keep their win streak intact at five games.

Bradshaw started on the mound in the first game, pitching two innings against the Jaguars to retire five batters and allowing two runs. Junior Jacob Kinsey pitched one inning as the closer for the Indians, walking two batters but striking

out three.

Nine different Towns County players scored runs in the first game, as the Indians beat the Jags 17-2 in just four innings.

In game two of the April 2 doubleheader, freshman Colin Crowder started on the mound and pitched three innings, giving up only two hits and two runs and striking out four batters.

Fullerton came in to close the last two innings of the five-inning game, and together, he and Crowder pitched four no-hit innings, as the Indians defeated the Jags 12-2.

Last week was spring break for Towns County Schools, and the Indians played their next game at home on Tuesday, April 9, at 6:30 p.m. against the Commerce Tigers. The game occurred after press time.



Jacob Kinsey finishes off AJA in game one of last week's doubleheader. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Soccer Booster Club kayak raffle



The 2019 Towns County Soccer Season is off to a great start for our teams. For the first time we had over 100 students participate in tryouts.

The purpose of the Towns County Soccer Booster Club is to promote and maintain an enthusiastic level of interest and participation in the sport of soccer, to support our players and coaches by providing for the needs of the program through fundraising efforts, to encourage strong parental involvement, and to further collaborate within our community for their support. Thanks to the hard work of everyone involved along with contributions from the school and local businesses thus far, we have already been able to provide our teams with new sweatshirts, new uniforms,

new equipment, and meals for away games for all four teams that the booster club supports. In order to continue raising funds to provide for next year's needs, we are now raffling off a kayak, generously donated to us by Young Harris Water Sports, Lance Markham.

Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20 and can be purchased from members of the soccer team or by visiting Young Harris Water Sports.

The drawing will be held April 18th and you do not have to be present to win. Go Indians! TApr10.F2JSH

Help needed to protect Lake Winfield Scott Hemlocks!



Save Georgia's Hemlocks

If you've been outside lately, you've probably noticed that many of the hemlock trees across north Georgia are looking distressed, and if you've gotten up close to them, you may have even seen the cause - an invasive insect called hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) that can be identified by its small white egg sacs on the underside of the branches. While these piercing-sucking insects are smaller than a grain of pepper, they multiply at an incredible rate and can overwhelm and kill unprotected hemlocks, even huge ones, in just a few years.

About 5 years ago, several hundred of the hemlocks at Lake Winfield Scott were treated to protect them from that fate, but the treatment now needs to be refreshed. On Saturday, May 11 Save Georgia's Hemlocks is partnering with the cabin

owners there for a retreat-project to continue protecting the trees, and we need A LOT of volunteers! We'll work in small teams from 9:30 a.m. to about 3 p.m., pausing at lunch time for a group picnic.

Hemlocks are the iconic tree of the Appalachians, and their loss would be tragic for the beauty, value, and enjoyment, the environmental health, and even the economic vitality of our community. So please join us for a worthwhile day in the woods with other wonderful people.

Save Georgia's Hemlocks is a 100% volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of concerned citizens dedicated to preserving, conserving, and restoring endangered hemlocks through education and charitable service. To learn more, please visit www.savegeorgiahemlocks.org or call the Hemlock Help LineSM 706-429-8010.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Shearer
Chairman, Save Georgia's Hemlocks

Duckworth accepted to Amgen Scholars

For the first time in school history, a UNG student has been accepted to the Amgen Scholars U.S. Program. Cory Duckworth, a senior pursuing a degree in biology, was one of 750 students who applied for fewer than 40 slots for the prominent national award. He will work as a scholar this summer at the Stanford Summer Research Program in California. Duckworth said he knows the experience will help with his future plans. TApr10.F2JSH

Chatuge Shores Ladies Golf

April is the month for our pre-season practice rounds. Come on out on Tuesdays. Tee off is 9:30 AM and cost is \$25 for a fun round of golf.

May 7th is our opening day with a 9 hole scramble and lunch to gather and meet old and new friends. Tee time is 9 AM, arrive by 8:30 AM. The membership fee is \$25 and the golf is \$25 for 18 holes. League season is from May

7th to September 17th. If you want to have fun and golf with some great ladies! Chatuge Shores is where it's at!

We invite you to come on out and check out our lovely Chatuge Shores Golf Course and meet some fine ladies.

For more information you may contact Glenda Geddings at frank_geddings@yahoo.com or Mary Mott at marymottcop@gmail.com.

Spring Line-Up of Outdoor Watershed Activities

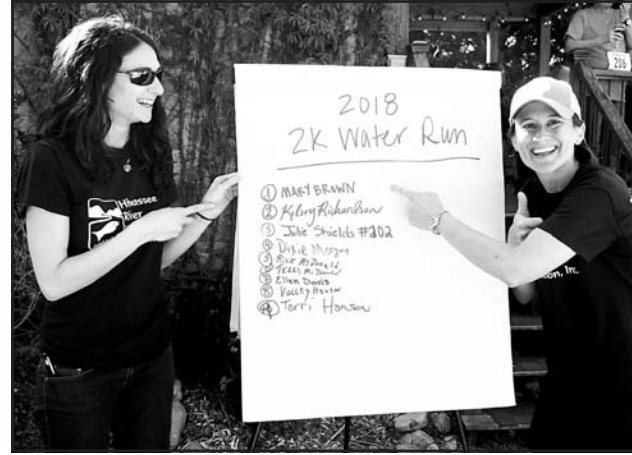


Participants in last year's 2K Water Run in Andrews, NC start the course in front of Calaboose Cellars. This year's fun run event is set for April 26th at 5 PM.

Spring is a splendid reminder of the wonder that nature beholds and we even dedicate one day in April to celebrating its bounties. The Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition is offering several ways to appreciate the great outdoors this spring and get to know your watershed at the same time.

Saturday, April 20th is the annual Earth Day Wildflower Walk on the John Muir National Recreation Trail in Tennessee. Meet at the HRWC office in Murphy at 9 AM to carpool to the Childer's Creek access. This easy walk is three miles to Big Bend. In April 2017, we saw 48 different flowers in bloom! Please pre-register by contacting Raleigh at admin@hrwc.net or 828-837-5414.

There are two Watershed events associated with the Spring Fling festival in Andrews, NC on April 26 & 27. The Annual 2K Water Run/Walk Fundraiser is set for Friday evening starting at 5 PM. Registration is \$20 and includes a HRWC t-shirt, a custom race bib, and a special treat post-race. New this year, prizes will be awarded in both RUN and WALK categories. Register from 3:30-4:30 on race day



Mary Brown, pastor at Andrews United Methodist Church, points to her name at the top of the race list at last year's 2K Water Run while HRWC staff member, Raleigh Keagan looks on. This year prizes will be awarded for the top runners and walkers.

or in advance online: <https://hrwc.net/events/full-calendar/>. On Saturday at 4 PM, HRWC will host a nature walk along the easy walking trail at the Cherokee County Heritage Park in Andrews.

Before the nature walk on Saturday, April 27th, come visit the Earth Day Expo in downtown Hiwassee, GA, sponsored by Hamilton Gardens, the City and Towns County Clean Sweep.

There will be exhibits from agencies and groups who are "stewards of the earth." The HRWC booth will feature information on

native and invasive plants.

HRWC is a 23-year-old 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining good water quality in streams, lakes and rivers that flow into the Hiwassee River. The organization works in a non-confrontational manner with local landowners, governments, schools and businesses to recognize and address threats to our water resources.

Visit us online to learn more: <https://hrwc.net/> and watch for additional events to be posted for May and June.