

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Baseball: Towns County takes a hit vs. Class AAA Gilmer

By Shelly Knight
Staff Writer
Towns County Herald

It's important to remember that Gilmer County is Class AAA and Towns County is Class A (D2) team, especially when the boys lose a double-header like the one they did on Wednesday, April 9 in the final home outing.

In the first game against Gilmer, the Indians lost by 15-0. In the second game, the final score was 17-4.

"Sometimes there's just games like this," said Coach Shannon Floyd. "Sometimes you're the hammer and sometimes you're the nail. Today we were the nail. That is as well as any team I've seen hit the baseball. Unfortunately, we didn't compete very well either.

"Teams that they've played we've been comparable, and it just wasn't our day. We were out of the zone a little bit and they didn't miss many and then we didn't play well. Bad combination. But anyway, those games happen. We don't like it, but it happens.

"We were only scheduled to play Gilmer once but both teams lost games due to weather and we were both out for Spring Break. They are a very good AAA team. This is good competition to prepare us



Braydon Baldwin on the mound vs. Gilmer last Wednesday, April 9. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

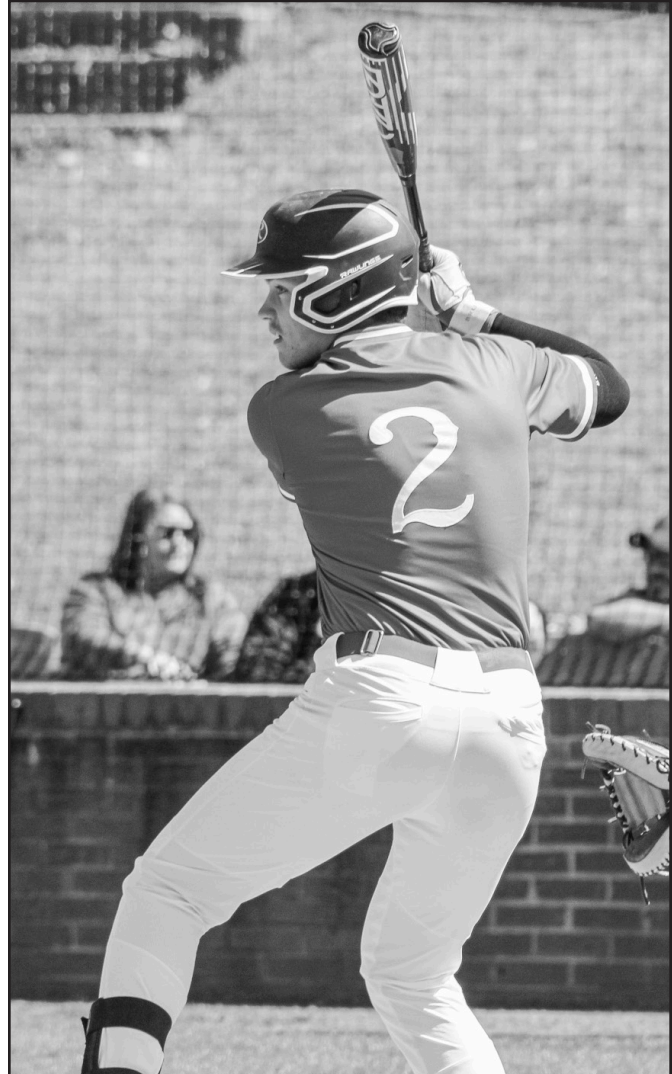
for the state tournament coming up. The idea was to compete against better team and we'll learn from this.

"Good kids, but sometimes good kids have bad days. We're not going to harp on it.

We'll give them a few days to rest up. Sometimes less is more," said Floyd.

The Indians' last game for the season will be on Thursday, April 17 at Andrews, NC. The boys will be competing

in the state tournament later this month. Teams, dates and times to be determined. Towns County is 23rd in the Class A Postseason Rankings. The top 32 teams will qualify for next week's State tourney.



Oliver Sarafin vs. Gilmer. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Soccer: Indians on the pitch during Spring Break

By Shelly Knight
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Talk about commitment.

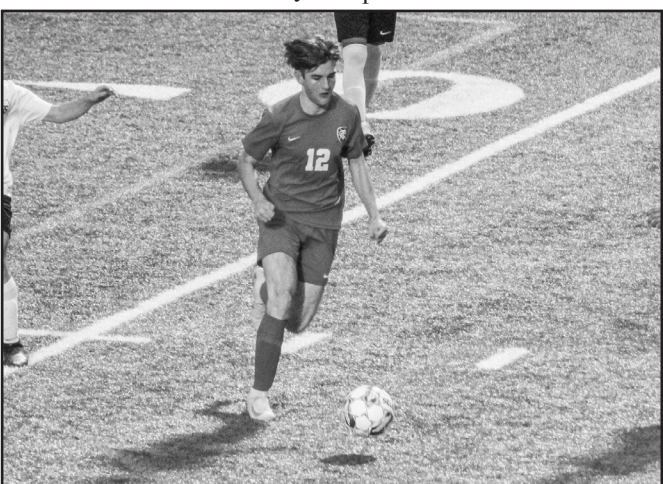
The Lady Indians out-scored Colleton Prep Academy last Wednesday, April 9th by a score of 3-1. That win pushed their season record up to 10-1. It was their fourth straight victory at home. The home victories came thanks in part to their defensive effort, having only given up zero goals over those four matchups.

Meanwhile, the boys

proved they too can win big last week. They took on Banks County April the 3rd and won by a score of 2-1. Tucker Engert and Cruz Kitchens scored both of Towns County's goals, bringing their combined season total to 13 goals.

Then the boys took on Treutlen on April 8 during their Spring Break trip and scored a victory of 8-0 in an exciting match up. Those victories bring their season record up to 14-1.

Both boys and girls will take on Abbeville High, SC on April 15th.



Senior Alex Awtry during a recent game. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Sweeps, Streaks, & Senior Days: A Spring Stretch to Remember at Young Harris College

Young Harris Athletics not only secured multiple team wins this past week but snagged some individual honors as well! The national attention for Baseball's Jeremy Begora continues, as he adds another title to this name since last weekend. He earned the prestigious NCBWA National Player of the Week after his jaw-dropping performances at the plate.

Additionally, Begora's teammate Jonny Smith was recognized as Conference Carolinas' Baseball Freshman of the Month. The second baseman has been raking in the 2025 season, as he is slashing .408 at the plate, tallying 15 runs, 19 RBI, and two stolen bases. He has recorded nine multi-hit games this month, including a dominant four-hit, three-RBI performance in a win over Francis Marion. His impressive combination of average, power, and clutch hitting has been a cornerstone of the YH Baseball offense as the team prepares for the final stretch of the regular season. The team added another conference series win over King University April 4th & 5th while sweeping Union University in a midweek double-header on April 9th.

In a season-defining stretch, YH Women's Lacrosse pulled off a ranking-shaking upset over Belmont Abbey and saw two of their own earn top honors - their biggest week yet. The Mountain Lions took down the former #1 Belmont Abbey Crusaders with a final score of 19-17 April 15th.

Young Harris had nine different goal scorers, but it was Riley Parker who led the charge with six goals. Conference Carolinas named Riley Parker "Player of the Week," and Goalkeeper Abbie Gallagher as "Defensive Player of the Week." Parker didn't only score the game-winning goal in overtime at Emmanuel, but has totaled 12 points over this duration. On the defensive side of the ball, Gallagher has saved an astounding 33 shots over the two games.



Jonny Smith Throwing Across the Diamond



Parker & Gallagher Earn Conference Honors

Moving over to the putting green, lots of young talent has been contributing to the success of both the men's and women's squads. However, it was Men's Golf Adrian Ronn who was named Conference Carolinas Freshman of the Month. He turned in top 10 finishes at both the Bearcat Classic and the Music City Invitational, posting a tournament scoring average of 70.5 across six rounds. With the CC Championships on the horizon, Ronn is hitting his stride at the perfect time as the Mountain Lions look to put together a great championship showing.

The Purple & White of Men's Lacrosse added a sweet victory over Chowan to their resume this on April 5th. After scoring two goals in the final minute, the Mountain Lions took down the Hawks 14-13. Hunter Stagg & Tommy Chriszt each recorded a hat trick, in addition to six other Mountain Lions who found the back of the net.

saders in both games (11-0, 8-0), with Grace Young making a difference at the plate and in the circle. She fired five scoreless innings in game one, allowing only four hits and striking out two in her eleventh victory of the year. In game two, Young was a perfect 3-for-3 with three RBI at the plate.

Quick reminder: YHC Athletics will have the Mountain Lion Club Inaugural Spring Auction to raise funds for student-athlete scholarships THIS MONTH! Some exceptional items have been donated. The auction link is now live and consists 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.

Tons of midweek Mountain Lion action on the schedule! Kicking things off at the diamonds, both YH Baseball and Softball hit the fields on Wednesday, April 16.

Softball takes on Erskine College at a 2/4:30PM doubleheader, while Baseball faces UAH at 3 p.m. At the Bob & Gayle Nichols Tennis Complex, Men's and Women's Tennis will take on Shorter University for their Senior Day at 4 p.m. Under the lights on Friday night, April 18, Men's Lacrosse matches up with Montreat College at 7 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.