

# Towns County Sports

*Towns County's Leader In Sports*

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## Indians lose two straight following win over Athens Academy

Towns County falls three spots to 23rd in Power Rankings with four games in five days upcoming

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The Indians (9-15) find themselves clinging to a state playoff spot after dropping two straight following a 6-3 victory over Athens Academy (13-8) on Monday.

The top 24 teams in the Class A Public Power Rankings qualify for state and the 23rd ranked Indians entered the week in 20th place. They appeared to help their cause with a win over Athens Academy (currently the 22nd ranked private school) but consecutive losses to the 35th ranked private school, Lakeview and the 6th ranked private school Athens Christian resulted in a three-spot slip.

But with four winnable games this week, the Indians control their own destiny.

It's simple. Win and they're in.

With one week remaining, Towns County's schedule seems favorable with a trip to Riverside Military Academy (38th ranked private school) on Monday and a home-and-home series with Class AA's Oglethorpe County, who currently sports an 11-13 overall record and a 3-9 mark in Region 8-AA.

The Patriots and Indians have a common opponent in Commerce with the Tigers defeating Oglethorpe twice by a combined score of 17-5.

Towns will visit the Patriots in Lexington on Tuesday before hosting them Thursday for Senior Night.

The final game of the week will be a rematch at 35th ranked Lakeview on Friday.

The Indians are currently .13 points ahead of 24th place Pataula Charter who has two



games remaining with 33rd ranked Mitchell County and 7th ranked Miller County.

Meanwhile, 25th ranked Manchester, who trails Towns by .21 is finished with its regular season and can only sit and wait.

As for 22nd ranked Washington Wilkes, who leads the Indians by a slim .08 points, they have Stratford Academy - the 21st ranked private school.

No. 21 Georgia Military College is .16 points ahead of Towns and has completed the regular season and will begin the Region 7-A Tournament this week with the 7th ranked private school: Mount de Sales Academy.

In the Indians' 6-3 win over Athens Academy, Zach Davenport got the start and gave up one hit and 2 runs over 4 innings to record the win. Daven-

port gave way to Will DeVries, who picked up the save in 3 innings. The senior allowed 4 hits, 2 walks, and a run while striking out four.

Major Moss drove in two runs and scored with a fourth inning triple that blew open a one-run game while Davenport, DeVries, and Jackson Taylor drove in one run apiece.

Towns took a 2-0 lead in the third when Davenport drove in Kobe Denton with a two-out double and DeVries followed with an RBI single to plate Davenport.

The Spartans used small ball to get on the board in the bottom half of the third with a walk, stolen base, and two sacrifice bunts.

After Moss stretched the lead to 4-1 with a two-run triple, he later scored on a passed ball to



make it 5-1 in the fourth.

In the fifth, DeVries doubled and Taylor brought him in with an RBI single to give Towns a 6-1 advantage.

Athens Academy cut the Indian lead to 6-2 in the bottom of the fifth with two walks and two singles but DeVries pitched out of trouble with a fly out and strikeout.

Two walks led to another Spartan run in the sixth after an RBI single cut the lead in half at 6-3, but once again, DeVries limited the damage with a strikeout and ground out.

The Indians lost a heart-

breaker at home to Lakeview despite a solid performance from senior pitcher Adam Barrett. The 6 foot, 6 inch right-hander held the Lions to 4 hits over 6 innings while fanning six batters but ran into trouble in the seventh.

Tied 1-1, the Indians appeared to have taken a 3-1 lead but a base runner interference call wiped both runs off the board in controversial fashion.

Still tied entering the seventh, Barrett began showing signs of fatigue as he approached 100 pitches. A walk and hit-by-pitch put two aboard and chased Barrett from the game - bringing Seth

Fullerton to the mound.

The first batter he faced reached on an error that gave the Lions a 2-1 edge. After a strikeout, a two-run single made it 4-1 then a two-out single extended the lead to 5-1 before Fullerton induced a pop fly to end the inning.

Brody Graper led off the bottom of the seventh with a base hit but was left stranded at first as Lakeview escaped with the win.

Davenport finished 2-for-4 with an RBI and Kobe Denton doubled and scored during a 1-for-4 performance.

The week ended with a 14-3 loss to Athens Christian that saw Towns fall into an early 4-0 hole after an inning.

Athens Christian pulled away 8-0 in the top of the fourth before the Indians answered with two runs in the bottom half of the inning.

Graper, Barrett, and Andrew Griffin each drove in a run for Towns County, who gave up three in the fifth and three in the sixth before the game was called prior to the seventh inning.

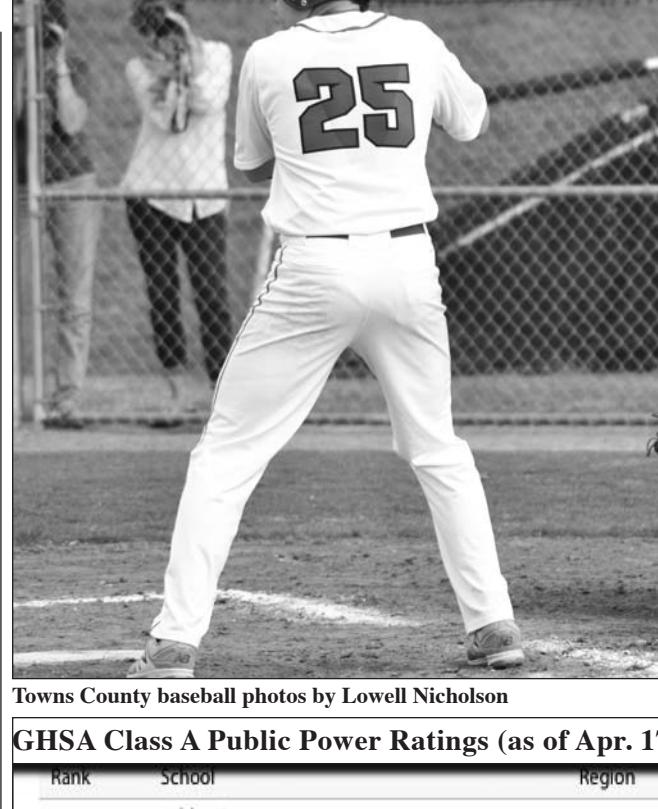
Davenport and Moss also added hits for the Indians.

DeVries took the loss on the mound after allowing 5 runs (two earned) and 6 hits in 3 innings of work.

Davenport surrendered 6 runs in one inning and Trent Bradshaw gave up 3 runs and 6 walks in 2 innings.

Towns County's Tuesday game at Oglethorpe County will get underway at 5 p.m. Thursday's Senior Night game is scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

The first pitch in Friday's road game at Lakeview is set for 4:30 p.m.

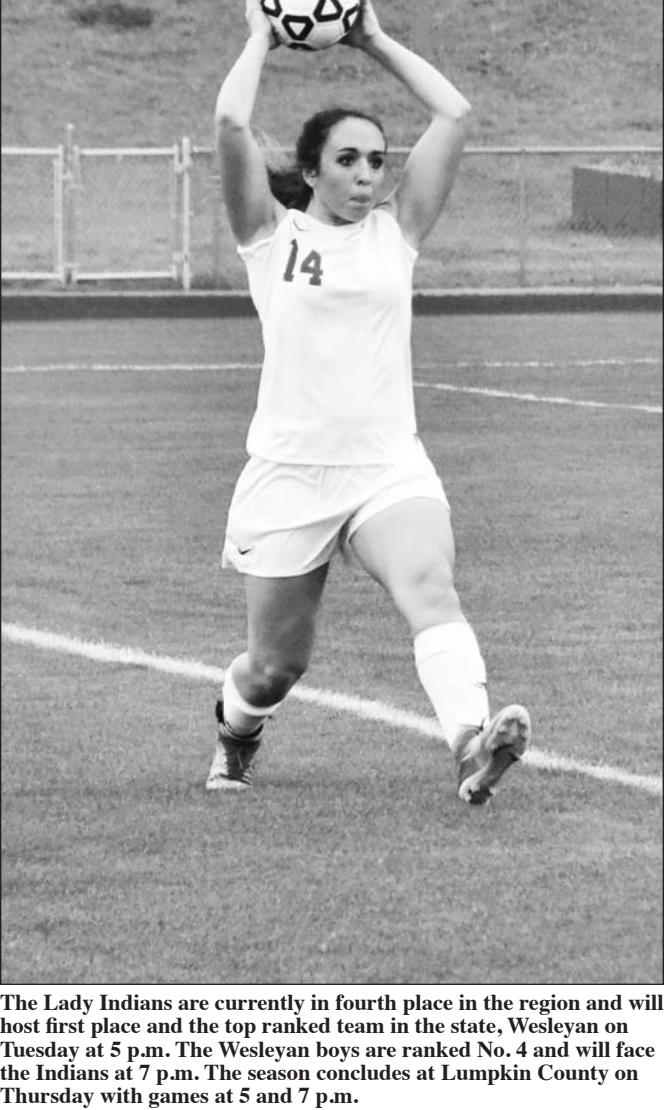


Towns County baseball photos by Lowell Nicholson

### GHSA Class A Public Power Ratings (as of Apr. 17th)

Rank	School	Region	Record	Ranking
1	Schley County	4-A	22-1	15.81
2	Gordon Lee	6-A	18-4	15.17
3	Emanuel County Institute	3-A	17-4	14.14
4	Lanier County	2-A	14-2	13.17
5	Seminole County	1-A	26-0	13.12
6	Baconton	1-A	17-5	12.38
7	Miller County	1-A	18-5	11.99
8	Bowdon	6-A	17-6	11.86
9	Charlton County	2-A	17-5	11.71
10	Taylor County	4-A	19-3	11.46
11	Telfair County	2-A	14-8	10.96
12	Irwin County	2-A	15-6	10.75
13	Treutlen	3-A	13-11	10.39
14	Johnson County	3-A	14-8	10.23
15	Trion	6-A	12-6	10.04
16	Terrell County	1-A	14-6	9.88
17	Commerce	8-A	15-11	9.51
18	Clinch County	2-A	11-9	9.23
19	Jenkins County	3-A	11-14	8.79
20	Pelham	1-A	13-12	8.59
21	Georgia Military College	7-A	14-11	8.55
22	Washington-Wilkes	7-A	12-10	8.47
23	Towns County	8-A	9-15	8.39
24	Pataula Charter	1-A	11-11	8.26
25	Manchester	4-A	13-11	8.18
26	Marion County	4-A	11-12	8.16
27	McIntosh County Academy	3-A	10-10	7.97
28	Webster County	1-A	11-11	7.83
29	Wheeler County	3-A	8-13	7.48
30	Wilcox County	2-A	9-11	7.30
31	Crawford County	4-A	13-9	7.27
32	Hawkinsville	4-A	8-15	7.01
33	Mitchell County	1-A	8-13	6.56
33	Portal	3-A	10-14	6.56
35	Mt. Zion, Carroll	6-A	8-12	6.55

Towns County soccer photos by Todd Forrest



### TCHS Baseball Senior Night rescheduled

Senior Night was not on April 13. The Oglethorpe County game has been rescheduled for home on Thursday, April 20. This is going to be the seniors' recognition night. Game time is 5 p.m. and our seniors will be recognized before the game starts. T(Apr19.F1)SH

### VFW hosts Pickleball Tournament

VFW Post 7807 Auxiliary is hosting a Pickleball Tournament at the Towns County Lakeside Pickleball Courts on April 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come support our veterans by participating in the silent auction, bake sale and lunch. All proceeds will go to helping veterans. For more information contact Auxiliary President Julie Andrews at (941) 914-0699. T(Apr19.F1)SH

### VFW Golf League

The Hiawassee VFW Golf league plays at Chatuge Shores Golf Course each Thursday at 9 a.m. This week's winner was the team led by Ray Ide. Other contributors to the effort were Ash Todd, Scott Smith and Bill Hinnant. They scored a blistering 4 strokes under par. T(Apr19.F2)SH