

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Towns County Soccer goes undefeated in last week's games

By Jeremy Foster
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Staff Writer

Last week was a great week for the Towns County Indians and Lady Indians Soccer Teams, with each going 2-0 in their respective games.

The action began on Wednesday, March 16, on Towns County turf against Lincoln County High School.

Up first were the Lady Indians with fast-paced action. Junior Sarah Shook scored the first two goals within the first half of the game.

In the second half, senior Miranda Spain scored on a penalty kick, and freshman Abby Gardella scored a goal with an assist by senior Macy Brinson to end the game 4-0 over Lincoln.

"It was a big region win that solidified our place in the playoffs," Girls Head Coach Clay Livingston said. "We were very excited how we played tonight, even though unfortunately we have lost a very important player for the rest of this year in junior Jayden Taylor.

"She suffered an injury, and it looks like she is going to need knee surgery. So, we wish her a speedy recovery first and foremost, and we want to let her know she will always be one of our Lady Indians.

"Tonight, we tried a few different formation and personnel packages, and it worked out in our favor. We are continuing to improve on communication with some



The Towns County men's soccer team has high hopes for 2022 following last year's postseason success.

new players who have stepped up into new spots, so it is a process, but we approach it as a marathon, not a sprint."

The Indians were up next and exhibited the same level of energy to win 4-2 against Lincoln.

Sophomore Jay Grimsley split two defenders and beat a third for his first goal of the season, and senior Lane Lallement followed with a pair of scores – a nice move/shot combo and a header off a

Grimsley assisted corner.

Finally, senior Zion Henderson scored from a tough shot at a deep angle near the goal line.

"That all took place in the first half," Boys Head Coach Rollie Thomas said. "We had opportunity after opportunity in the second half, but we just could not find the back of the net.

"It was a tough game, but I am so happy to be coaching this hard-working team,

and we walked away with the win, so I will definitely take that."

The last games of the week were away on Friday, March 18, against Washington-Wilkes High School.

Towns County's ladies were first to play and had a great victory in the end with 9-0 over Wilkes, improving their region record to 7-1 on the season.

Gardella had 4 goals, and senior Bazya Smith scored

an unassisted goal, while Spain had a goal and an assist. Shook earned a goal and three assists, and sophomore Halie Arrowood scored a goal and two assists, with freshman Jersei Sofield fielding a goal as well.

"It was a great week for the ladies, winning two more region games and locking up a playoff spot," Livingston said. "Our back four, senior Rylie Livingston, junior Alana Stowers, sophomore Eliza

beth Edwards and senior Gali Quijada, as well as our first off-the-bench player freshman Lilly Cannon, played magnificent this week in front of both of our very capable keepers, freshman Drew Livingston and sophomore Laura Mauldin.

"We collected two more region shutouts this week because of their stellar play."

The Indians took to the field next and ultimately scored another great win 4-3 over Wilkes, bringing their region record to 5-5, with Lallement scoring 2 goals and junior Grant Ingram netting 2 also.

"Lallement beat the last defender on his two, thus creating his own shot, and Ingram had two beautiful shots from 20 yards out," Thomas said.

A double yellow card ejection resulted in the Indians playing a man down for the last 30 minutes of the match, but that didn't stop Towns County from earning the win.

"We stayed in heavy defensive mode and conceded a few goals but held on to get the dub," Thomas said. "We are still learning composure in tight, emotional games. This was a good one to learn from, and we are pushing forward."

The Towns County teams were set to play next after press time on Monday, March 21, at home against Barrow Arts & Sciences Academy. Senior Night is slated for Friday, March 25, at home against Greene County, with play to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Indians Baseball continues to adjust as season progresses

By Jeremy Foster
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Staff Writer

The action began last week for the Towns County Indians Baseball Team on Monday, March 14, in an away game against Copper-Basin High School.

A combination of players from the JV and varsity teams competed and earned an 8-0 victory. Sophomores Cale Kirby and Matthew Chastain shared pitching duties for the night.

"We brought some eighth-graders from the middle school up for this game to help us out and to get experience," Head Coach Shannon Floyd said. "It was just a whole team effort, and all of the kids put the ball into play.

"Our leading hitter for that night was sophomore Zane Floyd with four hits and five at-bats."

The Indians played again the next day at home on March 15 against Social Circle, losing by a mere point against the Redskins, 5-4, in a near comeback game.

"We were behind 0-4 at the bottom of the fourth and got tied up 4-4 at the top of the seventh inning," Floyd said. "Our pitching and our



Seth Gillis leads off from first base during the Tuesday, March 15 region game vs. Social Circle. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

runs were there, but they were just able to get the slight upper hand in the end. But it was an incredible effort by this great team."

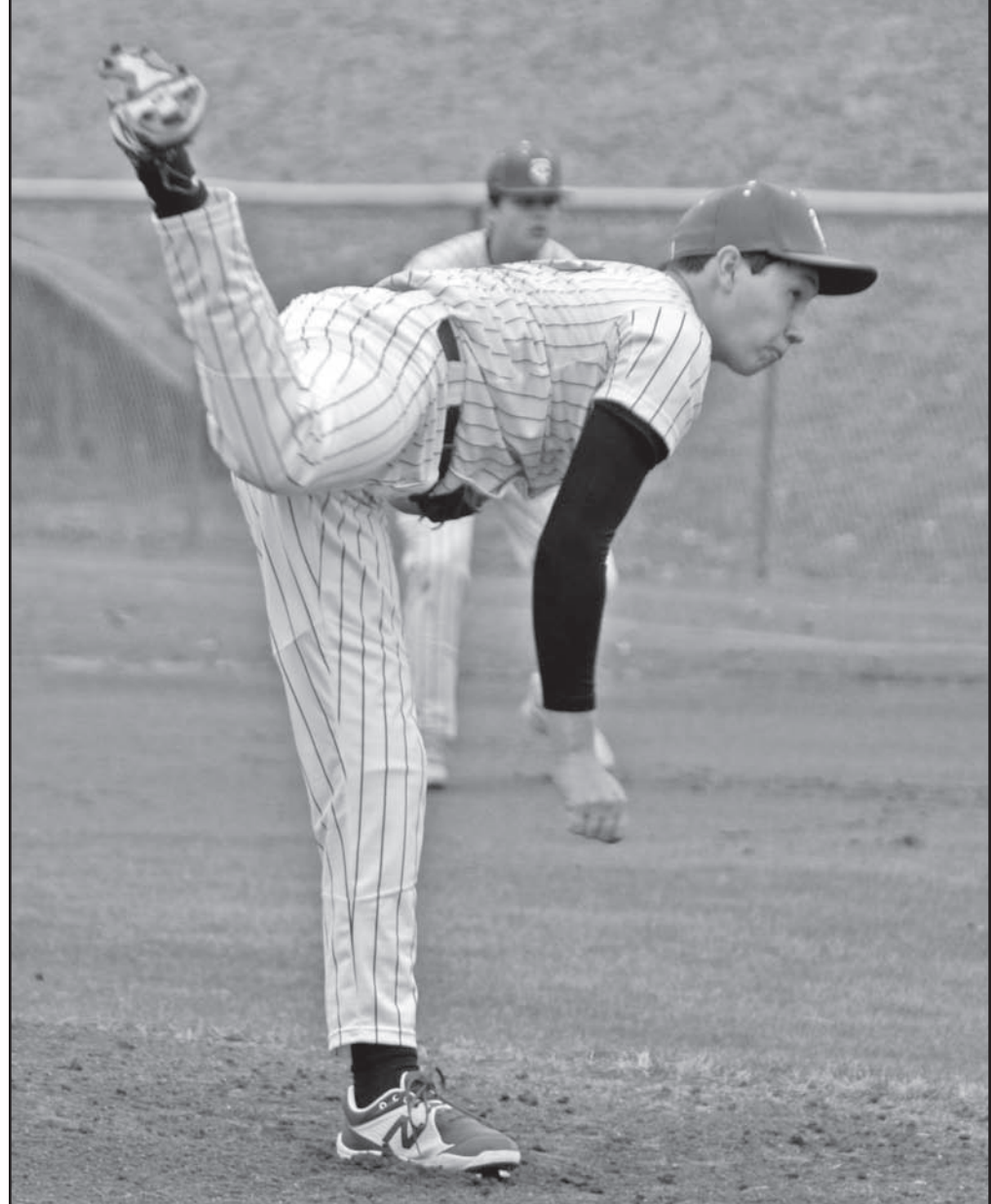
Towns County hosted Hiwassee Dam in a JV and varsity doubleheader on Thursday, March 17.

The JV players scored a 13-3 victory over Hiwassee Dam, and the varsity team enjoyed a 4-0 victory as well.

"Sophomore Matthew Chastain pitched well with five scoreless innings," Floyd said. "Followed by that was senior Collin Crowder and junior Seth Gillis completing the shutout. Both games were a collective effort of all the guys contributing to hitting the baseball and playing well."

And lastly for the week, the Indians made up an away game on Saturday, March 19, in a varsity doubleheader against Social Circle, with the previous night's schedule getting postponed due to rainy weather.

The Indians would go on to experience two heartbreaking losses, 6-1 and 10-1.



Kade McConnell delivers during last week's home contest vs. Social Circle. Towns' sophomore right-hander struck out three Redskins in six innings of work. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

In the first game, Crowder swung the bat well and helped drive in Gillis, who had a few hits on the day as well. Junior Lane Rouse had a hit, and Floyd pitched well with giving up three earned runs.

Game two saw more bat action by Gillis, and Crowder

pitched better than the score indicated.

"We had some costly errors in both games in that we gave up too many unearned runs and did not hit the ball as well as we could have," Floyd said. "It was not a good combination if you want to win games. We will regroup

this week and focus ahead on the next task."

The Indians were slated to take on Commerce High School an away game that occurred after press time on Tuesday, March 22, and they will host Commerce on Friday, March 25, for a pair of games starting at 5 p.m.

Towns County Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 9th

The Towns County Parks and Recreation Department is holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Baseball Fields at The Georgia Mountain Fairground Saturday, April 9, at 10 a.m.

There will be three age groups: Toddler to 4 years old; 5 to 8 years old; and 9 to 12 years old. Among the regular 3,000 candy-filled eggs, each field will have "Golden Eggs" redeemable for prize Easter Baskets.

Hiwassee Baptist Association will be helping with putting out the eggs and organizing the groups.