

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Baseball playoffs: Indians host Irwin County on Wednesday

By Shelly Knight
Staff Writer
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The Indians (14-13) open the State playoffs on Wednesday, April 23 at 5 p.m. vs. Irwin County following last week's wins over Hiwassee Dam, NC and Murphy, NC.

Wednesday's playoff opener is scheduled as a doubleheader with the if-necessary game Thursday at 2 p.m.

Indians 17, Hiwassee Dam 4 (6 innings) - Towns County scored the final eight runs to blow open a 9-4 contest after four innings on Monday, April 14.

Mason Pierson's five RBIs led the offense during a 2-for-3 day with a double, a triple, a walk and a run.

Oliver Sarafin scored four times and went 2 for 3 with a double, an RBI and a pair of stolen bases. Sam Sarafin drove in two and finished 2 for 3 with a double and two steals; Braydon Barrett went 2 for 3 with a pair of runs and swiped two bags.

Braydon Baldwin, Pierson, Tyler Rawdon and Alfonso Giampola all saw action on the mound, combining to allow five hits, four earned runs and striking out 12.

Other offensive contributors included Caleb Vardo: 1-for-4 with a double and two RBIs. Tripp Shirley: 1 for 2 with 2 RBIs and a stolen base. Eli McNabb: 1 for 3 with two RBIs and two stolen bases.

Indians 18, Murphy 6 (5 innings) - Towns County scored four in the first, nine in the third and three in the fifth on Wednesday, April 16 at Murphy, NC.

Giampola went 3 for 3 with three RBIs; Vardo swiped three bags, scored three times and drove in three during a 2-for-3 day.

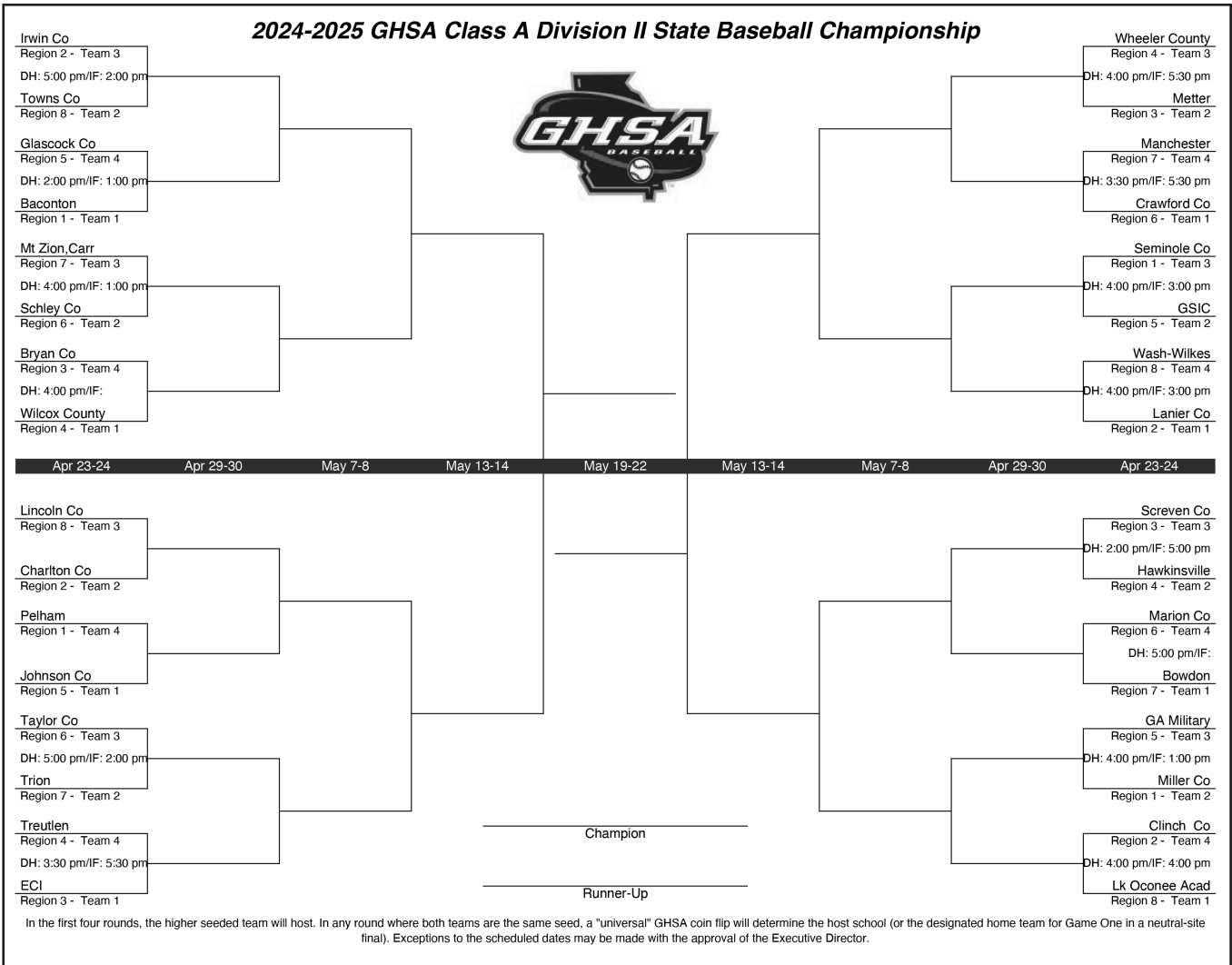
Oliver Sarafin went 1 for 3 with three RBIs. Tripp Shirley went 1 for 5 with three RBIs.

On the mound, Oliver Sarafin allowed six unearned runs and struck out five Bulldogs over 4 innings. Barrett tossed one scoreless inning.

Pierson finished 2 for 3 with two RBIs and two stolen bases. Rawdon went 1 for 3 with two RBIs. Baldwin scored four times and swiped two bags during a 1-for-2 day.

Barrett went 1 for 3 with an RBI. McNabb scored twice and drove in another while going 1-for-2.

Jonas Rouse walked twice; Morgan Walker added a run.



Soccer playoffs: Both teams host first round games

By Shelly Knight
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The school year is fast coming to a close, though both the boys and the girls soccer teams have two playoff games at home on Tuesday at 5 and 7 p.m.

The Indians and Lady Indians each enter the GHSA Class A (D-II) State Tournament as the No. 2 seed from Region 8-A.

The Lady Indians face Atlanta Classical Academy, which enters with an 8-5 overall record and 3-2 in region play. The Cavaliers already own a 3-0 win over a Lincoln County team that Towns County knocked off by the same score.

However, ACA enters the postseason on a two game slide and losers of three of five.

The Cavs are led by senior Sally Berry, who is responsible for 14 of her team's 34 goals this season. Others to watch are junior Reece Perkins (4 goals, 4 assists) and sophomore Callie Brooks (4G, 4A).

In Tuesday's nightcap, the Indians host Elite Scholars Academy, who enters on a five-game winning streak with an 8-2 overall record and a 4-1 mark in region play.

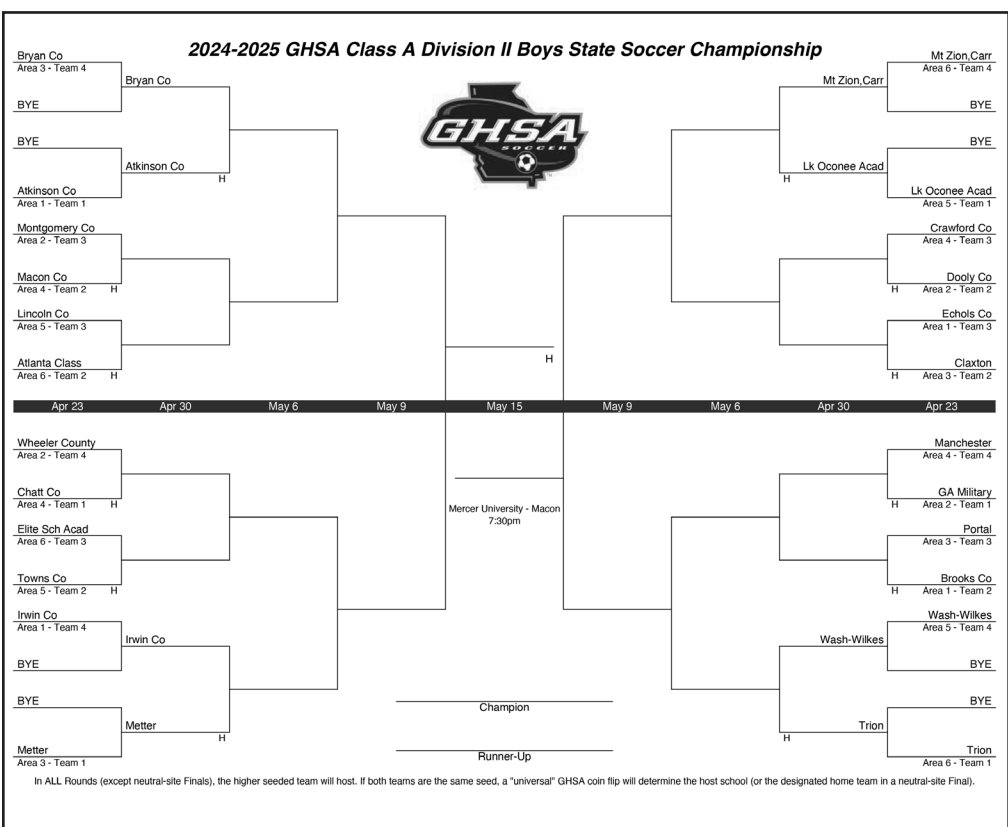
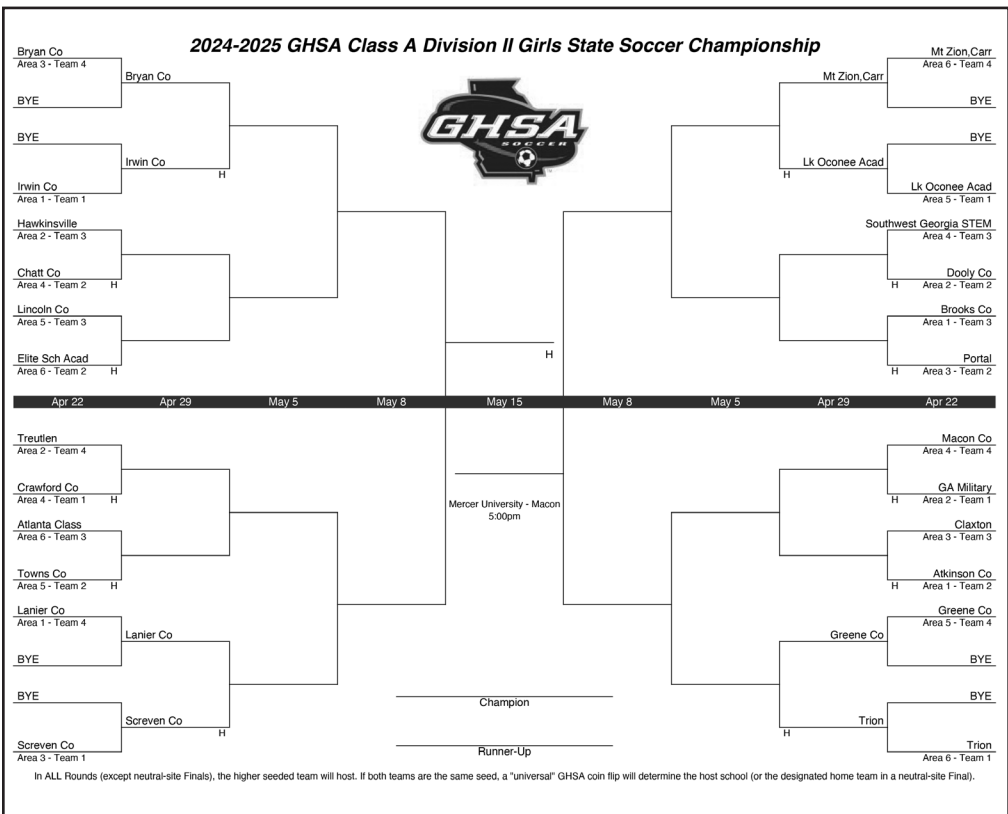
Lady Indians 7, Abbeville, SC 2 - The Lady Indians won their last regularly scheduled match against Abbeville with a final score of 7-2 on April 15th. That win brought their overall season record to 11-1. It was their fifth straight win on the road.

Abby Gardella and Macie Hunter each recorded a hat trick in the win.

Emma Wilson added a goal. Kya Smith had two assists. Scotlyn Fain, Chloe Sutton and Lilly Cannon each had one assist.

Indians 2, Abbeville, SC 0 - Meanwhile, the boys got on the pitch against Abbeville last Tuesday with six straight wins... and they left with seven. They never let the Panthers get on the board and left with a 2-0 victory.

Caden Coggins and Connor Williams scored both of Towns County's goals, bringing their combined season tally to



35 goals.

Towns County pushed their record up to 15-1 with the win, which was their fifth straight on the road. The road victories came thanks in part to their offensive performance

across that stretch, as they scored 26 goals over those five matches.

Then the Indians overcame Stephens County on April 17th with a final score of 1-0. The only goal was scored by

Cruz Kitchens.

But on Friday, April 18th the boys lost to Pickens by a score of 2-0. Dustin Barrett was selected as Player of the Match for the sixth time this season.

Local race results: Tri-County

Brasstown, NC - Due to the Easter holiday, Tri-County changed its schedule to Friday night.

The evening began with an Easter egg hunt for the kids in the end field. Over 60 cars were in attendance, and the track ran six classes.

The next race is scheduled for May 10, 2025.

Now, let's get to the race results.

Crown Vic - Adam Phillips, No. 120Z from Canton, N.C., took home the win. Second place went to Conner Green, No. G4 from Blue Ridge, Ga. Third place was Richard Ames, No. 6 from Ellijay, Ga.

602 Crate Late Model - Bryson Hickman, No. B01 from Ootlewah, Tenn., secured the victory. Colton Berrong, No. 56 from Murphy, finished in second. Third place went to Ricky Smith, No. 88 from Hiwassee, Ga.

Late Model - Dante Curtis, No. 03 from Murphy, claimed the win. Shawn Chas-

tain, No. 00 from Murphy, finished second. Greg Sudderth, No. 34 from Brasstown, N.C., came in third.

Open Wheel Modified - Matt Sandefur, No. 22 from Mineral Bluff, Ga., took the top spot. David Pollen, No. 88 from Tampa, Fla., finished second. Third place went to Brawley Stillwell, No. 91 from Andrews, N.C.

FWD - Phillip Hall, No. 47 from Andrews, N.C., won the race. Michael Beeman, No. 28 from Young Harris, Ga., finished second. Chris Leitner, No. 721 from Murphy, took third.

Street Stock - Matt Whitener, No. 03 from Canton, N.C., was the winner. Dylan Hannah, No. 81 from Clyde, N.C., came in second. Roger Beaver, No. 2 from Murphy, N.C., finished third.

Jason and Jamie would like to thank everyone for their continued support of the track.

Please come out and join us for the next event on May 10, 2025.



Tri-County photo by killboy.com

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.