

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Baseball: Indians take two of three from Washington-Wilkes

By Shelly Knight  
Staff Writer  
Towns County Herald

The Towns County Indians took on Washington-Wilkes during a three game region series last week, winning game one 4-1 and game three 16-6.

Last Tuesday's home victory marked the program's first win over the Tigers.

"This is our first win over Wilkes," head coach Shannon Floyd said. "We've had some heartbreak losses to them in the past. They are usually the premiere team in the region year in and year out. It seems like they've always had our number. It's good to get the monkey off our back."

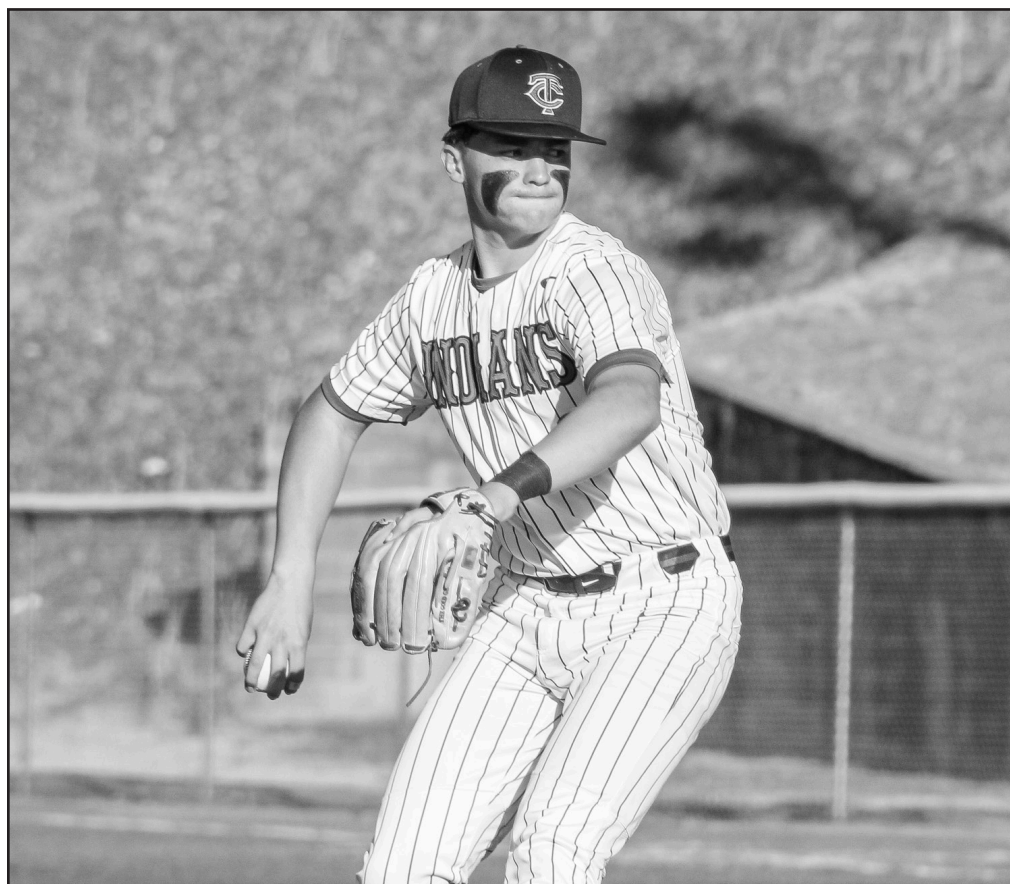
"We started out with a great game by Oliver Sarafin. He pitched a heck of a game. He didn't give up very many hits, just a few and one of them was a homerun. But the way he responded and came back was great."

The Indians scored three in the first and one in the fifth -- more than enough for Sarafin, who went the distance, allowing two hits, one run and striking out six.

Braydon Baldwin reached via an error to begin Towns' three-run first and scored on Caleb Vardo's base hit to right field.

Sarafin walked and Sam Sarafin singled to load the bases for Morgan Walker's two-run double.

"In the bottom of the first we came out swinging the bats like crazy and scored three runs," Floyd said. "We also hit a line drive that could have



Oliver Sarafin fired a complete-game two-hitter vs. Washington-Wilkes. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

scored runs, but they made a good stop."

Oliver Sarafin opened Towns County's fifth with a double to left, and Walker delivered again courtesy of a two-out RBI single.

Wilkes' lone run came on a homer to start the second, but Sarafin didn't allow another hit until a single in the seventh.

"I think the pitching and our defense was huge," Floyd said. "We had two freshmen, Sam Sarafin and Alfonso Gi-

ampola, turned a beautiful double play in the middle and then the very last play of the game was a double play. This something we do almost every day in practice. It's called chaos. That's where our first baseman makes a great play, feeds it to our pitcher covering the bag to turn the double play. We practice it so much it becomes instinct.

"It's what makes coaching this group so much fun. They have a terrific work ethic. I knew we would have some

growing pains early but I also knew that these boys like to work and that they would get better over time. This game puts us with a winning record right now and in first place in our region at this time."

On Friday, Towns County traveled to Wilkes for a doubleheader, dropping the first contest 15-14 after scoring eight in the top of the first.

Wilkes answered with one in the first and five in the second, but Towns added one in the third.

The Tigers moved in front by way of a four-run third, followed by a three run fifth. Towns County's three-run sixth got the Indians within a run at 13-12 but Wilkes responded with two in the bottom half. Towns County got two in the seventh but left



Eli McNabb drove in two runs at Washington-Wilkes on Friday, March 21. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

the bases loaded to end the contest.

Sam Sarafin went 2 for 4 with a triple and 3 RBIs; Tyler Rawdon finished 2 for 3 with a double, 2 RBIs and two steals; Mason Pierson went 2 for 4; Eli McNabb drove in two runs during his 1-for-4 day; Tripp Shirley went 1 for 5.

Braydon Barrett, Giam-pola, Walker and Shirley saw work on the mound for Towns County, allowing 14 hits, 12 earned runs and six walks.

Oliver Sarafin went 2 for 5 with an RBI; Vardo walked, scored and drove in one during his 1-for-4 performance; Walker went 1 for 5 with an RBI.

The Indians bounced back with a 16-6 rout in game three, putting Wilkes away with a seven-run seventh.

Oliver Sarafin went 3 for 6 with a double, a triple and an RBI. Vardo finished 2 for 4 with a triple and an RBI; Sam Sarafin doubled, tripled, and drove in one to finish 2 for 4.

Barrett drove in two runs; Baldwin scored three times; Walker and Pierson had two runs apiece.

Baldwin tossed 4 1/3 innings, allowing five hits, two earned runs while striking out four.

Sam Sarafin pitched 2 2/3 innings with six strikeouts and didn't allow an earned run.

**Up next:** The Indians play at home again on Friday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. when they take on Lincoln County in a region doubleheader.

The Indians travel to Lincoln County on Tuesday, March 25 at 5 p.m.



Caleb Vardo drove in a run during each of Towns' three games last week. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

## Soccer: No. 1 Lady Indians, No. 9 Indians suffer first Region 8-A losses Saturday at LOA



The Lady Indians in action at Lake Oconee Academy. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Both Towns County teams suffered losses their first losses of the year last weekend at Lake Oconee Academy (LOA).

The 9th-ranked Indian men were on a roll when they defeated No. 7 Lincoln County on March 13 by a score of 2-0.

Caden Coggins and Connor Williams scored both of Towns county's goals, bringing their combined season tally to 16 goals overall. The win against Lincoln extended the Towns County winning streak to six.

Scores to date include a win against Banks County at 1-0, a score of 7-1 vs. Commerce, and a resounding 8-0 defeat of Greene County.

In March the Indians defeated Chattooga by a score of 4-1, Kings Ridge Christian 5-1, in addition to the Lincoln County win. Then last Tuesday the Indians did it again, this time with a win against Crescent, SC by a score of 4-1.

However, their winning streak came to an end when Towns fell to Lake Oconee last Friday, March 21st when No. 6 LOA won 3-0.

The Indians have three more home games this season so come out and cheer them on to victory.

The No. 1 Lady Indians hosted No. 9 Lincoln County Thursday, March 13 and picked up a big region win by a score of 3-0.

Abby Gardella opened up the scoring with a nice goal assisted by Kya Smith. Scotlyn Fain scored an unassisted goal to make it 2-0. Emma Wilson scored on a cross from Abby Gardella to put the game away in the second half.

"Any region win is a good win, and this one was especially good considering how we played," said Towns County head coach Clay Livingston. "We played great team soccer and I'm proud of the girls."

Towns County suffered a 3-0 loss at No. 5 Lake Oconee Academy over the weekend.

The Ladies have one more home game this season against Banks County on April 3 at 5:30 p.m..