

Golf: Panthers take two from Towns County, split with Hayesville



Low-medalist Sofia McNabb escapes the sand on the 4th hole at Old Union last week. Photo/Todd Forrest



Braedon Gay chips onto the 3rd green during his low-medal round at Old Union. Photo/Todd Forrest



Hope Patton blasts her way out of the rough near the 4th green at Old Union last week. Union County took both matches from Towns County on Tuesday, March 23 at Old Union. Braedon Gay (45) and Sofia McNabb (52) took home low medalist honors in their respective matches, leading the men to a 214-225 victory, and the ladies to a 108-120 win. Other scores from Tuesday were Trey Bradley - 51, Christian Poe - 58 and Kaston Hemphill - 59. Hope Patton shot a 56 in the girls match. The Union County guys were victorious over Hayesville on Monday at Butternut Creek Golf Course by a score of 197-225. Hemphill led the way with a 48, Daniel Griggs and Tyler Robbins each fired a 49, Trey Bradley shot a 51. Patton's 56 and Allison Colwell's 59 wasn't enough to overtake Hayesville in the girls match as the Lady Jackets edged Union 108-120. Photos/Todd Forrest



Christian Poe celebrates after sinking a putt on the 1st hole at Old Union Golf Course. Photo/Todd Forrest

Track: Allison and Hartzog lead the charge at Habersham Central

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
sports@nganews.com

Mt. Airy - Union County track and field recorded eight top-three finishes last Friday at Habersham Central's Battle of the Blue Ridge.

Headlining Union's day was a pair of first-place performances by Riley Allison and Hunter Hartzog, along with a second-place finish by Hana Gregory.

Allison cleared 4-feet, 10 inches to take home first in the girls' high jump event. Hartzog clocked in at 2 minutes, 5.24 seconds to place first in the boys' 800-meter race.

In the girls' 800M, Gregory came in second with a time of 2:38.34. She also placed third in the 1600M, crossing the finish line at 6:10.89.

Other top-three finishes for Union County included Elliot Stepps in the boys' 200M with a time of 23.80, and Zander Rotko in the boys' 400M at 53.16. Noah Underwood was third in the boys' discus throw with a distance of 117-3. Hartzog was third in the 1600M, clocking in at 4:37.14.

The Panthers turned in a host of fourth-place performances, including Lexi Sisum's 13.88 in the girls' 100M and her 29.10 in the 200M. Hannah Long was fourth in the girls' 400M at 1:05.85, as was Linley Jones in the 300 hurdles at 53.87.

All three of the girls'



The girls' relay team in action at Habersham Central. Photo/UCHS

relay teams took home fourth with the 4x100 clocking in at 53.87, the 4x400 at 4:42.56 and the 4x800 at 12:41.25.

On the boys' side, Elliot Stepps placed fourth with a time of 11.71 in the 100M. The 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams also came in fourth with times of 45.39 and 3:39.96, respectively.

Natalie Payne recorded a top-five in the 3200M with a 14:50.17. Katie Byers came in fifth in the high jump at 4-6; Rotko placed fifth with a 2:14.42 in the 800M and the boys' 4x800 relay team was fifth at 9:13.67.

Sixth-place finishers were Long in the 100M, Allison in the triple jump and Luke Gambrell in the boys' 3200M. In seventh for Union County was Underwood in the shot put, Payne in the 1600M, Kanon Abercrombie in the boys' high jump, Brady Guild in the boys' 400M, Shelby

Whitney in the girls' discus, Allie Brey in the girls' 300 hurdles, Karaline Silver in the 100 hurdles and Rachel Reid in the girls' 3200M.

Coming in eighth was Trace Wright in the boys' 200M. Riley Thomas placed eighth in the boys' long jump and ninth in the triple jump.

Hunter Payne was ninth in the boys' 1600M, Silver came in ninth in the triple jump and Mia McCombs was ninth in the girls' long jump. Rounding out the ninth-place finishers was Campbell Chambers in the girls' 800M.

Union's other top-10 competitors were Daniel Griggs in the boys' high jump, Luke Miller in the boys' 300 hurdles, Hunter Payne in the 3200M, Wright in the triple jump and Abercrombie in the long jump.

Union County's next track and field meet is at Gilmer High School on Tuesday.

Baseball... continued from 2B

between the second and fourth innings to quickly erase a 1-0 deficit and run away from Union County in game three of the Region 8-AA series.

In the nightcap of Friday's doubleheader at Banks County High School, Hughes was awarded his second start of the series, but lasted just 3 innings, allowing 6 hits, 6 earned runs, 4 walks and 2 hit batters.

Dyer worked 2/3 of an inning in relief, giving up 3 earned runs, 3 hits, 2 hit batters and one walk. Mullanack worked the final 1 2/3, allowing 5 hits and 2 earned runs.

The Panthers got on the board in the first inning when Dyer stole second after working his way aboard with a one-out walk. After a ground out moved Dyer to third, Swartz delivered a two-out RBI single to give his team another early advantage.

During the three games, Swartz finished 6 for 10 with a team-high 4 RBIs. His six hits were tied for the most in the series with Banks' Ty Burchett.

Trailing 4-1 in the third inning of game three, Union County refused to go away, pushing across a two-out run to cut the margin in half. The Panthers manufactured the run when Hughes reached on a one-out walk and Mullanack joined him with a two-out base on balls. Hughes was held at third on Swartz's single to left, loading the bags for Chitwood, who picked up the ribby on a five-pitch walk. Banks County answered

with two in the bottom half of the frame, then tacked on four more in the fourth to open up a 10-2 lead. Leading 11-2 in the bottom of the sixth, the Leopards ended the game via the mercy rule when a bases-loaded walk stretched their margin to 10 runs.

Up next: After taking on two of the top-9 teams in Class AA, the Panthers will face Riverside Military Academy in a battle of the only winless teams in Region 8-AA. Since it's very likely the final two playoff spots in 8-AA will be determined by Union (0-6), Riverside (0-6) and Rabun County (3-3), the Panthers need to make a stand this week by locking down a state playoff berth.

Riverside recently suffered three one-sided losses to Rabun County by a combined score of 41-8. So, at minimum, Union County needs two wins over RMA to secure a playoff spot, and a sweep to keep pace with third-place Rabun - who faces No. 8 Elbert County (15-4, 6-0) this week.

This week's action got underway Monday with a non-region matchup at Towns County (5-9). The Panthers resume region play Tuesday with a trip to Riverside at 5:55 p.m. The series concludes Thursday with a 5 p.m. doubleheader in Blairsville.

Union County's Senior Night is scheduled for Friday, April 9 when the Panthers wrap up the Region 8-AA schedule with a doubleheader vs. Rabun County.

Union County vs Banks County series statistics

#	Roster	GP	PA	AB	H	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	R	HBP	ROE	FC	CI	BB	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS
2	Zeke Swartz	3	10	10	6	6	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	.600	.600	.600	1.200	
10	Isaak Mullanack	3	11	9	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	.333	.455	.333	.788	
11	Lake Hughes	3	11	7	2	2	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	4	1	.286	.545	.286	.831	
1	Thomas Dyer	3	10	6	2	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	1	.333	.500	.333	.833	
3	Caleb Towe	2	5	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	.200	.200	.200	.400	
8	Bailey Brown	3	8	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	.000	.125	.000	.125	
4	Connor Shields	3	8	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	.000	.125	.000	.125	
44	Damien Chitwood	3	9	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	.000	.222	.000	.222	
5	Hunter Fleming	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	.000	.000	.000	.000	
32	Hunter Loyd	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	.000	.500	.000	.500	
15	Logan Anderson	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000	.000	
25	Tyler Loyd	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.000	.000	.000	.000	
Totals		3	85	69	14	14	0	0	0	8	8	3	0	2	0	11	21	.203	.337	.203	.540

#	Roster	IP	GP	GS	W	L	SV	SVO	BS	SV%	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HBP	ERA	WHIP
11	Lake Hughes	7.0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	.000	15	11	11	5	8	4	11.000	2.857
2	Zeke Swartz	5.0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	5	3	3	2	4	2	4.200	1.400
10	Isaak Mullanack	4.2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	11	9	9	3	5	4	13.500	3.000
25	Tyler Loyd	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	0	3	0	0	.000	3.000
1	Thomas Dyer	0.2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	3	4	3	1	0	2	31.500	6.000
Totals		18.1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	.000	34	28	26	14	17	12	9.927	2.618