

# Softball: Union eliminated after going the distance with No. 1 seed Heard Co.

By Todd Forrest  
Sports Editor  
sports@nganews.com

**FRANKLIN** - Union County Head Coach Stephen Mitchell knew his team would need to bring its A-game to have a shot against Region 5-AA Champion Heard County in the first round of State.

And when all was said-and-done, the Lady Panthers fell just short despite taking game one of the best-of-three road series.

Union County would shock the top-seeded Lady Braves with a 6-4 victory in game one but Heard responded with an 8-3 game two win and a 10-5 victory in the third and final game.

Originally scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 10, the threat of Hurricane Michael caused both coaches to agree on moving Wednesday's doubleheader up one day.

Tuesday's game one wasn't without a lengthy weather delay, however. Leading 5-2 in the fourth, a rain shower put the game on hold as soon as the Lady Panthers stormed ahead with a four-run inning.

Trailing 2-0 in the top half of the second, Hannah Patton walked and scored on a Lexi Sisum RBI groundout.

Down 2-1 with one out in the fourth, the bottom of



(L-R) Junior Megan Bright and sophomore Trinity Queen provided Union County with a steady 1-2 punch all season long despite being in their first season as full-time varsity pitchers. Photos/Todd Forrest

Skyler Ludlum

the lineup provided the offensive spark once again. Miranda Lockaby and Caley Davis both walked, setting the table for consecutive RBI singles by Rebekah Kelley and Sisum.

Heard quickly got one run back off a bases loaded wild pitch in the bottom of the fourth.

Up 5-3 heading to the seventh, Union County tacked on an insurance run when a Patton two-out double scored the fourth.

Megan Bright recorded the win while striking out two and allowing four hits. Trinity

Queen picked up the save, giving up three hits and one run while striking out two.

Game two got off to a late start Tuesday night and Heard didn't waste any time evening the series at 1-1.

The Lady Braves scored three in the first, two in the second, and three in the fourth for an 8-0 lead. The Lady Panthers put three on the board in their half of the fourth but it was too little, too late.

Lockaby singled to lead off the inning, followed by walks to Davis and Kelley to load the bases. A Sisum sacrifice fly put Union on the board then RBI singles by

Mary Wischmeyer and Arnold made things interesting for a few moments.

Unfortunately, the damage was done and too much to overcome as a Wednesday morning game three became a reality.

Moved up from noon to 10 a.m. to beat the storm, Heard County set the tone with a first inning grand slam before adding three more in the second for a 7-0 advantage.

The Lady Panthers refused to quit and rallied back to within 7-5 thanks to two runs in the third and three in the fifth.

A Kelley walk and Sisum single allowed Arnold and Skyler Ludlum to bring them home with back-to-back, two-out base hits.

In the fourth, Lockaby reached on an error, Davis walked and Kelley singled home Lockaby -- pulling her team to within 7-3.

Maddie Sutton made it a ball game with a two-run double, scoring both Kelley and Sisum for a 7-5 score.

That would be Union's final hit of the season as Heard County retired nine-straight Lady Panthers while pulling away with three runs in the fifth.

Despite a difficult ending to the season, Coach Mitchell has Union County softball trending in the right direction. Replacing the five current seniors won't be an easy fix but the future is brighter than ever with a roster loaded with freshmen and sophomores and successful feeder programs at the middle school and recreation department.

*Check back next week for a season recap interview with Coach Mitchell where we'll reflect on year one of the Mitchell Era.*



Senior Maddie Sutton with a base hit.



Sophomore Hannah Patton made a midseason move from shortstop to catcher. Photos by Todd Forrest



Freshman Rebekah Kelley finished the season with one of the hottest bats in the Union County lineup.

## UCHS 2018-19 Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Varsity	JV
November 15	Rabun Gap	Home	6:00/7:30	
November 20	Towns	Home	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
November 27	Robbinsville	Home	6:00/7:30	3:30/4:30
November 30	Fannin	Away	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
December 5	Rabun Gap	Away	6:00/7:30	Boys 4:30
December 8	Towns	Away	6:00/7:30	3:00/4:30
December 14	Elbert	Away	6:00/7:30	Boys 4:30
December 15	Monticello	Home	2:00/3:30	
December 18	Social Circle	Home	5:00/6:30	
December 20	Murphy	Home	6:00/7:30	3:00/4:30
December 27	TBD	Towns	TBD	
December 28	TBD	Towns	TBD	
December 29	TBD	Towns	TBD	
January 4	Rabun	Away	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
January 5	Putnam	Home	3:00/4:30	12:00/1:30
January 8	Banks	Home	6:00/7:30	Girls 4:00
January 11	Oglethorpe	Away	7:00/8:30	
January 12	Fannin	Home	6:00/7:30	3:00/4:30
January 15	Elbert	Home	6:00/7:30	Girls 4:00
January 18	Monticello	Away	5:00/6:30	
January 22	Social Circle	Away	5:00/6:30	
January 25	Rabun	Home	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
January 26	Putnam	Away	3:00/4:30	12:00/1:30
January 29	Banks	Away	6:00/7:30	Boys 4:30
February 1	Oglethorpe	Home	6:00/7:30	

## Youth Football: 9U Panthers playoff bound after dominating Pickens 39-0



Captains meeting in the middle of the field Brandon Lynch (1), Chetley Cox (44), Kylar Juracka (8) and Kingston Jones (30).

By Blake Lynch  
Staff Writer  
North Georgia News

added another touchdown before the break for a halftime score of 27-0.

Starting the second half No. 30 Kingston Jones scored a touchdown and the extra point. Then, No. 3 Mikey Davis scored his first touchdown of the season.

The Panthers went on to win the game 39-0, finishing the season at 6-1 while allowing only 18 points on the year.

They're headed to the playoffs for the third-straight time where the ultimate goal is a Super Bowl victory.

**9U Panthers** - Union County took on the Pickens County Dragons and it was a great game for the Panthers. Here's how it went down.

Early in the first quarter No. 31 Kevin Kilpatrick took one to the house for a touchdown and the extra point by Kilpatrick was good.

Later into the game No. 1 Brandon Lynch scored a touchdown plus the PAT. Kilpatrick

## Offense

Passing	Comp/Att	Yds	TD	Int	Long
#17 P. Allison	17/25	260	4	0	35
Rushing	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Fum
#17 P. Allison	5	101	2	54	0
#24 C. Buzzard	11	71	0	56	0
#34 J. Daniel	6	45	1	16	1
#21 S. Drake	1	1	0	1	0
Receiving	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Fum
#21 S. Drake	6	103	1	35	0
#4 K. Hemphill	4	48	0	16	0
#84 K. Morlock	3	43	2	19	0
#20 C. Rich	2	27	0	18	0
#2 C. Schafer	1	25	1	25	0
#24 C. Buzzard	1	14	0	14	0

## Team Totals

	UC/BC
Total Plays	50 66
Total Yards	478 218
Passing Yards	260 52
Rushing Yards	218 166
First Downs	22 13
Third Down Efficiency	8-10 (80%) 5-15 (33%)
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-3 (0%) 3-4 (75%)
Turnovers	1 3
Fumbles Lost	1 1
Interceptions Thrown	0 2
Penalties	3 3
Yards	11 33

## Union County Recreation Department 2018 Fall Chair Aerobics and Regular Aerobics! Ages: 50 and over

Union County Recreation Department is going to continue to offer Regular Aerobics and Chair Aerobics fitness classes for the Fall! These classes are in high demand, so don't wait to sign up and miss out on the fun. If you are looking for an indoor exercise program to fit your specific needs, then come on down and sign up for one or both of our late Fall sessions of aerobics. The Program Director of Union County Parks and Recreation will be leading Regular aerobics sessions two times a week and Chair Aerobics sessions two times a week for November and December for 45 minutes each class. This is a great time to socialize and exercise with a fun group for a very low cost of \$10 for 8 weeks!

Regular and Chair Aerobics Registration begins on October 1, 2018 and ends October 26, 2018 (or until class is full) at the Recreation Office (310 Wellborn St.)

Registration must be done in person due to class size limits. If you have any questions, please call our office at (706) 439-6074.



## Defense

	Tk	Ast	Sck	TFL	Sfty	Int
#6 S. Sutton	9	5	0	0	0	0
#9 J. Mancuso	8	3	0	0	0	0
#2 C. Schafer	7	2	0	1	0	2
#32 J. Colwell	6	3	0	0	0	0
#7 A. Scott	5	3	0	0	0	0
#30 H. Kelley	5	1	0	0	0	0
#16 N. Underwood	4	0	0	0	0	1
#74 N. Ledford	4	0	0	0	0	0
#10 E. Harkins	3	0	0	0	0	0
#3 K. Hemphill	3	1	0	1	0	0
#57 W. Lueckert	3	0	0	1	0	0
#64 L. Patton	2	0	0	1	0	0
#26 J. Littles	1	1	0	0	0	0
#25 P. Ivester	1	1	0	0	0	0
#52 C. Lester	0	1	0	0	0	0

Continued from Page 2B... Additional Union County football stats from Friday's 49-17 victory over Banks County.

## Union County Recreation Department 2018 New Strength and Core Fitness Class! Ages: 50 and over

Time to get your "Gut in Gear"! Union County Recreation Department will now be offering a new fitness class addressing upper body/middle core strength, flexibility and balance! These classes are in high demand and we have limited enrollment, so don't wait to sign up and miss out on the fun! If you are looking for an indoor exercise program to fit your specific needs, then come on down and sign up for this new class. The Program Director of Union County Parks and Recreation will be leading these core fitness classes two times a week for November and December. Each class is approximately 40 minutes each class. This is a great time to socialize and exercise with a fun group for a very low cost of \$10 for 8 weeks!

Registration begins on October 3, 2018 and ends October 26, 2018 (or until class is full) at the Recreation Office (310 Wellborn Street.)

Registration must be done in person due to class size limits. If you have any questions, please call our office at (706) 439-6074.

