

Sports

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Colwell and Daniel headline UCHS All-Region selections

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Union County juniors Crawford Colwell and Bailey Daniel were selected to the 7-AAA First Team All-Region basketball team, as voted on by the coaches.

This marks the second straight season that Daniel, the starting point guard of the Lady Panthers, has been named First Team All Region after picking up All Region 8-AA honors last year.

Meanwhile, this is a first for Colwell, who missed out on a first team nod in 2015-16 when he was named Honorable Mention.

As for this year's Honorable Mention selections, Lady Panther freshman Kait McCarter was the only 9th grader (boys or girls) to make the list.

Senior Lawson Baenninger also received some love from coaches around the region by also being selected for honorable mention.

Baenninger missed nearly the entire month of January following an ankle injury at East Hall.

Prior to the injury, he was scoring at a clip of 14 per-game, while grabbing 5 rebounds and dishing off just under 3 assists-a-game.

Rounding out the Union County honorable mention selections is senior Ashley Fair, who became one of Head Coach David Tucker's most well-rounded players thanks to a diverse skill-set. She could rebound, block shots, score inside, and knock down the three.

The Lady Panthers' two underclassmen on the list isn't the most, GAC, who placed six players, will see four of them return for at least one more season.

Benton, Sutton, and Reynolds are all juniors, while Williams is just a sophomore.

All three of the Dawson County girls will return next season with Sticker, a sophomore, and two juniors.

Lumpkin returns Foster (Jr.) and Pulley (Soph.).

Franklin and McClure were both juniors for Fannin, as were Winters and Lindsey for East Hall.

Meanwhile, all four of North Hall's selections were seniors.

On the boys side, O'Briant was the only senior listed for GAC and for East Hall, only Brown was a 12th grader.

Like the girls, North Hall will graduate every one of its All-Region and honorable mention selections.

Boys Basketball Region 7-AAA All-Region Team

Player of the Year - Zach Pulley - Lumpkin County

- * Crawford Colwell - Union County
- * Alden Lewallen - North Hall
- * Charlie O'Briant - GAC
- * Jacob Zarate - Lumpkin County
- * Logan Holt - Fannin County
- * Evan Evaston - North Hall
- * Chris Hinton - GAC
- * Cullen Reed - Dawson County
- * Jermiah Crumley - Dawson County
- * Sedrion Morse - East Hall
- * Luke Cooper - East Hall
- * Mahki Brown - East Hall
- * Hunter McIntosh - GAC

Honorable Mention

- * Lawson Baenninger - Union
- * Deonte Evans - East Hall
- * Luke Holtzclaw - East Hall
- * Roy Dixon - GAC
- * Justin Rabb - North Hall
- * Jake Meeer - North Hall
- * Alec Volle - North Hall

Reed and Crumley are currently juniors at Dawson County, but one county over, Pulley and Zarate are both seniors at Lumpkin. Finally, Fannin County's lone selection, Logan Holt will graduate this spring.

Girls Basketball Region 7-AAA All-Region Team

Player of the Year - Kyla Mize - East Hall

- * Kaylee Sticker - Dawson County
- * Abi Chatham - Dawson County
- * Carly Winters - East Hall
- * Hope Franklin - Fannin County
- * Robyn Benton - GAC
- * Taylor Sutton - GAC
- * Lexi Mann - GAC
- * Caria Reynolds - GAC
- * Tamia Lewis - GAC
- * Sadie Cleveland - North Hall
- * Taylor Anne Kelley - North Hall
- * Mackenzie Pulley - Lumpkin County
- * Bailey Daniel - Union County

Honorable Mention

- * Calli Watson - Dawson County
- * Summer Lindsey - East Hall
- * Makenzie McClure - Fannin County
- * Catie Mosley - Fannin County
- * Kennedy Williams - GAC
- * Holly Foster - Lumpkin County
- * Rylie Vaughan - Lumpkin County
- * Tatum McQuillen - North Hall
- * Caroline Hearn - North Hall
- * Ashley Fair - Union County
- * Kait McCarter - Union County



Junior Bailey Daniel was named All Region in consecutive years in Class AA and AAA. Photo/Todd Forrest



Junior Crawford Colwell was honorable mention last year and All Region this season. Photo/Todd Forrest

North Georgia Dance Arts performs at Jazz On Tap

Students from NGDA's Junior and Senior Performing Groups performed a total of four pieces at "Jazz on Tap" last weekend. The festival, along with Ballet Fest Atlanta, began in the hopes of bringing the fire and excitement of live dance to the public. During the past 29 years, dancers have traveled to Georgia from 20 states and from as far away as Europe to

add their spark to the flame.

"Performing at a venue such as Jazz on Tap is not only a way to give back to the community, but allows our dancers to grow as performers and bond as a group." (Peggy Eaton, Co-Owner)

Senior Performance Group: Jordan Haddow, Mai Lim (Towns County); Rilla Ricks (Union County); Dawson Mitchell (Clay County).

Junior Performance Group: Kaylee Dillard, Sophie Jordan, Quincy Rosser (Towns County); Eloise Whisenhunt (Union County); Lauren Reynaud (Clay County); Graci Penley (Cherokee County).

North Georgia Dance Arts would like to thank the choreographers, dancers and parents for making this performance opportunity successful and memorable. NT(Feb22,216)CA

Harlem Ambassadors coming to Blairsville Feb. 28th

Hoops and hijinks are coming to Blairsville on February 28, 2017 when our very own local challengers, the Union County Recycled Panthers, take on the Harlem Ambassadors in a comedy basketball show the whole family will enjoy. The show will start at 7 PM at Union County High School Gym, but the gym will be open at 6 PM for early concessions.

Blairsville Kiwanis Club uses 100% of the proceeds for the youth in Union County.

"We have scoured the region for skilled - and sometimes unskilled - players to take on the powerful Ambassadors," said Ross Shores of the Kiwanis Club. "What our team lacks in skill, they

make up for in heart. Buy your tickets today and you'll be able to witness how our enthusiastic local talent stacks up against the Ambassadors. It's going to be a match-up we won't soon forget."

The Union County Recycled Panthers includes: Michael Ross, Corey Garrett, Jack Lance, Shawnetta Reece, Brittney Stinnet, Kyle Lundberg, John Payne, Caleb Paul, John Cone, Jana Husson, Mike Adams, Kevin Altidor, Kayla Phillips, Tyler Odum, Zach Odum and Caleb Smith.

The Harlem Ambassadors' show features high-flying slam dunks, dazzling ball-handling tricks, hilarious comedy, music, dancing, games with kids in the

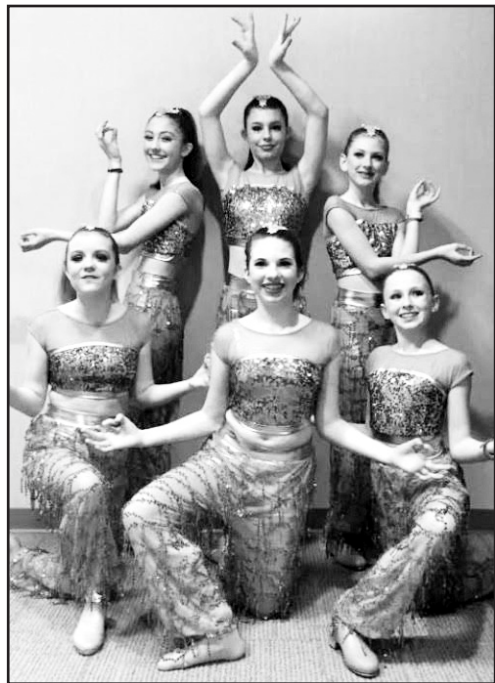
audience, and free autographs after the show.

Advance tickets are on sale at a discounted price with any Kiwanis member or contact member Ross Shores at 404-274-5130 or Mary Colwell at 706-781-8489 or you may purchase tickets at our website www.blairsvillekiwanis.org. At the door tickets will also be available the night of the event.

For more information, contact Ross (trshores@windstream.net) or Mary (ccma@windstream.net). The event is sponsored by Blairsville Kiwanis Club. Learn more about the Ambassadors' team, history and tour schedule at www.harlemambassadors.com. NT(Feb22,215)CA



NGDA Senior Performance Group: (L-R): Jordan Haddow, Mai Lim, Rilla Ricks, Dawson Mitchell



NGDA Junior Performance Group: Front (L-R): Quincy Rosser, Kaylee Dillard, Graci Penley; back: Eloise Whisenhunt, Sophie Jordan, Lauren Reynaud