

Cross Country off to the races at Meeks Park

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
sports@nganews.com

Union County Lady Panther sophomore Emma Garrison more than picked up where she left off last year.

The defending Class AA State Champ ran off and left the competition, blistering the course in 20:46, leading Union County to a second place overall finish behind Chestatee at the first meet of the season.

"I felt that Emma (Garrison) ran a very strong race," Union County Head Coach Jackie Hughes said. "Her time was actually two minutes faster than her first race last year, and on a tougher course."

Junior Rachel Todd finished 13th with a time of 25:54, sophomore Stephanie Busse was 16th at 26:46, Marissa Spaulding came in 18th with a time of 27:14, and 23rd place finisher Anna Danek rounded out the Top six for the Lady Panthers at 28:00.

Others placing were Cora Bauman, who finished 25th with a time of 28:30. Sage Royston was 27th at 28:53.

The team standings were: first place Chestatee with 23 points, second was Union with 71, Murphy, NC came in third with 79, Lumpkin was fourth with a total 104 points, Hayesville, NC took home fifth with 122, and defending Class A Public School State Champion Towns County was sixth with 130 points.

The Panther squad, led by sophomore Cristian Garcia finished in fourth place with 81 points.

Garcia placed 10th with a time of 21:02 and Jacob Kelley was 11th at 21:10.

Jacob Brown placed 16th with a time of 21:58, Aaron Stafford was 21st, clocking in at 22:32, 23rd belonged to Matthew Rich at 22:38, Andrew Nelson was 25th at 22:48, and Ryan Rogers rounded out the Panther Top seven, placing 26th with a 22:57 finishing



Emma Garrison coming down the home stretch. Photo/Todd Forrest



Aaron Stafford (left) and Andrew Nelson (right). Photo/Todd Forrest

Chestatee was a solid first with 26 points but second through fourth were only separated by 12 points.

Hayesville, NC was second with 69 points, Lumpkin County was third with 74 points, and fourth place Union had 81.

Rounding out the meet was fifth place Towns County with 159 points, and sixth place Murphy, NC with 178.

"For the first meet of

the year I was quite pleased," Coach Hughes said. "We have several new runners on both the boys and girls teams, and I was anxious to see how they handled a race situation. They did very well."

This season the course at Meeks Park has been rerouted and turned into a two-lap race, in an attempt to increase the difficulty.

"One of the reasons I changed the course this year was to make it more challeng-



Cristian Garcia



Rachel Todd

ing," Coach Hughes said. "I am hoping this will make us stronger as the season progresses. Also, most of our big races are two loop courses, so we should be prepared for those. I was pleased to see that quite a few of our runners gained places on the second loop yesterday."

Union will be in action next week in Hall County as Coach Hughes hopes to trim a few seconds off the finishing times.

"As we continue to train and increase our strength and endurance we should be able to bring our times down," Coach Hughes said. "Our next meet is at Chestatee, which is also a challenging course and there will be lots of strong competition. I will be looking for our times to improve a little in that meet."

Rivalry ...continued from page 14A

loose and sophomore Andrew Brown dove on the fumble.

"They didn't show us anything different than what we had planned for," Barnett said of Towns County's offensive attack. "We go week-by-week preparing for teams, so we started preparing for them on Monday."

The miscue resulted in three Panther points when Walts nailed a 29-yard field goal at the 4:59 mark of the third quarter.

The Indians were finally able to sustain a drive when Noblet powered his way into the endzone in the fourth quarter.

Prunier answered with his 92-yard kickoff return, electrifying the Panther faithful, putting the icing on the cake.

"It was a rivalry game and you don't want to have any regrets when it's all said and done," Coach Allison said.

After Towns went 80 yards and scored on one play, Union's freshman quarterback Bo Lynch carried the ball four times for 56 yards before time expired.

His rushing total was only surpassed by Whittle, who amassed 83 yards on 11 carries. Drake rushed seven times for 35 yards, Mancuso had 17 yards on three tries, and freshman Nic Rodriguez rushed once for 4 yards.

Mancuso went 6-for-8 through the air with half of his completions resulting in touchdowns. Drake was 3-for-6 for 11 yards. Sam Gilbert reeled in three passes for 55 yards and a score, Prunier also caught three balls for 20 yards and one touchdown.

Rogers had one catch for 30 yards and a touchdown, junior Dalton Moore had a catch, as did Rodriguez.

Defensively, middle line-

backer Barnett continued to find his way to the ball time after time, finishing with 12 tackles, sophomore Lance Rich recorded 9 tackles, junior Nic Sparks had 5 stops, and Stancil had four tackles.

Martin and Watson had a sack, Jones had four tackles, one for a loss, and a quarterback hurry. Evans had a tackle-for-a-loss and a hurry, and Senior Jonathan Floyd also added a tackle from the defensive line position.

Junior Will Stone had two tackles, and Brown had a tackle and a fumble recovery. Sophomore Tyler McCoy, Drake, Moore, and Rodriguez recorded a tackle, while junior Luke Chatham had two tackles, and Dietz had three, with one resulting in a loss.

Next week the Panthers will travel west to face another rival in Fannin County. And just a few minutes removed from the Towns County win, Union already had Blue Ridge on their mind.

"We're going to enjoy this win tonight and start preparing for Fannin tomorrow," Barnett said.

The Panthers have won two straight against the Rebels and will be looking for their first ever three-game winning streak over Fannin since West Fannin and East Fannin were consolidated into one school.

Last year, Union held a 23-7 lead at the half that turned out to be the final score.

After an uplifting win over the Indians, Coach Allison knows that Fannin County's Wing-T / Wishbone rushing attack is an entirely different monster from what they saw from the Indians.

"This is a big win but we're going to see a much better team next week at Fannin," Coach Allison said.

Trout stocking sites

week of August 26-30, 2013

Fannin: Big Creek, Toccoa River, Toccoa River Tailwaters (below Lake Blue Ridge Dam), and Rock Creek
Lumpkin: Etowah River and Nimbwill Creek
Union: Cooper Creek and Toccoa River

Note: Information is subject to change. Please call the hatchery at 706-838-4723 for questions. The hatchery also provides trout for the state. Please contact Georgia DNR for information on sites stocked by the state.

Marine Corps League Warriors Golf Tournament

The deadline for sign-up for the Warriors Golf Tournament is the 13th of September. The tournament, starting at 1 p.m. on the 20th of September will be held at the Old Union Golf Course. The contest, a 4 person select shot is a fun-fest round of golf that benefits Veterans and their families that are in need.

Entry fee is \$55 for individuals or \$220 for the team of four. The Marine Corps League is a non-profit organization and fees and donations are tax free. Sign up now to insure your place in the tournament. For more information call Skip Belton 706-745-2273 or Charlie Sowers at 706-745-5123.

Mountain Gymnastics Center offering Saturday morning classes

Starting Sept. 7th, MGC classes are as follows: 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Preschool (3-5 years).
10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Kindergarten-and-up. Boys and Girls. 11 a.m. - Noon Cheer/Tumbling. Call for opening: 706-745-3325



UCMS Softball: Lady Panthers rally past Lumpkin

After falling at Lumpkin County earlier this season, Union County fell behind the Lady Indians 3-0 in the first inning of the second meeting, but scored nine unanswered runs to take the 9-3 victory.

Jillian Lawn picked up the win from the circle for the Lady Panthers who improve to 3-1 on the year.

Lawn, Braden Poteete, Aladriel Arnold, Ally Horinek, and Maci Everett each had an RBI for the Lady Panthers. Megan Lockaby and Courtney Moose both drove in two runs.



Aladriel Arnold



Ally Horinek



Jillian Lawn

Union County Middle School Softball photos by Todd Forrest

Sadie Hawkins Day At Butternut Creek Golf Course

The Butternut Ladies hosted our Annual Sadie Hawkins Day Golf Tournament on Saturday, August 17, 2013.

After enjoying a great breakfast, prepared by our ladies, group pictures were made of all couples, with the Butternut Creek Golf Course in the background. Larry Garrett, Golf Professional & General Manager of Butternut Creek Golf Course, welcomed all participants, thanked the ladies for a delicious breakfast and gave out final instructions to be followed before we entered the field.

We had a field of 24 couples (48 players) who were very anxious to get started with the thought in mind - "We have got to win this tournament in our Flight". A shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. put us into the running.

Around 12:30 to 1 p.m., players came in from the course to enjoy a great lunch prepared by the View Grill upstairs in the Banquet Room of the Union County Community Center.

Excitement was building up as players looked at the golf scores being posted to the Winners Sheets; hoping they would be in line for winning. Score cards were totaled up by Scotty Thompson & Nicole Green. The winners were:

1st Flight: 1st Place - Kathie McAfee & James Bradley, score 68. 2nd Place - Charlotte Maddox & Leon Traylor, score 70. 3rd Place - Vicky Donaldson & Eddie Coffee, score of 70. (score card playoff)

2nd Flight: 1st Place - Michelle & James Rowe, score of 63. 2nd Place - Patricia Plott & Lamar Paris, score of 66. 3rd Place - Ashley & Zack Richman, score of 69.

3rd Flight: 1st Place - Lydia Gray & David Farrell, score of 67. 2nd Place - Lilly Adams & Stephen Adams, score of 70. 3rd Place - Carol & Bob Davies, score of 73. 4th Place - Joy & Cohen Davis, score of 76. 5th Place - Jill & Jim Jeffery, score of 76.

4th Flight: 1st Place -

Betty Taylor & Ryan Brown, score of 71. 2nd Place - Mary Lou Nash & Randy Curtis, score of 74. 3rd Place - Sharon & Jim McClure, score of 74. 4th Place - Susan Anderson & Bruce Dell, score of 76.

We also had a competition for the Closest to the Pin on all Par 3s, the longest drive (men) and most Accurate Drive (women). The winners were:

Men: Longest Drive - James Bradley on 6. Women: Most Accurate Drive 7 - Lilly Adams. Closest to Pin 4 - Jim McClure. Closest to Pin 8 - Susan Anderson. Closest to Pin 12 - Sharon McClure. Closest to Pin 17 - Betty Williams.

The Butternut Creek Ladies would like to thank all the personnel of Butternut Creek for helping us with this tournament.

Lilly Adams, our Tournament Chairperson, was happy to say that we had an enjoyable day playing the sport we love and getting together with friends! Hope to see you next year! NSep4,29jgg



L-R: Zack & Ashley Richman, Lilly & Stephen Adams



L-R: Ryan Brown, Betty Taylor, Mary Lou Nash, Randy Curtis



L-R: James & Michelle Rowe, Patricia Plott, Lamar Paris



L-R: David Farrell, Lydia Gray, Lilly Adams, Carol & Bob Davies



L-R: James Bradley, Kathie McAfee, Charlotte Maddox, Leon Traylor, Vicky Donaldson, Eddie Coffee



L-R: Jim & Sharon McClure, Susan Anderson, Bruce Dell

11TH ANNUAL GLOW IN THE DARK GOLF TOURNAMENT SEPT 20, 2013

SPONSORED BY THE BLAIRSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

4-MAN SELECT SHOT, FLIGHTED PLAY

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO PLAY IN THE 11TH ANNUAL GLOW IN THE DARK GOLF TOURNAMENT AT BUTTERNUT CREEK GOLF COURSE. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE "SHOP WITH A COP" CHRISTMAS FUND. THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH UNION COUNTY SCHOOLS, CHOOSES OLDER CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS TO GO ON A SHOPPING SPREE TO WALMART FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES. PLEASE COME BE PART OF THIS FUN NIGHT OF GOLFING AND HELP THE CHILDREN.

REGISTRATION FORMS SHOULD BE MAILED TO
BLAIRSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 307 Attn Cindy
BLAIRSVILLE, GA 30514

ENTRY FEE - \$350.00 PER TEAM (4 MULLIGANS INCLUDED)
\$90.00 PER PERSON (1 MULLIGAN INCLUDED)

1. _____ HANDI _____ 2. _____ HANDI _____
3. _____ HANDI _____ 4. _____ HANDI _____

SUPPER/REGISTRATION 5:30
TEE TIME 6:30

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CINDY 706-835-1692, 706-781-8162
CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO:
SHOP WITH A COP