

Sports

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Track: Underwood takes first in 3200M with PR time of 10:49

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Murphy, NC - Junior Lance Underwood took home gold in the 3200-meter race with a personal record time of 10 minutes and 49 seconds at last week's Murphy Invitational.

Union County was the lone Georgia representative at the event while Swain County, Hayesville, Andrews, Rosman, and host Murphy all represented the Tarheel State.

In the 1600M event, Underwood placed third with a time of 4:59 - another personal best.

He also made waves by becoming the first Union County athlete (since track was reinstated at UCHS in 2014) to record a sub-five minute mile.

On the girls side, freshman Zoe Sanchez nearly duplicated Underwood's 1st and 3rd performance with a third place finish in the 1600M but came up just short in the 3200M and took second.

Other second place finishers included the guys 4x200 relay team of Chad Buzzard, Chayton Schafer, Sloan Sutton and Jared Herum.

The guys 4x400 relay team



Union Co. junior Lance Underwood pulls away from the pack at Murphy, NC. Photo courtesy of Jenni Dixon

of Bryan Nelson, Herum, Kyle Morlock and Adrian Shaw also finished as the runner up.

Aladriel Arnold placed third in the 400M race.

The guys 4x400 relay B-team of Cole Payne, Timothy

Murphy, Will Harkins and Underwood posted a solid third place performance.

Cole Wright placed third in the 100M along with fifth place finishes in the long jump and triple jump.

Adrian Shaw picked up the bronze in the 400M and Chayton

Schafer took fourth in the 100M race.

The 4x100 relay team of Dockery, Herum, Wright, and Kanon Hemphill came in fourth.

The girls 4x100 relay team of Arnold, Destiny Orellana-Irvin, Keeley Mobley and Jordan



Sophomore Aladriel Arnold in the relay race. Photo courtesy of Jenni Dixon

Stubblefield came in fifth.

Payne was fifth in the 800M event while Dockery placed fifth in the 5th place in both the 110 high hurdles and 300 intermediate hurdles.

Latty Ryals finished fifth in the 1600M while Hemphill took

sixth in the 200M.

Jessie Holbrook was fifth in the 3200M with a personal best time.

The girls 4x400 relay team of Ryals, Arnold, Evelyn McBride and Orellana-Irvin took home fourth.

Baseball: Dawson sweeps as Panthers fall for seventh time in last eight games

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After opening the season with four wins, Union County dropped to 5-7 overall and 1-5 in region play following Dawson County's sweep of the Panthers in a three-game, Region 7-AAA series that was punctuated with a 17-1 shellacking in game three to wrap up a Friday doubleheader in Blairsville.

Once again, weather delayed the series, forcing Union County to host a twin bill on Friday after dropping Wednesday's road game.

In Dawsonville, the Panthers fell behind 2-0 but rallied for leads of 3-2 in the fourth and 5-3 midway through the fifth before the Tigers (11-6, 6-3) scored three in the fifth and five in the sixth for an 11-6 victory.

In game two, the Panthers were unable to find an answer for Dawson County ace Connor Bearden, who tossed a complete game, three-hit shutout with four strikeouts and two walks in a 3-0 win for the Tigers.

Union's RJ Banton nearly matched Bearden pitch-for-pitch but four Panther errors and three walks chased Banton from the game after allowing one earned run and three hits over five innings.

Ean Harkins pitched two scoreless innings in relief to keep his team in the game but the lineup was unable to generate any offense.

Dawson jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the first when a leadoff error, a one-out hit-by-pitch and a pair of two-out base hits put the home team in an early hole it wouldn't recover from.

A two-out double by Candler Colwell in the bottom half of the inning went to waste and in the second, the Tigers manufactured another run on a walk, stolen base, and a fielders choice for a 3-0 advantage.

A leadoff single by Banton in the bottom half of the inning was followed by a 1-6-3 double play to end the threat.

Union missed another scoring opportunity in the fourth after Banton retired the Tigers in order and Candler Colwell singled to right with one down in the Panthers' half of the inning.

Crawford Colwell reached on an error to bring the tying run to the plate with one out but Union went down quietly with a fly out and ground out to remain three-down after four.

In the fifth, Candler Colwell provided one of the few Panther highlights on the day, and it wasn't due to him being responsible for two of the team's three hits. Instead, the junior centerfielder, running at full-speed into the right-centerfield gap, made an over-the-shoulder, warning-track catch to rob Bearden of an extra-base hit and an RBI.

The "Web Gem" came with a runner on first, who just happened to be running on the pitch. As Candler Colwell



Junior Candler Colwell lines an opposite field single to right vs Dawson County last week. Photo/Todd Forrest

made the catch with the runner rounding second, he turned and hit the cut-off man Logan Dyer, who fired to Coleson Daniel at first for the 8-4-3 double play.

However, a double play ended Union's hopes after Del Ruff led off the bottom half of the inning with a base-on-balls.

Harkins worked around a two-out error in the sixth by inducing a fly out with a runner on third.

In the Panthers' half of the sixth, a one-out walk by Dyer would be the last Union baserunner of the game.

In the 11-6 loss on Wednesday, the visiting Panthers were victimized by 10 strikeouts to only five for Dawson County despite the two teams being nearly even in every other offensive category.

Ruff drove in a career-high four runs with a pair of singles during a 2-for-3 day at the plate. Patrick Baggett finished 1-for-5 with a run and a double - Union's only extra-base hit.

Crawford Colwell went 2-for-4 with a run while Candler Colwell was 1-for-3 with an RBI single and a run.

Davis got the start on the mound and lasted four innings while allowing four runs on five hits.

The junior lefty yielded a run in the first and second but was in position to record the win when the offense gifted him three runs in the fourth on a bases loaded single by Ruff.

A two-out passed ball in the bottom of the fourth tied things up at 3-3 but a leadoff double by Baggett in the fifth followed by a Candler Colwell RBI single put Union back on top.

Crawford Colwell kept the rally going with a base hit and Ruff delivered once again with a single to right to give the Panthers a 5-3 advantage.

Davis pitched to one batter in the bottom half of the inning - a five pitch walk - before giving way to freshman Pierson Allison, who was unable to catch a break as Dawson regained the lead.

A bunt, two bloop, and an infield single off of Allison put the Tigers back in front for

good with a 6-5 lead.

Union loaded the bases in the sixth with three walks but were unable to answer Dawson County, who now had momentum on its side and exploded for five runs to put the Panthers away with an 11-5 advantage after six.

A leadoff single by Groves resulted in a run after Baggett reached on an error with two-down in the seventh.

In the series finale, Dawson scored 17 unanswered - including six in the fourth - before Union was able to cross home plate.

Their lone run came in the bottom of the fourth when Carter Wright knocked in Logan Dyer but it wasn't enough

to prevent the game from being called due to a 16-run Tiger lead.

Allison, Cayden Rich, Jackson Colwell, Daniel, and Josh Nachtrieb all combined to work four innings for the Panthers with Allison taking the loss after surrendering four runs in the first.

Up next is a three game series with 4th ranked North Hall, who remains unbeaten in region play with a 6-0 record. The Panthers host Wednesday's game two while visiting the Trojans on Monday and Friday. Each game is scheduled for a 5:55 p.m. first pitch.

On Tuesday, Union will visit Rabun County at 5:30 p.m.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
DWSN	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	1
UCHS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4

Lineup	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	K
Patrick Baggett	3	0	0	0	0	0
Logan Dyer	2	0	0	0	1	0
Candler Colwell	3	0	2	0	0	0
Crawford Colwell	3	0	0	0	0	1
RJ Banton	3	0	1	0	0	1
Josh Nachtrieb	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dawson Groves	3	0	0	0	0	1
Del Ruff	2	0	0	0	1	0
Jonathon Everett	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slade Thompson	2	0	0	0	0	1
Cole Davis	2	0	0	0	0	0
Coleson Daniel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ean Harkins	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	23	0	3	0	2	4

Batting
2B: Candler Colwell
TB: RJ Banton, Candler Colwell 3
ROE: Crawford Colwell
GIDP: Dawson Groves, Slade Thompson

Pitching	IP	#P	S%	H	R	ER	K	BB	HR
RJ Banton	5.0	98	.541	3	3	1	2	3	0
Ean Harkins	2.0	27	.630	1	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	7.0	125	.560	4	3	1	3	3	0

Pitching
HBP: RJ Banton

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
DWSN	4	4	3	6	X	X	X	17	8	0
UCHS	0	0	0	1	X	X	X	1	2	2

Lineup	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	K
Patrick Baggett	2	0	0	0	0	1
Logan Dyer	1	1	1	0	1	0
Candler Colwell	1	0	0	0	1	0
Crawford Colwell	2	0	0	0	0	1
RJ Banton	1	0	0	0	0	0
Josh Nachtrieb	1	0	0	0	0	1
Dawson Groves	1	0	0	0	1	1
Carter Wright	2	0	1	1	0	0
Slade Thompson	2	0	0	0	0	1
Cole Davis	1	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson Colwell	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coleson Daniel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pierson Allison	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cayden Rich	-	-	-	-	-	-
Del Ruff	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alec Scott	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	14	1	2	1	3	5

Batting
TB: Logan Dyer, Carter Wright
RBI: Carter Wright

Pitching	IP	#P	S%	H	R	ER	K	BB	HR
Pierson Allison	1.0	35	.457	3	4	4	1	2	1
Cayden Rich	0.1	28	.464	2	4	3	0	3	0
Jackson Colwell	1.0	32	.344	1	3	3	1	4	0
Coleson Daniel	1.0	29	.345	0	3	3	0	4	0
Josh Nachtrieb	0.2	30	.467	2	3	1	1	2	0
Totals	4.0	154	.416	8	17	14	3	15	1

Pitching
HBP: Coleson Daniel
WP: Jackson Colwell

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
UCHS	0	0	0	3	2	0	1	6	9	1
DWSN	1	1	0	1	3	5	X	11	12	1

Lineup	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	K
Patrick Baggett	5	1	1	0	0	1
Logan Dyer	2	1	0	0	3	1
Candler Colwell	3	1	1	1	1	1
Crawford Colwell	4	1	2	0	0	2
Dawson Groves	3	0	1	0	1	1
Slade Thompson	2	1	0	0	0	0
Cayden Rich	0	1	0	0	0	0
Del Ruff	3	0	2	4	0	0
Coleson Daniel	3	0	0	0	0	2
RJ Banton	1	0	1	0	0	0
Hunter Kelley	2	0	0	0	0	2
Cole Davis	3	0	1	0	1	0
Josh Nachtrieb	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ean Harkins	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pierson Allison	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	31	6	9	5	6	10

Batting
2B: Patrick Baggett
TB: Crawford Colwell 2, Dawson Groves, Patrick Baggett 2, RJ Banton, Candler Colwell, Cole Davis, Del Ruff 2
RBI: Candler Colwell, Del Ruff 4
ROE: Patrick Baggett
HBP: Del Ruff
SB: Crawford Colwell, Candler Colwell

Pitching	IP	#P	S%	H	R	ER	K	BB	HR
Cole Davis	4.0	66	.515	5	4	4	2	3	0
Pierson Allison	1.0	33	.545	5	3	3	1	1	0
Ean Harkins	0.0	20	.500	2	4	1	0	1	0
Crawford Colwell	0.2	15	.333	0	0	0	1	2	0
Josh Nachtrieb	0.1	10	.300	0	0	0	1	1	0
Totals	6.0	144	.486	12	11	8	5	8	0

Pitching
WP: Ean Harkins, Pierson Allison