

Panthers season comes to a close at Thomasville

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
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Thomasville - Following a 7-hour bus ride to Thomas County in southwest Georgia, the Panthers soccer team fell 3-1 to the 2nd ranked Thomasville Bulldogs.

Sophomore Sam Seiler scored Union's lone goal unassisted, midway through the first half to give the Panthers the lead.

"It was a 100 percent hustle play and he played like he really wanted to win the game," Union County Head Coach Tim Hunter said. "We played really well and really hard. I felt like our offense was a little bit better than their defense and Sam (Seiler) and (Brett) Dietz had been giving their defense fits up front.

In the final minutes of the first half, with momentum on their side, the Panthers were looking to take a lead into the break but a defensive miscue allowed the Bulldogs to tie things up 1-1 at the half.

Thomasville would take a 2-1 lead near the midway point of the second half on a free kick following a foul.

Neither team was able to find an advantage and trailing by a goal in the final minutes, Coach Hunter threw everything at Thomasville, and as a result, gave up a late goal.

"I'm not losing 2-1," Coach Hunter said. "I sent everybody forward and they would up counterattacking for one more goal."

Following the game, Coach Hunter was singing the praises of his junior keeper Justin Eigel.

"When you talk about someone playing great, Justin Eigel at Thomasville was clearly the best goalkeeper on the field," Coach Hunter said. "Not taking anything away from the other team's players, but he was clearly the best keeper on the field."

The Panthers finish the season with a 9-2 mark with its two losses coming to the No. 2 (Thomasville) and No. 3 ranked (Riverside Military Academy) teams in the State.



Freshman Omar Godinez (7), sophomore Parker McCombs (16), and senior Alex Mancillas (6). Photo/Todd Forrest



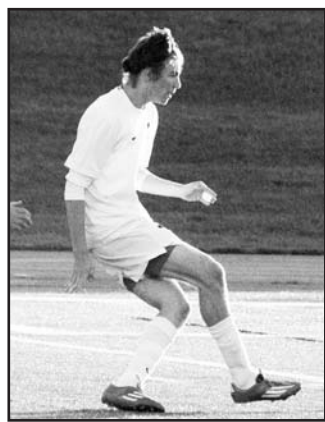
Sam Seiler scored the lone goal at Thomasville. Photo/Todd Forrest

Following the win over Union, Thomasville spanked Lovett 6-0 to earn a Semi Final match between No. 1 and No. 2 when the Bulldogs travel to Norcross to face top ranked Greater Atlanta Christian.

Thomasville is the last public school to win a Class AA State Championship (2010) before the Gwinnett County private schools took over.

As for Union's future and its hopes of returning to the State and contending for a region crown, Coach Hunter believes his squad will be in the mix for the 8-AA Championship once again, despite the loss of eight seniors.

"We're returning 14 guys who played significant varsity minutes," Coach Hunter said. "We are losing some important seniors but we've still got a



Sophomore Lawson Baenninger



Senior Brett Dietz bunch of guys coming back who have played and have experience. It's always hard when you lose a good group of kids but I think we'll be able to weather that storm and come back strong next year."



Left: Senior Kyle Hamby races downfield during vs Armuchee. Right: Senior Keaton Dyer during the win over Armuchee. Photo/Todd Forrest



UC Recreation Wrestling Camps

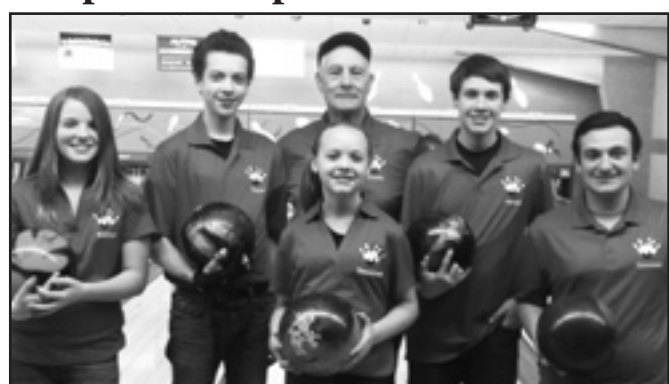
Union County Recreation Wrestling sign ups start this week and will run until May 18th. Pick up forms at the Recreation Department. The cost is \$30 per athlete. We will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 starting on May 19th. The wrestling league will run until July 9th. This league is open to all boys and girls from the ages of 4-12.

Peter Yates, a two time All-American wrestler from Virginia Tech, will be running a camp on Saturday, May 30th from 9-4. He is the most successful college wrestler to come out of Georgia. He was a four time finalist and three time state champion from

Salem High School. He will be coming as part of The Compound Wrestling organization out of Atlanta, GA. The Compound is one of the most successful private programs for wrestling in the southeast. The cost is \$75 per athlete and open to all ages. Registration is the day of the camp or by contacting Coach Foot at Union County Middle School: msmith-foot@ucschools.org.

Finally, We will be hosting three five day camps in June for wrestlers of all ages. The cost is \$100 per athlete and will run Monday through Friday from 9-5. The dates are June 8-12, June 15-19, and June 22-26.

Galaxy Bowling Youth competes in Pepsi Youth Tournament



(L-R): Kaitlyn King, Taylor Karisny, Coach Dewey Allen, Jared Edwards, Donovan Anguelo; Savannah Karisny is front and center

The Galaxy Bowling Youth just participated in the Pepsi Youth Tournament in Columbus, GA. They will be competing in the Georgia Youth Championship May 23 and 24 in Savannah, GA.

Fourth Annual Blairsville Pro Rodeo



Mountain Valley Motors - Dodge Trucks, our main sponsor, and the Circle N Rodeo Company will again present the 2015 Union County Saddle Club Professional Rodeo. The International Professional Rodeo Association (IPRA) has over 3,500 members and sanctions over 300 rodeos every year.

This year's event will be held on June 19th and 20th at our beautiful covered arena. Our stadium style bleachers will assure that you won't miss a second of the action with a great view. Gates will open at 6 p.m. and the fun will start at 8 p.m. Both nights will begin with a presentation by our very own Union County Saddle Club Precision Drill Team. They will also perform an additional routine just prior to intermission.

There will be plenty of action going on during the rodeo to include: Bareback Bronc Riding, Saddleback Bronc Riding,

Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Tie-Down Roping, Ladies Breakaway Roping, Barrel Racing, and of course everyone's favorite, Bull Riding. Our stock contractor, Hedrick Rodeo Company, always supplies top quality livestock to assure some thrills and spills! There will also be plenty of things for our little cowboys and cowgirls to do like the calf scramble, pony rides, four station euro-bungee jump, and the mechanical bull. There will also be plenty of great food so help spread the word and come on out and enjoy a night of excitement.

Advance ticket sales will start on June 1st. Advance prices are: adults - \$10, children 6-12 - \$5 and children under 5 enter free. Prices at the gate will be \$2 more per ticket. Advance ticket sales locations will be United Community Banks, American Cowboy Store, and Nelson Tractor. The arena and show grounds are located on the corner of Hwy. 515 and 325 in Blairsville. We have rodeo sponsorship opportunities available, so if you want to advertise your business, please contact us. If you need further information about the rodeo please call Art Miller, Club President at 706-435-8298 or visit the website at www.BlairsvilleProRodeo.com or on Facebook.

Lady Panthers golf first at Sectionals by 6 strokes



The Union County Lady Panthers golf team took first place at the State Sectional Tournament at Hawks Point Golf Course in Vidalia. Ally Horinek led the Lady Panthers with an 89 while Grace Wischmeyer finished with a 91. The Panthers (180) were six shots better than second place Oglethorpe County (186) and 11 shots better than third place St. Vincents (191). Rounding out the top five were Holy Innocents at 199 and Rabun County at 201. The Lady Panthers now advance to the State Championship Tournament at Forest Hills Golf Course in Augusta on May 18th.

Garrison sixth in 800M finals

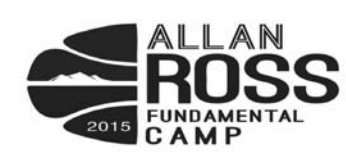


Union County junior Emma Garrison (second from right) competed in last week's Track and Field State Finals. Garrison placed sixth in the 800M race and seventh in the 1600M race.

Panther baseball ...continued from 12A

and our season was over, I had chills on my arms thinking about the run we had in the late part of the regular season and riding that into the post season," he said. "With Tyler going down (arm injury) a lot of people thought we were done, but we rallied together as a team and starting getting hot at the right time.

"I'm very thankful and appreciative of our kids with their attitudes and commitment to the program. It was sad saying goodbye to six seniors, but the way they played this season should leave them with no discouragement."



Allan Ross Fundamental Camp
Dates: May 26th - 28th
Where: Union County Middle School Gym
Age Groups: Boys and Girls; Rising 3rd grade - 8th grade
Time: 9AM-12 Noon
Cost: \$60 per child
(\$50 if child is registered by May 22, 2015)

Elite Level Training (ELT) is happy to announce it will be hosting a fundamental based basketball camp in Blairsville, Georgia. The focus of this camp will be player and skill development through focused teaching of fundamentals and functional movement. All instructors of this camp will have collegiate basketball experience, through their playing or training backgrounds or will be a part of the Union County High School Basketball Program, to better help campers achieve their own goals and improve their own personal development. For additional information and registration forms email ELT instructor Michael Ross at rossma24@yahoo.com or by calling 706-897-4581. Acceptable payment methods are cash or check and must be made out to Michael Ross. We look forward to helping our athletes improve their skills and overall game!

Trout stocking sites week of May 4 - 8, 2015

Fannin: Big Creek, Hemptown Creek, Hothouse Creek, Rock Creek, Toccoa River, and Toccoa River Tailwaters of Lake Blue Ridge
Lumpkin: Dockery Lake, Etowah River, and Nimblewill Creek
Union: Cooper Creek, Toccoa River, and Winfield Scott Lake
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.

Golden Club Bowling League completes 2014-2015 schedule

The Golden Club Bowling League completed their season schedule. The summer league will begin their schedule on May 20th. Bowling will begin at 11 A.M. If you would like to bowl in this league, please call Rose at 706-745-4268. An awards banquet was held on April 29th with the following winners declared.

Champions for the Season: Lucky 7: Margie Slodysko, Captain and the Wild Bunch, Junior Farmer, Captain; 2nd Place: McRoberts Counselling; Captain McRoberts; 3rd Place: Howdy Partners: Captain Jackie Keene; 4th Place: Image Salon: Captain Mel White; 5th Place: Kevin Panter Ins. Captain Larry Dumas; 6th Place: The Wild Bunch: Captain Jr. Farmer; 7th Place: The Unpredictables: Captain Nancy Harris; 8th Place: Fun Crew: Captain Gene Langford; 9th Place: Something Special: Captain Peggy Kidder; 10th Place: Blue Ridge Trophies: Captain Bonna Graham; 11th Place: The Underdogs: Captain Doug Foster; 12th Place: 2 Queens and A Jack: Captain Barbara Bailey.

Individual Awards: High Average Lady: Susanna White 163; High Average Man: Mel White 193; Most Improved Lady: Margie Slodysko +8.48; Most Improved Man Danny Williams +22.

Scratch Series (Men): 690 Rick Siefken, 680 Mel White, 609 Cleaston Burger; Scratch Game (Men): 256 Kelvin Craig; 255 Clifton Deal, 235 McRoberts; Scratch Series (Lady): 589 Pat Craig, 571 Nancy Harris, 556 Linda Nichols; Scratch Game (Ladies): 234 Susanna White, 214 Peggy Kidder, 198 Bonna Graham; Hdcp Series (men):780 Robert Slodysko, 755 Danny Williams, 738 Billy Action; Hdcp Game (men): 299 Cliff Pyy, 284 Gale Glascock, 274 Larry Dumas; Hdcp Series (Lady): 767 Denise Pralizer, 730 Fayrene Mathis, 723 Jackie Keene; Hdcp Game (Lady): 282 Jackie Garitta, 266 Margie Slodysko, and 261 Karen Hall.

UNION COUNTY WRESTLING 2015 SUMMER CHALLENGE

5 WEEKS -- 5 DAYS PER WEEK -- 2 SESSIONS PER DAY

MAY 25-29, 9:00-5:00
JUNE 1-5, 9:00-5:00
JUNE 15-19, 9:00-5:00
JUNE 22-26, 9:00-5:00
JULY 6-10, 9:00-5:00

WRESTLE IN THE MORNING SESSION, AFTERNOON SESSION OR BOTH.

TRAINING WILL INCLUDE THE FUNDAMENTALS OF:

THE NEUTRAL POSITION
THE REFEREE'S POSITION - TOP
THE REFEREE'S POSITION - BOTTOM

GRADES 6-12
COST PER WEEK:
INDIVIDUAL: \$100
FAMILY: \$150

LOCATION: UNION COUNTY ELEMENTARY GYM
CAMP DIRECTOR: MICHAEL SMITH-FOOT

Detach this form and bring it on the first day.

Name: _____ Entering grade: _____ County/School: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____
Parent email: _____ Alt Phone: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I have permission to participate in the Panther Wrestling Camp. I realize there is always the possibility of injury and will not hold any of the sponsoring parties liable in case of such. In case that I may not be reached in an emergency situation, I grant the camp director permission to make any necessary decisions relating the physical safety and well-being of my child. I will accept all charges that are incurred.
PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

For more information contact Michael Smith-Foot at msmithfoot@ucschools.org or 770-375-8288
Make checks payable to UC Takedown Club