

Pride of the Mountains Band: Superior

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
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HARTWELL -The Union County High School Pride of the Mountains Marching Band received an overall Superior Rating at The Lake Hartwell Invitational Marching Contest.

The Drum Major, Color Guard and Majorettes also earned Superior Ratings.

The band's percussion section received an excellent rating.

Overall The Pride of the Mountains Band finished third in Class AAA and seventh overall. Percussion placed fourth in class. Drum Major Carly Kidd finished second place in its class. Color Guard finished first in its class and third overall, and the Majorettes finished first in its class and first overall in the gold division.

This was one of the largest contests the Pride of the Mountains Band has ever marched in.

"It was extremely competitive. The band's overall score was the second highest score we have ever received in our history," Band Director Kerry Rittenhouse said. "I am so proud of our Pride of the Mountains Marching Band members for their outstanding performance."



The Pride of the Mountains Marching Band provided Panther fans with a thrilling performance last Friday for Senior Night. Photo/Todd Forrest



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On its final series of the game, the Redskins finally picked up that elusive first down but Vick would pick off a pass in the final seconds ending any shot of Social Circle finding the end zone or another first down.

"If I didn't have that one defender wrapped around my waist, I would have broken that for a score," Vick said about his interception.

After a tough game at Rabun County last week, Barnett got back on track with 11 tackles. Brett Dietz had three tackles and forced a fumble and Jared Croskey picked up a sack.

Much of the credit for the Panthers dominance on the ground and shutting down the Redskins rushing attack can be chalked up to a dominant performance by Union's play in the trenches.

The Jones' boys, once again were a force to be reckoned with up front. Luther Jones, playing with a torn labrum in his shoulder, had three tackles-for-a-loss, a sack, and caused two fumbles. Senior Craig Jones recovered a fumble and had five tackles, meanwhile senior CJ Byers had six tackles, two for a loss, and a sack.

"I thought we did what we were supposed to on the offensive and defensive line," Coach Allison said. "I was especially proud of our defensive line."

"Our line definitely dominated on both sides of the ball," Craig Jones said.

You couldn't have asked for a better performance on Senior Night than the one the Panther defense put on for the home crowd.

"It feels amazing," Craig Jones said. "We broke the 11-year loss streak for Homecoming. This was the first time we've went into the off-week undefeated in a long time, first winning season in three years. It feels good to lay that foundation for the future and maybe the guys next year can perfect it."

Byers echoed his fellow lineman's sentiments.

"It feels great but I'm going to miss all of this more than anything," Byers said. "Now we need to go down to Jefferson and win to end this season right."

Hughes commented that it was a little sad at first to know that he was playing in his last home game ever but couldn't have asked for a better ending, scoring twice for the Panthers.

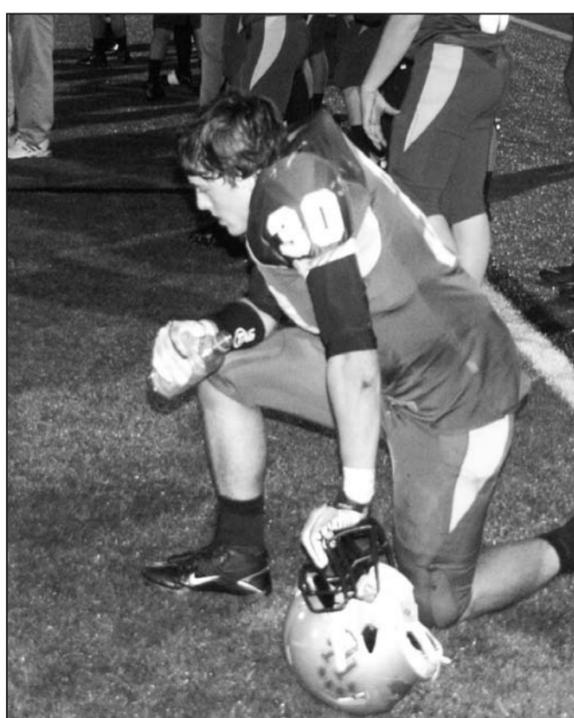
"I hate that it has to end but it's great to go out like this," Hughes said. "It feels good to know we're going out with a winning season. We've come a long way since last year."

His coach agreed. "It's been really nice to watch this senior class mature," Coach Allison said. "There has really been a lot of maturation between last year and this year. They've been a pleasure to coach."

Friday, Union travels to Jefferson to face the 8-AA Region Champion Dragons. Jefferson wrapped up the top-spot with a 35-7 win over Riverside on Friday. It won't be easy knocking off a team that has put up 113 points in its last two meetings with the Panthers but Coach Allison has a game plan, and believes if his team can execute it, they can give the Dragons a scare and escape with the win. If Union can pull off the upset and Rabun falls to Oglethorpe, the Panthers will find themselves in the post season.

"We've got to follow the same recipe as the Social Circle game," Coach Allison said. "We must take care of the ball and make them drive away the run, and just make tackles. I think we can play with them, its going take a perfect game from us, but I believe we can go down there and beat them."

Check back with the North Georgia News at season's end for more Senior Night coverage and photos.



A bloodied and bruised Jonathan Hughes gets some well-deserved rest in the waning moments of Union's win. Photo/Todd Forrest



Senior Jacob Vick had a touchdown saving tackle on a kick return and a fourth quarter interception. Photo/Todd Forrest

4K-4 Kids-4 Play

A 4K Fun Run will be held to help raise money for new playground equipment at Union County Primary School.

The Fun Run is scheduled for Saturday, November 10, 2012, Union County Primary School Track, 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Drop-in \$5 registration fee per person.

We will have a Bounce House, face painting, raffles, food, snacks and drinks.

For more information call 706-897-8185 or 706-897-9244. NTNov7,22/CA

Young Harris College Jazz Band in concert



The YHC Jazz Band to perform on November 12th in Glenn Auditorium

Young Harris College's Division of Fine Arts will present the Young Harris College Jazz Band in concert Monday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. in Glenn Auditorium of the Clegg Fine Arts Building on the YHC campus. The performance is free and open to the public.

The Young Harris College Jazz Band will perform a variety of music covering many styles of the big band genre, featuring guest soloist Richard Bentivegna on tenor saxophone. Directed by Adjunct Instructor of Music Mike Campbell, D.A., the ensemble guarantees an evening of jazz appealing to all ages.

Bentivegna received his B.M.E. from Southeastern Louisiana University before joining the American Federation of Musicians in New Orleans. This affiliation allowed him to work with famous musicians like Tony Bennett and Helen Reddy and perform with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Bentivegna also performed extensively with his band, Flite, while directing middle school band for 33 years. He retired to the north Georgia mountains and remains active as jazz tenor saxophonist for the Brasstown Big Band while working as an instrument repairman and substitute teacher for local band directors.

Local YHC student Alex Gannon, guitar, a senior music major from Hiawassee, GA, will be featured during "Caravan" by Duke Ellington. The YHC Jazz Band also includes Sam Cook, baritone saxophone, of Young Harris, GA, Kaleb Garrett, bass, of Hiawassee, GA, Allice Holden, alto saxophone, of Blue Ridge, GA, Jeffrey Stewart, trombone, of Young Harris, GA, and Jake Wentzek, tenor saxophone, of Blairsville, GA.

For more information, call the Young Harris College Division of Fine Arts at (706) 379-5182. NTNov7,M2/SH

Joe Collins

Tips from the Range

We have looked at the golf swing from the mechanics and fundamentals point of view for a while and I hope the things we have discussed have helped you with your game, but now let's talk about something that concerns every person who plays the game and can affect your score more than a faulty driver, the mental game.

Do you really know what it means to work on your mental game? Can concentration affect how you play? Does the term "mental game" get your attention or does it seem senseless to you? Does it have any affect on my swing? What is the benefit of a good mental game? Is it important to work on a solid mental process or do I need to be a low handicap player? I can answer all these questions by quoting the great Lee Trevino, "Golf is ninety percent mental and ten percent mental." In his opinion, the mental side of the game was the most important aspect to have control of.

When we talk about the mental side of the game we are talking about everything your mind is involved in while you play the game. The course, your swing, the weather, the speed of the greens, the firmness of the traps, your wife/girlfriend, the cart girl, the car payment, the house payment, oil change for the lawn mower and anything else you have on your plate for that day. Get the picture? The only way to play good golf is to be able to control what it is that you are thinking about on the course when you are playing. That is the primary purpose of the mental condition of your game.

It is impossible to concentrate totally on one thought while you are on the course and that is okay. We want to enjoy the game and the fact that we are outside and not stuck in traffic or at work or any other place that interferes with being on the course. The trick is to enjoy the surroundings but to find total concentration at the time you need to hit a shot. The atmosphere and the people you are playing with are part of the game and you should look at your round as an adventure and the act of hitting the golf ball as an enjoyment, not something that gets in the way.

Your time on the course should be cherished and not rushed or unpleasant. Many

golfers want to race around the course and not spend any time focusing on a shot and then wonder why they can't break ninety. They act like they have to hurry home to the wife. Your mind is very important to the hope of enjoying a round of golf. Focus on the shot when it comes your time to hit and don't rush it. It will make the day a whole lot better.

Another very important part of the mental side of the game is course management. There are times to "go for it" and there are times to hold up. You have signals in your game that will help you with those decisions. Things like am I hitting it solid today or am I struggling to make good impact? Is my accuracy better with my driver or my 3-wood to that point in your round? How do I feel about the shot?

These are the thoughts that affect the management of your shot decisions and by results, your total score. You should hit shots from round to round by how you are playing that day or the round before. Sometimes feel is your best friend and sometimes logic is the better choice. High percentage shots are just those, they work better most of the time.

Staying positive is the best way to control your emotions and by association your score. Nobody hits all their shots the way we plan but it is how you handle the results of each shot that makes you mentally tough and that is usually the one key element you see in a good competitive player. Professional touring pros, who are successful, have learned to control their feelings and use their concentration to overcome many bad shots and to play consistent golf by staying positive. They know they are not going to hit all their shots bad so they try and keep the damage to a minimum so the good shots will make up for the bad ones. The mental game can help you have a better game or it can make you never want to come to the course again. Work on using it to your advantage and take a little longer to hit your shots next time you play.

Give yourself time to understand all the elements of that particular shot and then concentrate a little more on those putts and watch your score go down. We will look at the mental side of the game over the next few weeks and you will be amazed at how you focus on your game differently next time you play.

Good luck and I will see you on the course!

Rec Basketball Registration

Basketball registration is still going on for all ages at the Union County Recreation Department, except for the 5 and 6-year old age group. Seven- and 8-year old registration will come to an

end on Nov. 9th and registration for all other age groups will come to an end on Nov. 19th.

For more details contact UCRD at (706) 439-6074.

8-AA All-Region Cross Country

- 1st Team All-Region Boys:**
Jeremy Webb, Union County
 Sid Wightman, Oglethorpe County
 Grant Hoffman, Riverside Military
 Carlos Garcia, Rabun County
 Christopher Oster, Riverside Military
 Taylor Calderon, Riverside Military
 Cain Lorenzo, Jefferson

- 2nd Team All-Region Boys:**
 Mitchell Clegg, Social Circle
 Otoniel Padilla, Oglethorpe County
 Lexx Joya, Riverside Military
 Darren Pope, Greene County
 Author Porter, Greene County
 Quinton Nash, Oglethorpe County
Cristian Garcia, Union County

- 3rd Team All-Region Boys:**
 Abe Tompkins, Oglethorpe County
 Jonathan Ray, Jefferson
Andrew Nelson, Union County
Will Stone, Union County
 Josh Reid, Jefferson
 Garrett McCormack, Oglethorpe County
 Ricardo Rivera, Riverside Military

- 1st Team All-Region Girls:**
Emma Garrison, Union County
 Reese Bowles, Jefferson
 Morgan Mitchell, Jefferson
 Olivia Yates, Jefferson
 Sasha Parker, Jefferson
Rachel Todd, Union County
Rachel Vester, Union County

- 2nd Team All-Region Girls:**
 Jordan Gihl, Rabun County
 Kaylynn Rainey, Jefferson
 Andrea Wolfrey, Rabun County
Alyssa Arnold, Union County
 Sarah Chastain, Oglethorpe County
Stephanie Busse, Union County
 Jordan Pringle, Oglethorpe County

- 3rd Team All-Region Girls:**
 Kelsey Reschly, Jefferson
Ansley Garrison, Union County
 Wendy Claver, Washington-Wilkes
 Emma Downs, Rabun County
 Marisol Gutierrez, Rabun County
 Jeri Willcox, Oglethorpe County
 Ashleigh Smith, Social Circle

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 Manicure - \$1 OFF
 Eyebrows - \$2 OFF

NEW LOCATION!

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 Blairsville, Ga. 30512
 706-781-1517