

Football: Panthers reach semi-finals at Habersham 7-on-7 tournament

By Todd Forrest
Sports Editor
tforrest@nganews.com

MT. AIRY - The first of two 7-on-7 tournaments is in the books and the Panthers proved that last year's second and third place finishes at Flowery Branch and Habersham Central were no fluke.

Despite the graduation of All-Region quarterback Cole Wright, along with receivers Austin Pattee, Logan Dyer, Riley Barrett, and Sean Dobbins, the Panther offense proved it still has plenty of bite.

In the opening game, rising-junior QB Pierson Allison picked apart the Hart County secondary, connecting deep with Kanon Hemphill and Sawyer Drake during a 27-8 Union victory.

However, the spark that ignited the offensive explosion was an interception by rising-junior Sloan Sutton that led to 27-unanswered Panther points.

Game two was more of the same during a 28-11 victory. A Sutton interception combined with Allison carving up the West Hall defense with the deep ball, as well as underneath routes to Kyle Morlock and Cayden Rich for scores.

Kanon Hemphill replaced Allison at QB late in the game and proved why Head Coach Brian Allison is confident in the quarterback-turned-receiver who's once again taking snaps behind center.

Union suffered its first of two losses on the day when they fell 26-8 to the host team Habersham Central. The Raiders burned the Panthers three times on the deep post pattern, twice resulting in touchdowns.

By the time Union County regrouped, the hole was too deep to climb out of.

The Panthers responded to the loss by shocking Jefferson 35-9, sending the Dragons home as Union advanced beyond morning pool play.

The Panthers held off St. Pius, 14-10 in a defensive struggle before falling 24-



The Panthers waiting for their turn to take the field early in the morning at Habersham. Photo/Todd Forrest



Pierson Allison surveys the field vs Hart County. Photo/Todd Forrest



Sloan Sutton going the other way following a pick. Photo/Todd Forrest



Coaches Luther Jones (L) and Robby Roxbury (R) congratulate the defense after a stop. Photo/Todd Forrest

21 to Flowery Branch in the semifinals.

Up next on the summer schedule is another 7-on-7 tournament this Thursday, June 21 at the friendly confines of Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium.

The Union County 7-on-7 tournament is sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and will include other local teams beginning at 9 a.m.

On Friday and Saturday, the Panthers will attend an offensive lineman camp at Western Carolina.



Sawyer Drake pulls down with a TD vs West Hall. Photo/Todd Forrest



Cayden Rich hauls in a PAT vs West Hall. Photo/Todd Forrest



Chayton Schafer lays out for a pass vs HCHS. Photo/Todd Forrest



Kanon Hemphill looks for running room vs West Hall. Photo/Todd Forrest



Chad Buzzard with a TD vs West Hall. Photo/Todd Forrest

North Georgia Rapids Swim Team competes at Clarkesville's Splash Swim Meet



The members of the North Georgia Rapids swim team, who recently competed in Clarkesville at the Splash Swim Meet 2018. Photo/Submitted.

Local Racing Results: Tri-County

By Blake Lynch
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

BLUE RIDGE - Blue Ridge Motorsports Park hosted a race on Saturday, June 16th with the USCS Spirt Cars. Here are the top five from each class.

USCS Spirt Cars - Trey Starks from Puyallup, WA won his second USCS Outlaw Thunder Tour presented by K&N Filters - the main event of the weekend. Two-time USCS National Champion Morgan Turpen, defending series champion Jordan Mallett, Lance Ross and 11-time USCS National Champion Terry Gray completed the top five.

Street Stock - Finishing in first place was No. 14 Charles Devine Jr, rallying from from dead-last to first. Coming in second place was No. J69 of Jim Weller. Finishing third was No. 31 Logan Exum.

Modified Street - Coming in first place was No. 17 Brad Thomas. Coming in second place was No. 4 Jacob Parris. Finishing in third place was No. 28 Dannie Patterson. Finishing in

fourth place was No. 7 Danny McLead. Finishing fifth was No. 14 Luke Nesemeier.

Crate - Taking home first place was No. 7 Jason Deal. Coming in second was No. 24 Seth Wimpey. Coming in third place was No. 200 Jacob Anderson. Finishing in fourth place was No. 88 Ricky Smith. Coming in fifth place was No. 12 Drew Deaver.

Beginner 602 - Coming in first place was No. 31 Jason Walstm. Coming in second place was No. 35 Dillon Daves. Coming in third was No. 34 Kevin Mulkey. Finishing fourth place was No. 25 Jacob Hamby. Finishing in fifth place was No. 41 Jeff

Holloway.

Hot Shots - Coming in first place was No. 22 Tucker Anderson. Finishing second was No. 11 Nathan Perdon. Coming in third place was No. 30 Maddox Hughes. Coming in fourth was No. 87x Jordan Wooday. Coming in fifth was No. 104 Ricky Queen.

Pony - Coming in first was No. 8 Johnny McClure. Coming in second place was No. D1 Nathan Davis. Coming in third place was No. 32 Franklin Burk. Finishing in fourth place was No. 64k Keith Hackneu. Finishing fifth place was No. 43 Tain Ross.



No. 22 Tucker Anderson at victory lane following the Hot Shots race. Photo/Blake Lynch