

Softball: Opener rained out, Lady Panther Diamond Day set for Saturday

By Todd Forrest
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Last Friday's softball season opener was a washout thanks to a late-afternoon downpour that canceled the Lady Panthers' home meeting with Pickens County.

With no make-up date set, the Union County opener is now slated for this Saturday, Aug. 10 when they host the first annual Lady Panther Diamond Day.

The action will get underway at 11 a.m. Saturday when Union County hosts Habersham Central. At 1 p.m., Habersham and Commerce will square off with the Lady Panthers and Commerce wrapping up the day at 3 p.m.

"We're excited to get the season started," head coach Stephen Mitchell said. "The Diamond Club has worked very hard to get everything ready. It's really amazing how much this community supports its athletics."

Despite not getting to debut his 2019 Lady Panthers last week, Coach Mitchell is confident his team will be ready to hit the field this weekend.

"I think we got better over the summer and there were drastic improvements in some areas," Mitchell said.



Union County coaches during last month's Alumni Softball Games. Alumni Game photos by Todd Forrest

"We've got some good young players that are ready to push our older girls for playing time. We have 22 girls and I think all 22 girls can help us in some way, shape or form."

"They don't give you a lot of practice time before games start but I think with the summer, we're about as ready to go as we're going to be."

After the season gets underway Saturday, Union County jumps right into the heart

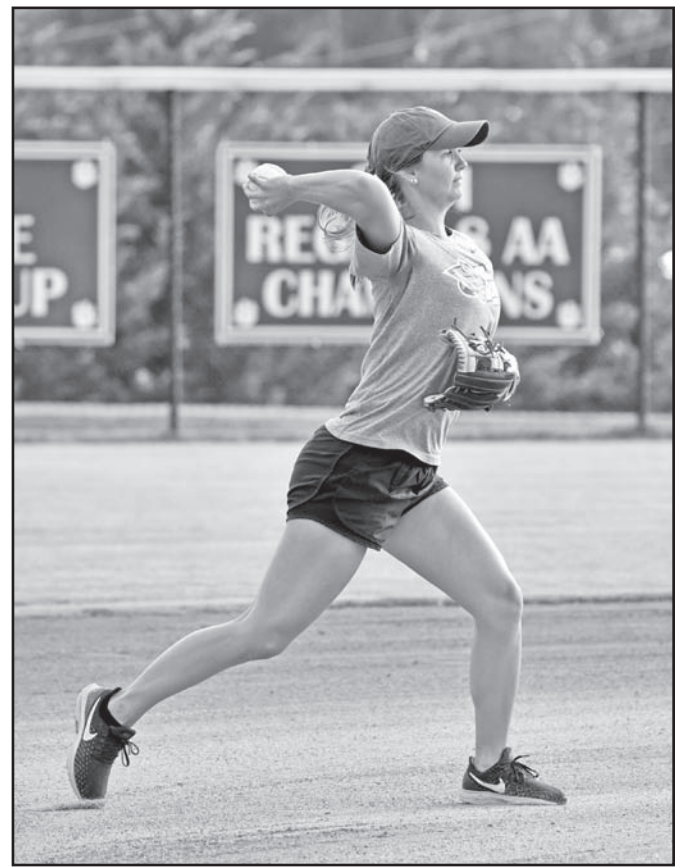
of its schedule with a trip to Lumpkin County on Monday and a doubleheader at North Gwinnett on Wednesday.

Region play begins on Aug. 22 when the Lady Panthers host Monticello, who finished third in Class AA last season. Union County shares a region with the State Champion Social Circle, the State Runner-Up Banks County and third place Monticello.

This year, the Lady Pan-

thers get two of those three teams at home with Social Circle being the only road trip among them.

Along with Social Circle, the region slate features visits to Elbert and Oglethorpe County. The remaining four 8-AA contests will be at home with Putnam County, Banks County and Rabun County all coming to Blairsville on the heels of Monticello.

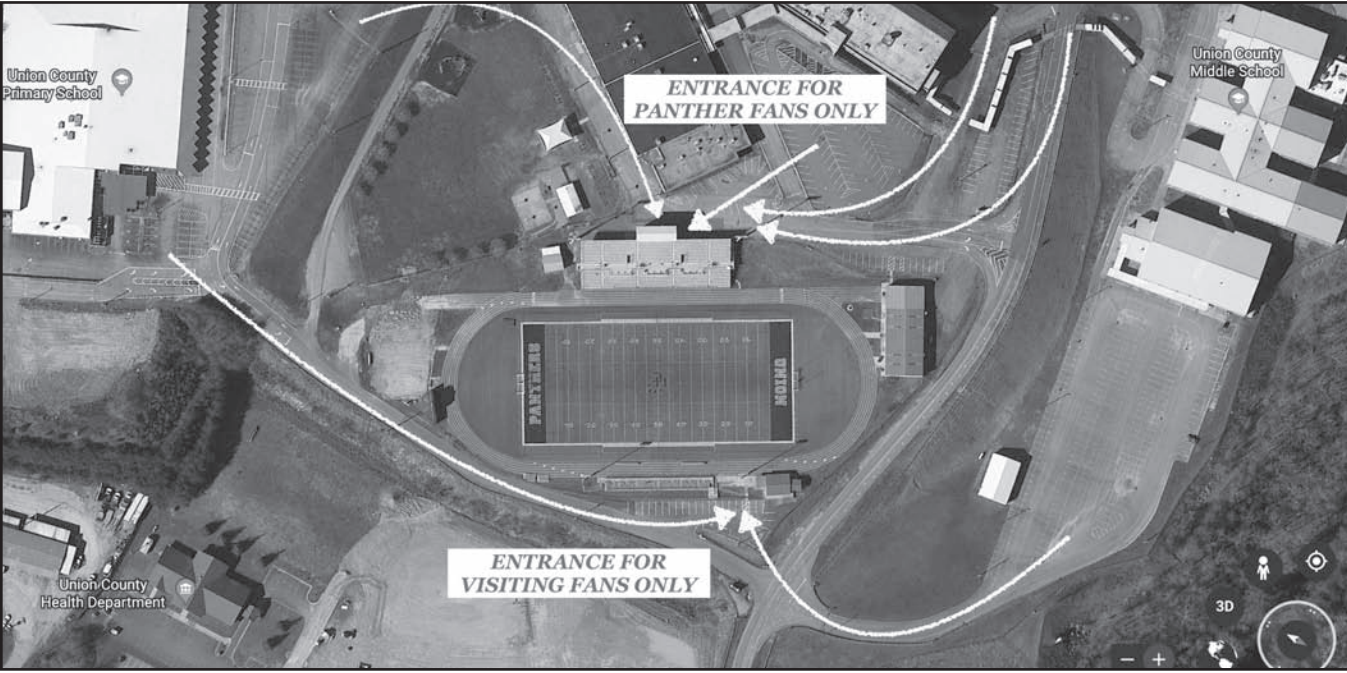


Union County alumni Katelynn Hodges (top) and Crystal Busbee (bottom)



The Union County Lady Panther dugout during the Alumni Game on July 27. Photo/Todd Forrest

Football... continued from Page 2C



Panther fans are encouraged to use the home parking areas and home entrance during the upcoming football season. Photo courtesy of UCHS



2019 Union County Softball Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Location
8/2	7:00	Pickens	Home
8/10	11:00	Habersham	Home
8/10	3:00	Commerce	Home
8/12	5:55	Lumpkin	Lumpkin
8/14	3:45	North Forsyth	North Gwinnett
8/14	5:40	Jackson	North Gwinnett
8/19	5:55	Gilmer	Gilmer
8/21	5:30	Pickens	Pickens
8/22	5:30	Monticello*	Home
8/24	11:00	East Hall	East Hall
8/24	1:00	Stephens	East Hall
8/27	5:30	Elbert*	Elbert*
8/29	5:30	Putnam*	Home
9/4	5:55	Lumpkin	Home
9/5	5:00	Social Circle*	Social Circle*
9/10	5:30	Banks*	Home
9/12	5:30	Oglethorpe*	Oglethorpe*
9/14	11:00	Heard	UWG
9/14	1:00	Newman	UWG
9/16	6:00	Madison	UNG
9/17	5:30	Rabun*	Home
9/18	5:55	Gilmer	Home
9/23	5:55	East Hall	Home
9/25	TBA	Region Playoff	TBA
9/26	TBA	Region Playoff	TBA

Chick-fil-A presents
Blairsville PTO, Inc.

7th Annual S.O.S. Glow Golf Tournament
(Support Our Schools) 4 Person Scramble

Saturday, September 7th
Butternut Creek Golf Course
Blairsville, GA

Awards For:
Top Gross Foursome • Top Net Foursome
2nd Place Net Foursome • 3rd Place Net Foursome
INCREDIBLE DOOR PRIZES / PUTTING CONTEST

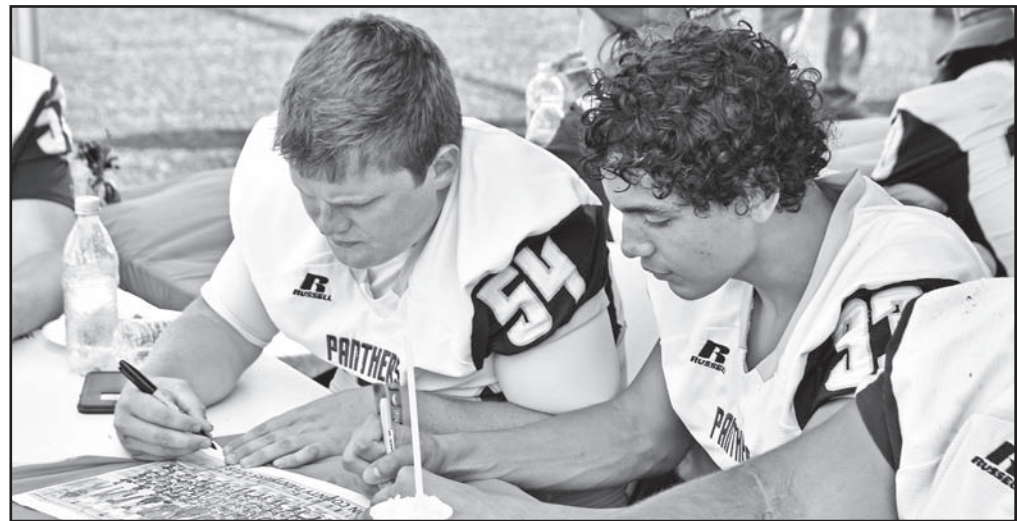
\$75 per player • \$300 per foursome
Registration starts at 4 p.m. • Tee Off @ 5:30 p.m.
Dinner @ 8 p.m. • Glow Golf Begins @ 8:45 p.m.
Awards at Conclusion of Play!

Player 1: _____ Handicap: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
 Player 2: _____ Handicap: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
 Player 3: _____ Handicap: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
 Player 4: _____ Handicap: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mail form & payment (check/money order) to
Blairsville PTO • P.O. Box 1476 • Blairsville, GA 30514
or email registration info to ptoglowgolf@gmail.com

For more information on the tournament and/or Sponsorship information call
706-835-5322 or email ptoglowgolf@gmail.com

Football: Meet the Team set for Aug. 23



Panther football's annual Meet the Team event is scheduled for Friday Aug. 23 at 7 p.m. Photo/Todd Forrest

MUSA's Colorful Run 5K benefit race Aug. 31

Go online and register for Blairsville's first EVER color run 5k. This is open to kids, adults, grandparents, runners, walkers, joggers - anyone who would like some exercise while getting showered in color!

You can register online now at <https://endurancecui.active.com/event-reg/select-race?e=63477154>.

Make sure to register by August 5th to assure you get a shirt and the size you would like as after that date it will be while supplies last! If you would like to sponsor and be on the shirt message us and we will get you on there!

All monies will go to help kids with their individual registration costs.

