

# Sports

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## Union thumps Jackets 60-7; improve to 2-0 for fourth straight year Panthers to host Andrews, NC on Friday in 2017 home opener

By Todd Forrest  
North Georgia News  
sports@nghanews.com

Hayesville, NC - The Panthers showed no mercy on Friday night in Hayesville, NC.

On the heels of a 56-14 victory, it would be difficult to top the 42-point beatdown they laid on Gilmer County, but they did.

Just as they did in Ellijay one week prior, Union County jumped out to a 28-0 lead after a quarter. Unlike the Gilmer game, they were able to put the game out of reach during the second, allowing the starters to rest for an entire half.

Senior quarterback Cole Wright finished with a career low in passing yards due to getting half the night off and the defense constantly setting him up with a short field. Wright connected on 7-of-15 pass attempts for 72 yards and two scores. On the ground he only carried six times for 97 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

"I thought (Wright) played pretty well and his composition was better," Coach Allison said. "It was just a situation where we didn't need to throw the ball a whole lot."

On the game's opening drive, the Panthers went 66 yards in less than two minutes – the second longest scoring drive of the night for the first team offense.

Wright found Kyle Morlock for 10 yards and Chad Buzzard carried for nine more to move Union across the midfield in two plays.

A first down scramble by Wright was followed by runs of five and 20 yards from Buzzard. With a first down at the 18, Kanon Hemphill took advantage of single coverage and raced down the sideline, directly under a perfectly-placed ball from Wright in the end zone.

Facing a 3rd-and-23, Hayesville put the ball on the turf and the Panthers took over at the 10-yard line. A first down incompletion then an 8-yard carry by Buzzard brought up a 3rd-and-goal at the two. Six-foot from pay-dirt, Union kept it simple and handed to Buzzard, who bulldozed his way across the goal line for a 14-0 lead, less than four minutes in.

Buzzard racked up 76 yards and a score on 11 carries before calling it a night at halftime.

On the ensuing Jackets' drive, senior lineman Matthew Beise and junior linebacker Jackson Colwell blew up an inside handoff on 3rd-and-2 to force a punt. The Panthers would take over at their own 44 as the rain showers began to intensify.

"The defensive line played much better I thought," Coach Allison said. "We're still a little too high (out of their stance) but we're getting much better and we're moving much better."

A second down screen to Sawyer Drake picked up nine then a 21-yard keeper by Wright had Union in business. Another scamper from Wright set up 1st-and-goal at the five but a Buzzard no-gain and an incompletion brought up third down. This time, Wright kept it himself and outran the Hayesville defense around the left edge for six.

Brian Smith's third extra point made it 21-0 at the 5:07 mark of the opening quarter.

The Jackets' first play re-



Senior Matthew Beise (53) and Jackson Colwell (32) stuff the Jackets on third-and-short. Photo/Todd Forrest



Noah Underwood's first high school touchdown. Photo/Todd Forrest

sulted in RJ Banton's second fumble recovery of the half and the Panthers took over at the 25. Two gives to Cole Dockrey had Union back inside the 10 where Wright and Logan Dyer hooked up on a 7-yard scoring strike.

Hayesville found a little bit of success with the quarterback scramble and put themselves in scoring position during the early stages of the second quarter. With a 4th-and-2 at the 22, the Panthers defense tightened up and dropped the Jackets for a loss.

"We had some assignment issues on defense with the quarterback scrambling around because we were out of position," Coach Allison said. "Twice we were in the wrong gap and it opened up a running lane for the quarterback. I don't think they had a whole lot of yards."

Carries by Wright and Buzzard combined with a Hemphill reception had the Panthers back across midfield. Following a 12-yard gain from Buzzard, a penalty forced Union into a 3rd-and-15, but Wright hit Austin Pattee over the middle for 18. Another flag wiped off a Pattee touchdown but Wright kept it himself on 3rd-and-8 and took it to the house from 17-yards out.

Trailing by 35, the Hayesville offense converted its first third down with an 8-yard completion on 3rd-and-7 at the 23. But the Panthers weren't about to give up a score going into the locker room. A tackle-for-loss and a holding penalty put the Jackets in third-and-forever. As the clock approached three minutes left in the half, Hemphill fielded a Hayesville punt at midfield and was one defender away from going the distance. He was eventually tripped up at the 10 and the Panthers were forced to settle for a field goal following a short

run by Dockrey and consecutive incompletions.

With 2:16 before the half, Smith split the uprights from 27 yards away to extend the lead to 38-0.

The Jackets used a 7-yard completion and an 18-yard run to advance the ball near midfield with less than a minute left. With enough time for Hayesville to get on the board, Union junior safety Chayton Schafer picked up another Jackets fumble and took it the other way for 48 yards. With 41 seconds left, Schafer's scoop-and-score opened up a 46-0 lead after holder Pierson Allison hit Pattee in the endzone for a 2-point conversion on a fake extra-point.

"If nobody is over the top of me then we automatically run that play," Pattee said. "That's a play that's always there and if nobody is covering me when we lineup, we decide on our own to throw it for two (points)."

"That's something we work on every week in practice," Coach Allison added. "At that point, with the score what it was, we probably should have told them not to do it, but it wasn't their fault. They were just doing what they've been coached to do."

With a 46-0 advantage at the break, the third quarter opened with a running clock and the Panthers didn't take possession until the 3:20 mark of the period when the Jackets turned it over on downs at the 29-yard line.

Pierson Allison took over behind center and led a 71-yard



Kanon Hemphill puts Union on the board with a TD. Photo/Todd Forrest

scoring drive in seven plays. Dockrey carried twice for seven yards, Cayden Rich hauled in two passes for 35 yards and Pierson Allison rushed once for 11 yards.

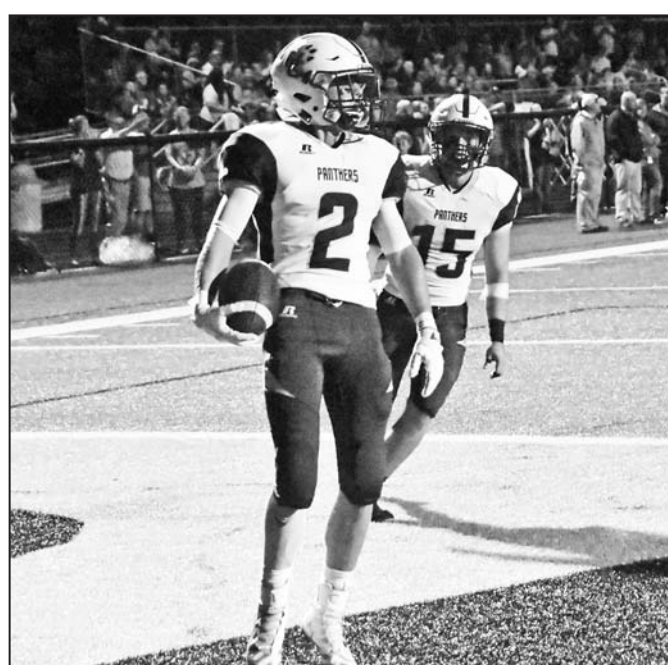
Morlock had two nine yard grabs on the drive with the second resulting in a score on the first play of the fourth quarter.

Trailing 53-0 Hayesville answered with a 10-play, 65-yard scoring drive to get on the board with 5:07 remaining.

A 30-yard kick return by Zion Ross moved the ball out to the 35 where freshman Kaston Hemphill took over at quarterback. Two quick handoffs to Dylan Roberts and one to Sloan Sutton moved the chains. After a first down incompletion, Kaston Hemphill took off for 24 yards. On the very next play from the 28, he hit Noah Underwood on a corner route inside the five and the freshman receiver battled his way across the goal line for the first touchdown of his high school career.

Mason McCombs hit his second extra point of the day to give Union a 60-7 lead with 1:13 on the clock.

The 60-point scoring output is third most in school history and the third 60-point performance in the last 12 games. The first was a 61-7 victory over Hayesville in week two of last season. Later in the year, the



Chayton Schafer (2) with a scoop-and-score touchdown. Photo/Todd Forrest

Panthers put up 63 at Fannin County.

From 1957 – 2015 the Panthers never topped 60 points in a game. Since week two of 2016, they've accomplished it three times.

After two weeks on the road, Union County plays its home opener on Friday vs Andrews, NC.

"It's going to be a great feeling to finally get a true home game that's not a scrimmage," Pattee said. "It's going to be a lot of fun to come out of the locker room and see all of the fans there to support us. We'll have a bunch of students there too and it's just a really great atmosphere to play football in."

The Wildcats enter with a 1-2 record but are fresh off a 42-0 win over the Carolina Gladiators of Asheville, NC.

The Panthers have won seven straight over Andrews by an average score of 41-11. In Blairsville, that margin increases to 44-11.

This year, however, the Wildcats return 15 starters (8 on offense, 7 on defense) along with their punter and placekicker.

Second-year coach James Phillips recently told the *Asheville Citizen-Times* that he believes his option attack will make tremen-

dous strides in year two.

"We've got a lot of experience coming back on offense and that will certainly give us more options than I had in my first year, when I was trying to implement a (new) system and philosophy," Phillips said.

For further details on the series history between Andrews, NC and the Panthers, as well as players to watch on both sides of the ball, visit the *North Georgia News Sports Blog* at [www.ngnsports.wordpress.com](http://www.ngnsports.wordpress.com), later this week. You can also read the interviews with Pattee and Coach Allison in their entirety on the NGN Sports Blog.

**Injury report:** According to Coach Allison: DB/WR Riley Barrett is **OUT** with a shoulder injury. DT Matthew Beise is **QUESTIONABLE** with a concussion. LB Hunter Kelley is **QUESTIONABLE** with a concussion.

**Team totals:** PLAYS - UC 52, Hayesville 60; TOTAL YARDS - UC 401, Hayesville 182; PASSING - UC 155, Hayesville 58; RUSHING - UC 246, Hayesville 124; FIRST DOWNS - UC 19, Hayesville 10; THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY - UC 10-11 (91%), Hayesville 4-10 (40%); FOURTH DOWN - Hayesville 1-2 (50%); TURNSOVERS - UC 0, Hayesville 6; PENALTIES - UC 4, Hayesville 5

Scoring Summary:		UCS	HS
TD	Kanon Hemphill 18 Yd Pass From Cole Wright (Brian Smith Kick)	7	0
TD	Chad Buzzard 2 Yd Run (Brian Smith Kick)	14	0
TD	Cole Wright 3 Yd Run (Brian Smith Kick)	21	0
TD	Logan Dyer 7 Yd Pass From Cole Wright (Brian Smith Kick)	28	0
Second Quarter			
TD	Cole Wright 10 Yd Run (Brian Smith Kick)	38	0
FG	Brian Smith 27 Yd	38	0
TD	Fumble Return (Two-Point Conversion)	46	0
Third Quarter			
TD	Kyle Morlock 10 Yd Pass From Pierson Allison (Mason McCombs Kick)	53	0
Fourth Quarter			
TD	1 Yd Run (Kick)	60	7
TD	Noah Underwood 28 Yd Pass From Kaston Hemphill (Mason McCombs Kick)	60	7

### Offense

Player	Comp/Att	Yds	TD	Int	Long	2PT
#8 C. Wright	7/15	72	2	-	20	-
#17 P. Allison	4/4	54	1	-	28	1
#3 K. Hemphill	1/2	29	1	-	29	-
Rushing						
Player	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Fum	2PT
#8 C. Wright	6	97	2	23	-	-
#24 C. Buzzard	11	76	1	20	-	-
#15 C. Dockrey	5	27	-	10	-	-
#3 K. Hemphill	1	23	-	23	-	-
#17 P. Allison	1	10	-	10	-	-
#6 S. Sutton	3	9	-	6	-	-
#25 [Redacted]	2	4	-	4	-	-
Rest of team	-	-	-	-	-	1
Receiving						
Player	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Fum	2PT
#20 C. Rich	2	35	-	28	-	-
#84 K. Morlock	3	29	1	10	-	-
#16 N. Underwood	1	29	1	29	-	-
#4 K. Hemphill	3	26	1	18	-	-
#22 A. Pattee	1	20	-	20	-	1
#21 S. Drake	1	9	-	9	-	-
#18 L. Dyer	1	7	1	7	-	-

### Defense

Player	Tk	Ass	Scr	TFL	Sfty	Int	Fum	Bks	TD
#17 P. Allison	7	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
#7 A. Scott	6	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
#2 C. Schafer	6	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
#11 R. Banton	6	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
#34 B. Nelson	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#15 C. Dockrey	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#12 S. Dobbins	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#9 J. Mancuso	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#74 N. Ledford	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#32 J. Colwell	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#40 K. Williams	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#30 H. Kelley	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#6 S. Sutton	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#20 C. Rich	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#16 N. Underwood	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
#22 A. Pattee	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#53 M. Beise	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#52 B. Viera	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#50 C. Daniel	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### Basketball Registration at the Union County Recreation Department

Begins August 21st  
Registration Ends September 29th  
September 29th  
October 27th  
October 27th

Age Group  
5/6 yrs old  
7/8 yrs old  
9/10 yrs old  
11/12 yrs old



### Union County Recreation Art-Tastic Program 2017 Youth Art-Tastic Holiday Camp

Ages: 4-7

Does your young child enjoy painting and designing art? This program is designed for children, ages 4-7 to explore their artistic side. Children will meet for camp 4 days in October, 4 days in November, and 4 days in December for this special Art-Tastic Holiday Camp! Participants will participate in arts and crafts designed for each holiday in the designated month. We will meet in the recreation room at the Recreation Office. All sessions will be led by the Program and Start Smart Director.



\*\*Session Registration begins on September 5, 2017 and ends October 5, 2017 at the Recreation Office (310 Wellborn St.). Cost is only \$35 for 12 art and craft sessions!  
Registration must be done in person due to cap on participants per session! (You did not have to attend previous sessions.) If you have any questions, please call Jennifer at (706) 439-6074.