

# Garrison sets the pace at Chestatee

By Todd Forrest  
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**Murrayville** - Union County sophomore Emma Garrison is two-for-two after two early season meets.

Garrison, who clocked in at 21:09, led the 9th ranked Lady Panthers to a seventh place finish out of 17 teams at the 10th Annual War Eagle Invitational, hosted by Chestatee High School last Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the Panthers finished 13th with Cristian Garcia leading the boys' squad with a 42nd place finish at 21 minutes flat.

Jacob Kelley was 61st at 21:35, 62nd was Aaron Stafford at 21:37, 78th was Andrew Nelson at 21:48, Jakob Brown placed 87th at 22:38, and Matthew Rich was 97th at 23:53.

The Panthers finished ahead of 14th place Rabun County by 83 points. East Hall, St. Francis and Franklin County rounded out 15th-17th place.

Chestatee took first place, followed by Forsyth Central, Gainesville, North Forsyth, and Lakeview Academy.

"I was pleased with the fact that we have several runners coming in together," Union County Head Coach Jackie Hughes said. "However, our times were slower than what I would have liked. It's still very early in the season so we have plenty of time to work on bringing those times down."

In the girls race, Garrison set the pace, 42 seconds ahead of Chestatee's Maggee Wilson. Region foe Rabun County had Sally Woerner place fourth at 22:35.



Emma Garrison after finishing first at Chestatee last Tuesday.

Union's Rachel Todd came in 29th at 25:52, Stephanie Busse was 32nd at 26:18, Marissa Spaulding was 48th at 27:20, 60th belonged to Anna Danek with a time of 28:23, Sage Royston finished 78th at 29:57, and Cora Bauman was 79th at 30:02.

The final team standings were: Chestatee in first place with 32 points. Second was Hebron Christian with 101, followed by Rabun County with 116, Duluth 120, North Forsyth with 143, Lumpkin County 145, and Union had 170.

Eighth place belonged to Johnson with 197 points, then Berkmar at 215, Gainesville

at 255, West Hall with 262, Walnut Grove with 330 points, and East Hall with 401.

"As with the boys, our overall times weren't quite where I would have liked them, but several of the girls actually ran the course faster than they did last year," Coach Hughes said. "Many of the new runners are starting to get their racing legs under them, so I believe our times will continue to improve over the next several weeks."

On Tuesday, Union will travel to West Hall for its third meet of the year, followed by a meet at Murphy, NC next week.

# J.V. opens with 42-14 win over Rebels

By Todd Forrest  
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The Union County J.V. Panthers took advantage of Fannin County's early miscues to jump out to a 14-0 first quarter lead.

The Panthers would never look back as they went on to trounce the Rebels 42-14.

The Rebels took the opening possession and went three-and-out and punting to the Panthers. Facing a 3rd-and-12, Union County threw deep but the pass was intercepted by Fannin at their own 23-yard line.

The Panther defense stood its ground bringing up a 3rd-and-13 for the Rebels and that's when Fannin started to implode.

A bad snap on third down put the Rebels in an obvious punting situation on 4th-and-18 but another low snap allowed Union to take over on the Fannin County 6-yard line.

On 4th-and-goal from the one, Union was stopped but a Rebel fumble on the ensuing possession gave the ball back to the Panthers at the two.

Freshman quarterback Bo Lynch took the first play into the endzone for a 7-0 Panther lead.

Coming off another Fannin fumble, Union's next score came on 4th-and-15 when Lynch found Knox Kiernan on a 15-yard strike that went through the arms of a Rebel defender. Kiernan's kick was good and Union had control of the game.

Union visits Rabun County on Thursday, kickoff is at 5:30 p.m.



Sophomore Tyler McCoy and the Panther defense pounce on an early Fannin turnover. Photos/Todd Forrest



The Panther defense swarms Fannin County early, preventing the Rebels from gaining any traction. Photo/Todd Forrest



Sophomore Knox Kiernan converts the PAT vs Fannin County.



Freshman quarterback Bo Lynch carries vs Fannin County.

# Softball: UCMS blasts White and Towns County

By Todd Forrest  
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Union County moves to 5-1 after a pair of one-sided victories over White County and Towns County.

On Tuesday the Lady Panthers pounded White County 10-1 with Logan Seabolt picking up the win from the circle and smacking a triple at the plate.

Braden Poteete tripled and singled, Ally Horinek had two singles and a walk. Adrial Arnold recorded a single, double, a walk, and a steal. Courtney Moose had three walks and a steal.

Karlee Payne drove in three on two singles, while adding 2 steals. Megan Lockaby had a double, 2 singles, 2 RBIs, and 2 steals. Jillian Lawn walked twice, singled and stole a base. Maci Everett tripled, stole a base and drove



The Lady Panthers celebrate at home plate after one of their two homeruns against Towns County. Photos/Todd Forrest

in a run. "The girls played well," Union County Head Coach Michael Smith-Foote said. "We had nine runs before the fourth inning and were able to get the second team in to finish the game."

Against Towns, Jordan Rogers pitched a complete

game and homered.

Lawn also homered, drove in two, and stole three bags. Hannah Ledford had inside-the-park homerun and stole a base. Ellie Garrison smacked an inside-the-park homerun, to go along with 2 stolen bases. Maddie Sutton rounded out Union's five homer day with



Hannah Ledford avoids the outstretched tag of Towns' catcher.

an inside-the-park homerun and a steal.

Maddie Tanner had 2 steals and an RBI, Anna Owenby singled and stole a base, Skylar Ludlum and Cariann Busbee also reached base.

Union County will host Rabun County on Tuesday at Meeks Park.

# Shootout... continued from page 14A

The 2-point conversion failed and Union took a 27-26 lead into the fourth.

During the fourth quarter of a rivalry game, the stakes were high and it was the home team that answered the bell.

Stone hit O'Neal for a pair of first downs before Union got a stop at the 14-yard line. The Rebel field goal attempt was on the money and Fannin had the lead for the first time since the second quarter with 9:25 to play.

The Stone to O'Neal connection was working all night for the Rebels, especially on third down.

"We kept losing containment on their quarterback, forcing our linebackers to come up, and when they would step up, it leaves those hook zones open, and that's where 44 (O'Neal) kept catching the ball," Coach Allison said.

Sam Gilbert returned the kick to the 32-yard line where Mancuso had the Panthers on the move, marching into the Rebel redzone.

Two quarterback keepers, a pass to Prunier, and a carry by Whittle had Union set up for the go-ahead score at the Fannin County 20.

On first down, O'Neal jumped Mancuso's pass and was off to the races for an 85-yard interception return, making it a two-possession game at 36-27 with 7:42 to play.

On Union's first play, the Panthers were picked off again, giving the Rebels the ball at the Union 32-yard line.

On second down, Jones blew up a Fannin toss putting the Rebels in a 3rd-and-14 situation, but Stone answered by finding the open receiver for 21 yards.

Two plays later, Fannin was at the Panther 1-yard line, where they punched it in for another score, putting a stranglehold on the Panthers.

Trailing 43-27 with 4:14 to play, Sam Gilbert returned the kickoff to the 38-yard line and Mancuso quickly hit Rogers for 20 yards. Rogers got open again, this time picking up 8 yards. Sam Gilbert recorded another catch putting Union at the Rebel



The Union County High School Pride of the Mountains Marching Band provide Panther fans with entertainment during the games and at halftime. Photo/Todd Forrest

8-yard line.

A pass to Rogers was stuffed for a no gain then three incompletions turned it over to Fannin on downs with 2:46 to play.

While attempting to bleed the clock, the Rebels would put the ball on the ground and Union came up with the fumble.

A pass to Whittle put Union on the 3-yard line where Mancuso picked up his second rushing score. Prunier got around the edge of the Rebel defense for the 2-point conversion.

Trailing 43-35, the Panthers' inside kick was recovered by Fannin with 1:04 remaining and the Rebels took a knee to hold on to their first win over Union County since 2010.

The Panther offense put up some big time numbers despite offensive lineman Chris Drost being out with a concussion.

"We played really well on offense and had over 500 yards and scored 35 points, so the offense did enough to win the game," Coach Allison said. "We didn't make plays on defense when we needed to make them. Offensively, Fannin made the big plays when they needed to be made."

Mancuso finished 22-43 passing with two scores and three picks. Drake went 3-of-5 for 26 yards. Whittle carried 12 times

for 31 yards and a score, Barnett had 3 carries for 11 yards.

Sam Gilbert caught 6 passes for 69 yards, Dietz had 38 yards on 2 receptions, Whittle had one catch for 14 yards, and Brown had a catch for 13 yards.

Barnett recorded 10 tackles, Nic Sparks had 9 tackles, Chase Stancil had 6 tackles, Jones had 5 tackles, 3 for a loss, a sack, and 4 quarterback hurries. Dakota Evans had 3 tackles and 3 hurries, Drake had 4 tackles, Reid Watson had 2 tackles and a hurry, Mekiah Martin had 3 tackles, Will Stone had 4 tackles, Brown and Prunier each had 2, Dietz had a tackle-for-loss. Rogers and Billy Elder also had a tackle.

Friday, Union travels to Andrews, NC at 7:30 p.m. where they face a Wildcat squad that they defeated 41-13 last season.

"Andrews is pretty much the same team they were last year, the difference this year is, we have to go to Andrews," Coach Allison said. "It's always tough playing over there. You better be 10 or 14 points better than they are when you go to North Carolina. Our kids are going to have to realize that, we have to maintain our composure and not put ourselves in a hole. They have a shifty quarterback and their tailback is a good runner, their fullback is a big dude, and they are big on the offensive line."

# 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GLOW IN THE DARK GOLF TOURNAMENT SEPT 20, 2013

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ENTRY FEE - \$350.00 PER TEAM (4 MULLIGANS INCLUDED)  
\$90.00 PER PERSON (1 MULLIGAN INCLUDED)

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SUPPER/REGISTRATION 5:30  
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CINDY 706-835-1692, 706-781-8162  
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# Marine Corps League Warriors Golf Tournament

The deadline for sign-up for the Warriors Golf Tournament is the 13th of September. The tournament, starting at 1 p.m. on the 20th of September will be held at the Old Union Golf Course. The contest, a 4 person select shot is a fun-fest round of golf that benefits Veterans and their families that are in need.

Entry fee is \$55 for individuals or \$220 for the team of four. The Marine Corps League is a non-profit organization and fees and donations are tax free. Sign up now to insure your place in the tournament. For more information call Skip Belton 706-745-2273 or Charlie Sowers at 706-745-5123.

# Mountain Gymnastics Center offering Saturday morning classes

Starting Sept. 7th, MGC classes are as follows: 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Preschool (3-5 years).

10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Kindergarten-and-up. Boys and Girls. 11 a.m. - Noon Cheer/Tumbling. Call for opening: 706-745-3325

