

Union County Cross Country sweeps the team standings during first meet of 2015 at Meeks Park



The Union County Cross Country Lady Panthers anxious to begin the season. Photo/Todd Forrest



The Union County Cross Country men wait patiently at the starting line. Photo/Todd Forrest



UC's top two: Emma Garrison and Emmi Schakat. Photo/Todd Forrest



Sophomore Lance Underwood

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Both Union County Cross Country teams took first place at the season opening meet at Meeks Park, last Thursday.

The ladies, led by second place Emma Garrison (21:34) and fourth place Emmi Schakat (21:39) finished 16 points ahead of second place

Fannin County. Meanwhile, the guys, were 15 points better than second place Lumpkin, thanks to second place Lance Underwood (17:52). But it was ninth through 15th that decided the final standings as Union took six of those seven spots.

Timothy Murphy was ninth at 19:10, Jacob Kelley came in 10th at 19:17, 11th belonged to Adam Bachman

(19:21), Jakob Brown was 12th at 19:22, 13th was Colby Ives at 19:31, and 15th went to Cristian Garcia - clocking in at 19:36.

Rounding out the Lady Panthers' top seven was eighth place Sage Royston (22:49), 13th place Stephanie Busse (23:27), Anna Danek was 25th at 26:20, Emmaline Stuart claimed 29th at 26:58, and 30th was Raphaela Aleman, who clocked in at 27:02.

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ing the passer penalty on Towns was tacked on and the Panthers were on the move at the Towns 40. A no gain, a 9-yard loss, and a 6-yard completion to Daniel followed and Union was punting again.

With Mancuso in at punter, the snap sailed high once again, but history repeated itself when he ran down the bad snap and got off a nice punt that was downed at the Indians' 30 with 1:36 until the fourth quarter.

Towns would go on a



Joseph Mancuso cashes in on the ground vs Towns. Photo/Todd Forrest

13-play 70 yard drive that was capped off by a 30-yard touchdown pass with 5:56 left in the game.

The Panthers' final drive began after a 34-yard kick return by Daniel put Union at their own 35-yard line. On first down, Wright hit Daniel for 4 yards then found Thompson 8 yards. Wright kept it himself for 16 yards and following an incompleting, he went back to Thompson for 7 yards. They would turn it over on downs when the Panthers couldn't get a completion on third and fourth downs.

Towns would get off one play before the clock expired. Next week, Lumpkin County comes north to Blairsville for a rematch of one of Union's toughest regular season games from 2014.

Despite winning 28-7, it was a 7-7 game in the third quarter until the Panthers rallied around an injured Sam Gilbert to smoke the Indians in the fourth quarter.

Lumpkin returns talent across the board, including a beast at quarterback, 6-1 220 pounds Zach Matthews, who rushed for 1,463 yards as a

sophomore last year.

"They are big and physical and it will be a battle," Coach Allison said. "It will be a war just like last year. They are big, mean, and nasty. Hopefully we can man-up to it, but once again, they are very physical and it will be very interesting."

Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m. on Friday night.

Wright finished 7-of-10 for 73 yards while rushing three times for 11 yards and catching four passes for 27 yards in the first half. Dockrey led Union in rushing with 66 yards on 4 carries and a touchdown. Daniel caught three passes for 66 yards, Thompson reeled in four catches for 39 yards, and Rodriguez rushed five times for 22 yards and a score.

Thompson led the defense with 6.5 tackles, junior Luke Winkler had 6 tackles, Stone had 4.5 and a tackle for loss (TFL), junior Chandler Day recorded 3.5 tackles with one TFL. Banton finished with 5 tackles and 1.5 TFLs, Daniel had 4 tackles, senior Chris Drost recorded 5 tackles and 1 TFL, and junior Tyler McConnell had 2 tackles and 1 TFL.

UCMS football falls 32-19 to Habersham



The UCMS Panthers' defense smothers a Habersham running back. Photo/Todd Forrest



Backed up against their own goal line, the Panthers offense came out firing away. Photo/Todd Forrest



Union County drags a Habersham Raider to the turf during the first half. Photo/Todd Forrest

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win in the circle - going three innings, fanning four and allowing 3 hits.

At the plate, Kendra Tanner was 3-for-3 with two triples, 3 RBIs, 3 runs, while swiping two bags.

Seabolt stole four bases on a 1-for-1 night that saw her walk, get hit by a pitch, and score twice. Garrett walked twice, stole a base, and was hit by a pitch, Everett walked twice, scored three times, was hit by a pitch, and drove in a run.

Moose knocked in three with a triple, Madeline Tanner walked twice and scored, while sophomore outfielder Anna Owenby doubled home a run, was hit by a pitch, stole a base, and scored two times.

Junior Channa Carroll reached on an error, walked, and scored twice. Poteete stole a base and scored.

Lady Panthers 11 Oglethorpe County 3

Lexington - Union spotted the Lady Patriots a 3-0 lead entering the fourth inning but Coach Stewart's bunch answered with 2 runs in the fourth inning, 5 runs in the fifth, and 4 runs in the sixth.

A Chambers hit by pitch, a walk, and three singles staked Oglethorpe to a 2-0 advantage over the Lady Panthers' junior ace. Then three singles in the bottom of the third tacked on another run and Union was on upset alert.

A two-out single from Garrett kicked off a fourth inning rally. Arnold followed by reaching on an error and Garrett scored on a passed ball. Arrowood came to the plate and singled to the opposite field - bringing home Arnold.

Chambers worked around a leadoff double in the bottom of the fourth and Union blew things open in the top of the fifth.

Tanner and Nix both reached on errors, Chambers doubled them both home, and Lawn singled to score Garrison



Kendra Tanner scores against Greene Co. Photo/Todd Forrest - the courtesy runner for Chambers. Nix scored twice and finished 1-for-4.

Later, with two outs, Arrowood reached with a bunt single, Lockaby scored Lawn with a base knock to center, and Poteete's infield single brought in Arrowood. When the dust settled, the Lady Panthers had gained control, going on top at 7-3.

Chambers sat Oglethorpe down in order in the bottom of the fifth, then following a base hit by Nix, she crushed a 2-2 pitch over the centerfield fence for a two-run homer.

Lawn doubled and Garrett smacked an RBI single. With Sutton as Garrett's courtesy runner, Arrowood's bloop single scored the freshman base runner.

Leading 11-3, a two-out Lady Patriot double was wasted in the bottom of the sixth after Chambers induced a grounder to Nix to end the game via the mercy rule.

Chambers surrendered 2 earned runs, 8 hits, and 2 walks but still picked up the win thanks to the offense - that was led by the Union junior with 4 RBIs, a double, and a 2-run blast.

Arrowood went 3-for-4 with a pair of RBIs. Lockaby was also 3-for-4 with an RBI, Poteete finished 2-for-3 at the plate with an RBI, and Lawn doubled, drove in a run, and scored twice during a 2-for-4 outing.

Meanwhile, Garrett broke out of her recent slump and collected 2 hits and an RBI.

Lady Panthers 7 Oglethorpe County 2

Lexington - Chambers went back to the circle and claimed her 9th win of the season while striking out eight, giving up 1 earned run, and just 3 hits.

Union didn't allow Oglethorpe to take an early lead as they posted 4 runs in the second and 2 in the third.

Chambers, Lawn, and Garrett each finished with a 2-hit performance while the bottom four hitters in the Union lineup knocked in more than half of the Lady Panthers runs with 4 RBIs. Arnold, Arrowood, and Poteete each singled and drove in one run, while Lockaby doubled and brought in one.

What's on deck...

After six games last week, Coach Stewart and company get it to take it easy this week with only two contests.

But that doesn't mean that can take the competition lightly as the Lady Panthers host Rabun on Thursday, who will be looking for payback.

On Monday, Union went on the road to face Class AAAAA's Habersham Central, who is also looking to break even with the Lady Panthers after falling 3-1 in Blairsville.