

Sports

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Akins, Patton and Richards limit Hayesville to three hits in 7-2 win

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Hayesville, NC - Union County (4-5) halted a two-game skid, getting back in the win column by scoring five unanswered runs to close out Friday's 7-2 victory at Hayesville, North Carolina.

Maddox Patton went 2 for 4 with a double, a run and an RBI, while tossing 2 2/3 scoreless innings with seven strikeouts in relief of starter Gunnar Akins.

After the Yellow Jackets tied the score at 2-2 in the third, Union County answered with three in the fourth when Bo Brown opened the frame with a walk. Chetley Cox drove in courtesy runner Lane Haney with a one-out double and scored via a wild pitch. Later in the inning, Colten Gibson reached via a two-out walk and came around on Akins' base hit to left.

Patton struck out the side in Hayesville's half of the inning, working around a leadoff single and a one-out walk. Hayden Hughes, 24 hours removed from the basketball court, expanded the lead to 6-2 with a base hit that scored Brown in the fifth.

On the mound, Patton cruised into the sixth when a Hayesville double brought Tyler Richards to the bump for an inning-ending strikeout.

Union County tacked on an insurance run in the seventh courtesy of doubles from Brown and Haney before Richards tossed a 1-2-3 bottom half to nail down the win.

Brown finished 1 for 2 with a double, two runs and a pair of walks. Cox went 1 for 3 with an RBI double and a run. Akins drove in one during his 1-for-3 day, he also picked up the win on the mound, going 3 innings, allowing one hit, two runs, four walks and striking out seven.



Junior Maddox Patton had two hits and pitched 2 2/3 scoreless innings during Union County's win at Hayesville, NC on Friday. Photo/Todd Forrest

Hughes went 1 for 2 with an RBI; Haney ended his day 1 for 1 with a double, a run, an RBI and a stolen base; Gibson walked and scored; Travis Tracy added a run; Eli Gwynn drew a walk.

Richards struck out 2 Yellow Jackets in 1 1/3 innings.

Union County jumped out front 2-0 in the third when Tracy reached on an error, Patton roped an RBI double to center and Akins scored Patton on Hayesville's second error of the inning.

The Jackets tied it up in the bottom half courtesy of two walks and a two-out single.

Union County hosts North Cobb Christian on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Region 7-AA opener. The Panthers travel to North Murray on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. and will host North Murray at 5:30 p.m. on Friday.



Sophomore Chetley Cox went 1 for 3 with an RBI double during Union County's win at Hayesville, NC. Photo/Todd Forrest



Junior catcher Bo Brown drove in three runs during Union's loss at Rabun County on Thursday. Photo/Todd Forrest



Senior Travis Tracy scored Union's first run of the game on Friday at Hayesville, NC. Photo/Todd Forrest

Soccer: Panthers improve to 3-0 in region play; Lady Panthers get win over Ringgold



The Union County men picked up two wins last week, 3-0 over Ringgold and 2-1 at Sonorville. During the win at Sonorville, Kainen Shirley and Brayden Torres provided the Union goals. The Lady Panthers defeated Ringgold 5-4 and dropped a 7-1 decision (Destiny Hill goal) at Sonorville. Union County travels to North Murray on Wednesday and hosts Murray County on Friday.

Track and Field: Lady Panthers third, Panthers place fourth at Stephens County



Union County track and field traveled to Toccoa on March 1 to compete against Stephens County, Hart County, Franklin County, Oglethorpe County, Habersham Central and others. The UCHS girls finished third overall while the boys placed fourth. First place finishers included: Jack Wilson -- discus (school record); the boys 4x800 relay team; Jacob Turner -- 300 hurdles; the boys 4x400 relay. Second place finishes went to Leslie Rash -- Discus; Sofia Foster -- shot put; Ava Klein -- 100m and 200M; the girls 4x200 relay team; Lola Hunter -- 3200M (pictured); Jacob Turner -- 110 hurdles; Cole Brown -- 400M. Third place finishes: Nomi Nelson -- triple jump; Ava Lloyd -- 100m; Lola Hunter 1600m; the girls 4x100 relay team; Jaxon Totherow -- shot put (school record); the boys 4x100 relay.