Sophomores shock the world with stunning upset at U-lympics



Union County High School's yearlong competition known as the "U-lympics" crowned a champion last Friday, and to the surprise of everyone - with the exception of the Class of 2019 - the sophomores reigned supreme. The final day of the U-lympics was expected to be one last coronation for the seniors - until the sophomores rained on their parade. The U-lympics are a competition between each grade that judges the entire class based on the performances of individuals. The students are not only judged in athletic prowess, but academics, behavior, school spirit, fewest library/lunch fines, and other factors throughout the school year. Spirit Week during the fall also plays a role in the crowning of a champion. The classes decorate and design a float for the Homecoming Parade that is judged by faculty. The classes are also scored on participation and school spirit throughout the week of Homecoming.



On Monday, May 8, the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting for Run Above The Clouds, Inc. The mission for this non-profit organization is board of directors consists to provide scholarships for Suches youth, most of whom are Woody Gap graduates, but also including students from on-line or home school programs. Recipients are chosen from applicants after the June 25th deadline and grants are based on need and funds available. The funds are paid directly to the student's school for academic purposes. Several years ago, the program was expanded (in a leap of faith) from eligibility only in the graduation year to up to four years with evidence of successful study. A committee

of the organization evaluates 1 mile Fun Run. The event is the applications and presents recommendations to the membership and board of directors for action.

The organization of Ruth Ann Miner (Chair), Lamar Barber (Vice-chair), Jim Miner (Secretary), Ward New (Treasurer), and Rick Smith (Race Director) as well as a growing number of committed and energetic committee members all of whom volunteer their time to assist Suches youth in tion about Run Above The pursuit of their educational goals

The scholarships are funded by sponsorships from businesses and individuals from the area (some of which make generous anonymous contributions) as well as proceeds from the 10K, 5K and

managed so that costs of operations are covered by runner registrations and a grant specifically made to cover operating costs.

The Run Above The Clouds is the kickoff event for the annual Indian Summer Festival which also supports The Woody Gap School and its students and is held on the first weekend in October at the Woody Gap School in Suches.

For more informa-Clouds, please visit their website at http://www.runabovetheclouds.org or Facebook page at http://www. facebook.com/10kand5k. Questions can be directed to (706) 747-1047 or email cloudrun10k@yahoo.com. NT(May24,Z7)CA

Union County Primary School Physical Education hand out coaches awards; recognize Battleball champs





Blairsville Pickleball Club members succeed in White County Tournament

(L-R): Chuck Herrera, Nolan Lang, Cathy Berggreen of Blairsville; Karen Staffins of Morganton; Janet Bush, Lora Ash of Blairsville; **Blake Harper of Young Harris**

the Blairsville Pickleball a Gold medal in Men's 3.0 Club participated in a fund- Doubles. Lora Ash and Janet raising event held May 5th Bush were in the 3.5 categothrough May 7th in Cleve- ry of Women's Doubles. land, GA. Tough matches complex, which has nine over 160 members. dedicated pickleball courts.

representing eight states, continues to offer classes in All proceeds went to the pickleball, which is an ideal 'Community Helping Hands Clinic of White County,' an organization which provides rick, of Hiawassee, are the free medical services to lowincome patients. The Women's 3.5 Doubles Gold medals were won all levels. by Cathy Berggreen and Karen Staffins; the Women's about the game, contact 3.5 Singles Bronze medal Kathi Patrick at kathipatwas taken by Cathy Berg-

Several members of green. Blake Harper won

The Blairsville Picklewere watched by large ball Club has grown in popcrowds in the new sports ularity and in numbers, with

The Oasis program in The tournament at- the First United Methodist tracted nearly 200 players, Church of Union County

Top: Union County Primary School P.E. teacher Chris Robbins recognized seven 2nd graders that successfully demonstrated a level of mastery in eight different skills stations given in different areas of Physical Education. These seven students received the Coaches Award for excellence in P.E at UCPS. In 2017, only seven second grade students (out of 181) accomplished this difficult task. Those students from left to right are: Naomi Nelson, Emmy Kight, Émma Martin, Brandon Lynch, Andrew Nushtayev, Will Henson, and Xavier LeBlanc.

Bottom: Mrs. Morgan's 2nd grade class was victorious in claiming the Union County Primary School Battleball Championship. The North Georgia News would like to congratulate each of the recipients of the Coaches Award along with Mrs. Morgan's class on all of their success during another fantastic school year at UCPS. Photos/Todd Forrest



Union County Recreation Senior FULL-OF-LIFE

2017 Senior Outdoor Exercise Program Ages: 55 and over

Did you know outdoor exercise could be fun? Outdoor exercise is very beneficial to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. This program is designed to meet each individual participant's ability. The Program Director of Union County Parks and Recreation will be leading a free outdoor exercise session two times a week for 6 weeks in session 1! This is a great time to socialize and exercise with a fun group. We will meet at Meeks Park Backside Exercise Equipment (off Old Blue Ridge Highway entrance) and work out for 60 minutes!

**Session One Registration begins on May 9 and ends May 31, 2017 at the Recreation Office (310 Wellborn St.)

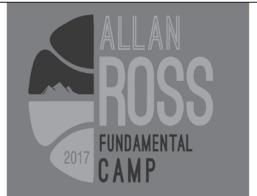
Registration must be done in person due to cap on partici-

pants per session! If you have any questions, you can call

sport for all ages.

Kathi and Bud Pat-Club Ambassadors and frequently hold special clinics in Blairsville for players of

To get information rick3@gmail.com. N(May24,Z12)CA



Allan Ross Fundamental Camp

Dates: June $8^{th} - 10^{th}$

Location: Union County Recreation Gym

Age Groups: Boys and Girls; Rising 3rd grade - 8th grade

Time: 9AM-12 Noon

Cost: \$60 per child (\$50 if child is registered by May 22, 2017)

Elite Level Training (ELT) is happy to announce it will be hosting its 4th annual fundamental based basketball camp in Blairsville, Georgia. The focus of this camp will be player and skill development through focused teaching of fundamentals and functional movement. All instructors of this camp will have collegiate basketball experience, through their playing or training backgrounds or will be a part of the Union County High School Basketball Program, to better help campers achieve their own goals and improve their own personal development. For additional information and registration forms email ELT instructor Michael Ross at eltcoachross@gmail.com or by calling 706-897-4581. Acceptable payment methods are cash or check and must be made out to Michael Ross. We look forward to helping our athletes improve their skills and overall game!

