2017 VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDUE

Rabun Gap (Scrimmage)

Gilmer County

Hayesville, NC

Andrews, NC

Banks County

Dawson County

Lumpkin County

East Hall

Greater Atlanta Christian

7:00

7:30

7:30

7:30

7:30

7:30

7:30

7:30

7:30

H

H

H

A

August 17

August 25

September 1

September 8

September 15

September 22

September 29

October 6

November 3

Wade Hodges: Introducing Union's newest assistant football coach Community turns out for Meet the Team, witnesses upset in the 'Hot Wing Eating Contest'

By Todd Forrest North Georgia News sports@nganews.com

Now that Meet the Team is in the books, Union County football is just days away from taking the field and competing against someone in a different

The Panthers will host Rabun Gap on Thursday in the first, and only, preseason scrimmage before the regular season opens at Gilmer County on Aug. 25.

Fans can expect Thursday to be your typical, run-of-themill scrimmage where the No. 1 priority is keeping everyone healthy. The varsity squads will play two quarters with the JV and freshman taking over during the second half. Also, don't be surprised if there are no kick returns. It's unlikely there will be any live situations on kickoffs

As for Friday's Meet the Team, fans of all ages were in attendance as Panther players, coaches, and cheerleaders were all on hand for pictures, autographs, and more.

Once again, the highlight of the event was the Wing Eating Contest, but this time, it resulted in a monumental, Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium upset. UCHS cheerleader Kay-

lee Young took on the Union County football team and outlasted them all. Mean, nasty linebackers, giant offensive linemen, and headhunting defensive backs were no match for Miss Meanwhile, new Union

County outside linebackers coach Wade Hodges was attending his very first Meet the Prior to UCHS, Hodges

coached offensive and defensive line, plus middle school baseball, for three years at South Effingham High School, located 20 miles northwest of Savannah. Over the weekend, Coach

Hodges took time out of his busy schedule to chat with the North Georgia News. So here is Union County's newest football coach / math and engineering teacher:

NGN: Where did you begin your football career, high school and college?

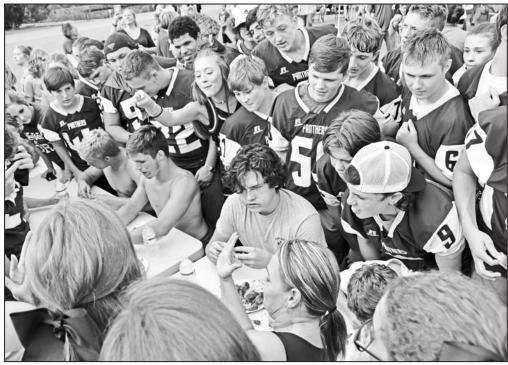
WH: I graduated from Effingham County High in 1992 and played football at Wingate College but I got my teaching (degree) later on at Georgia

NGN: Your daughter plays softball here at Union County, but you have a son that's playing baseball at Kennesaw right now, correct?

WH: Yes, my son Garrett



Union County football's first year assistant coach Wade Hodges during practice last week. Photo/Todd Forrest



The Union County cheer squad encourages fellow cheerleader Kaylee Young during her victory in the Wing Eating Contest. Meanwhile, the UCHS football players look on in disbelief as their teammates suffer a shocking defeat at the Meet the Team community event on Friday. Photo/Todd Forrest seniors and juniors with a few

sophomore in high school. My wife April is also in education. She's the principal at Blue Ridge

NGN: Will you be coaching anything else besides football at Union County?

WH: Baseball. I'm going to help out with baseball too. NGN: What was it about

Union County and Northeast Georgia that attracted you to the area?

WH: My wife and I have always wanted to retire to this area and we've vacationed up here. Our kids are also going to college up here. Garrett is at Kennesaw and Katelynn is going to Young Harris, so we a nice blend of youth and experidecided to speed up the process. We sent some resumes around right now. I also have another daughter, Krysten, who is a My only regret is that we didn't ers at that position. We're mostly

move here sooner.

NGN: So far, what do you enjoy most about Union County and the mountains.

WH: The weather (laughing). It's definitely cooler up NGN: Have you tried

Sorghum Syrup yet? If not, you probably will during the Sorghum Festival. WH: I haven't had a chance to try the Sorghum syrup

yet, but I will. I'm looking for-NGN: Now that you've had two weeks of practice, how are the outside linebackers coming along? We should have

ence at that position.

is a sophomore at Kennesaw to see what would happen and along really well. We do have

younger guys backing them up. The seniors are eager to

pass along what they know to the younger guys so we'll be fine at that position for years

NGN: If you didn't get into coaching or education, what career do you believe you would have chose: WH: I didn't go right into

education out of college so that I know. I worked for 17 years at Bell South and Georgia Power. NGN: Bulldogs or Yellow

Jackets? Do you have a college football preference? WH: Georgia Southern

I'll pull for the other WH: They are coming Georgia teams, unless they're playing Southern. (Georgia Southern) was about 30 minutes away down in Effingham so we always went to the games. I've always followed Georgia

> NGN: You were closer to Jacksonville, Fla than Atlanta. Are you a Jaguars fans?

WH: No, I'm a Falcons fan. Definitely a Falcons fan.

@Dawson Tri Match

@Sonoraville Tri Match

Tellico Plains

@Fannin Tri Match

Hayesville

Pickens and Fannin at Home Tri Match

@Fannin with Pickens Tri Match

August 15

August 16

August 17

August 23

August 24

August 28

August 30

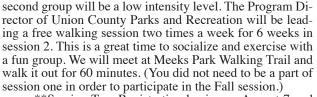
North Hall 7:30 October 13 **OPEN** October 20 7:30 Fannin County October 27 H

Union County Recreation Senior Autumn WALK-It-OUT Program

2017 Senior Walking Program Ages: 55 and over

Fall is coming soon and UCRD is continuing with our walking program! We have two different walking programs designed to fit your individual pace. Our first group will walk at a high intensity level and our

call our office at (706) 439-6074.



*Session Two Registration begins on August 7 and ends August 31 at the Recreation Office (310 Wellborn St.) Registration must be done in person due to cap on participants per session! If you have any questions, please

Warriors Veterans Outreach Golf Tournament September 8th Warriors Veterans Out- in various categories: first and

reach and Warriors Scholarship Fund are joining together somes; first and second place in conducting a golf tournament. Money raised will be contributed to the Warriors Veterans Outreach, an organization that assists local veterans in need of help.

The tournament, a four person, best ball event will be held at the Old Union Golf Course with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. on September 8th. Food will be provided by Chickfil-A prior to the start of the

second place for mens fourfor ladies foursomes; closest to pin on selected holes for both men and ladies and longest drive on selected holes for

In case of bad weather, rain date is September 15. Registration deadline is by September 1. Prior to and during the tournament, there will be raffles on some very nice items. Drawings will be held after the end of the tournament.

For registration or ques-Cost of the tournament tions, please call Skip Belton is \$220 or \$55 for individuate 706-745-2273 or Charles als. Trophies will be awarded Sowers at 706-745-5123.

Varsity and C Team

C Team Only

Varsity and JV

ALL TEAMS

JV and Varsity

C Team

C Team



Trout stocking sites week of August 7-11, 2017

Fannin: Rock Creek Union: Cooper Creek

Union County volleyball officially gets underway

Note: Information is subject to change. Please call the hatchery at 706-838-4723 for questions. Stay up-to-date with stocking and events through Facebook www.facebook.com/ chattahoocheeforestnfh. The hatchery also provides trout for the state. Please contact Georgia DNR for information on sites stocked by the state. N(Aug16,Z8)CA

The Racing Roundup: Tri- County and Blue Ridge results

By Blake Lynch North Georgia News Sports Special

Tri-County Racetrack had the weekend off. They will be back in action this Friday night, August 18th. It's Fan Appreciation Night. They will have vintage cars and a kids bicycle race. The gates will open at

p.m. Grandstands are \$7 and pits are \$30; kids 11-16 are \$15 and kids 10 and under are free. Don't forget your arm bands from August 4th to receive your free admis-

5 p.m. racing starts at 7:30

Blue Ridge Motorsports Park started out with a exciting dash for cash to begin the night which was won by #7 Jason Deal for \$500.

Charles Devine, Jr. #14 took home another first place finish in Street Stock. Blairsville's own #01

Jacob Lynch finished 4th. Modified Street was won by #17 Brad Thomas.

Crate Late Models had a upset with T-31 Shane Tankersley taking home the

Jason Deal #7 the winner of the dash for cash lead half the race but had to return to the pits due to mechanical problems which caused him to fall back in the field. The B-4 Brian Jackson

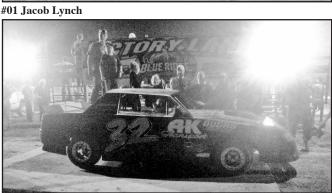
took home the win in the Limited Late Models. Franklin Burke #32

got to visit Victory Lane again this week for the pony

Beginner class was won once again by #4 Jacob

The front wheel drive was won by #18. N(Aug16,Z16)CA

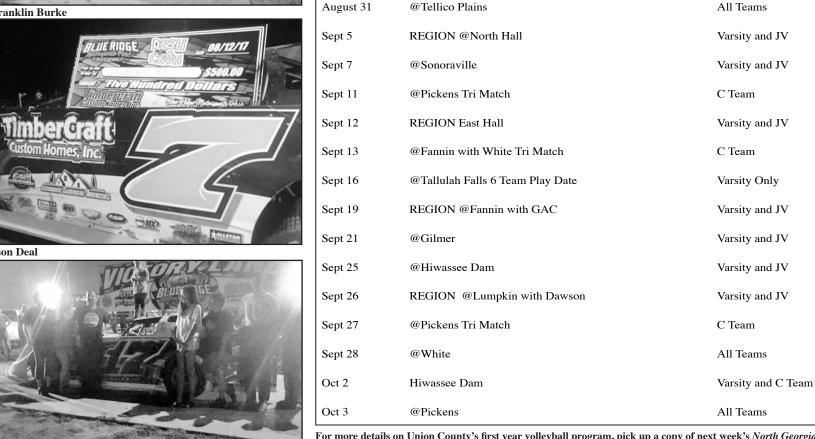




#32 Franklin Burke







For more details on Union County's first year volleyball program, pick up a copy of next week's *North Georgia News*, which will also include the 2017 Fall Sports Preview.