## Softball: Lady Panthers headed back to State Tournament

Union County advances to Wednesday's Region 8-AA Semifinals, Finals

By Todd Forrest Sports Editor sports@nganews.com

The Lady Panthers (12-12) are headed back to the State Tournament after sweeping Oglethorpe County in the opening round of the Region 8-AA Tournament.

Union County would take care of business 2-0 and 4-2 last week vs the Lady Patriots as Trinity Queen fired a completegame shutout, allowing only three hits in the Game One win. Senior Megan Bright got the win in Game Two, giving up just one earned run in the 4-2 victory.

Rebekah Kelley provided Bright a 1-0 lead in the second when she reached on an error, then scored on an RBI off the bat of Queen. Oglethorpe, who was the home team in Game Two, tied things up with a run in the bottom half of the second, then grabbed the lead with an unearned run in the third.

Trailing 2-1, Union County broke through with three in the fifth when Aubrie Banton and Lexi Sisum led off with consecutive base hits. An error off the bat of Mary Wischmeyer allowed Banton to tie things up. Later, a bunt single by Emma Roxbury and a run-scoring fielder's choice by Ansley Collins put the Lady Panthers ahead.

Kelley capped off the scoring with another RBI groundout to make it a 4-2 game.

The Lady Patriots wasted a leadoff double in the bottom of the fifth as they loaded the bases before Bright induced an inning-ending pop-up.



Trinity Queen recorded a win and a save during last week's opening round of Region. Photo/Todd Forrest

and two quick outs in the sev- for us." enth, Bright ran into trouble the tying run aboard, bringing Queen back to the circle to record the final out - a called strike three on Oglethorpe's clean-up hitter.

That was the one hitter in their lineup that really scared us," Union County head coach Stephen Mitchell said. "So

In Game One, a fourthwhen an error and a single put inning double by Hannah Patton and an RBI single from Susum gave Queen all the run support she would need.

> Union County added an insurance run in the sixth when Sisum singled with two outs and Wischmeyer brought her in with

Up next, the Lady Panwe brought Trinity (Queen) in thers will play Rabun County Following a 1-2-3 sixth and she finished off the game on Wednesday with a spot in

the 8-AA Region Championship on the line. The game will be at 2 p.m. in Banks County. The winner will take on the Banks-Monticello winner for the Region title at 6 p.m. Wednesday. The losers will play in

the Consolation Game at 4 p.m. Wednesday. A semifinal win over Rabun County and Union Coun-

ty is guaranteed to host the first Wednesday and the Lady Pan-



Rebekah Kelley calls off Lexi Sisum to make a catch. Photo/Todd Forrest

thers will claim their first region title in eight years.

The State Tournament begins next week on Oct. 8. and 8-AA is matched up with Region 6-AA, which includes Washington-Atlanta, South Atlanta, Therrell, KIPP Atlanta, Douglass, Coretta Scott King and McNair.

Last Monday, Sept. 23, Union County lost 6-2 to East round of state. Two wins on Hall in the final regular season

Roxbury singled and scored in the fourth on an RBI single by Kelley, who also reached on a fielder's choice and scored in the seventh inning.

In the previous week's win over Gilmer, Wischmeyer and Sisum each scored a pair of runs as Union jumped out to a 4-3 lead after three.

Both offenses would go quiet as the 4-3 score held up behind a complete game from

## Volleyball: Union hosts Senior Night on Tuesday with No. 2 seed up for grabs By Todd Forrest

Sports Editor sports@nganews.com Union County opened

Area play with consecutive victories over Washington Wilkes and Oglethorpe County. Later in the week, the Panthers lost a nailbiter at first place Rabun County before taking care of Putnam County to clinch a spot in the State Tournament.

All that's left to decide is where Union will place in the Area standings as they welcome Lake Oconee Academy (LOA) on Tuesday for Senior Night at 5 p.m.

A win over Lake Oconee and the Panthers are the No. 2 seed and will host a state playoff match. A loss would create a three-way tie for second with LOA and Oglethorpe County.

In last Tuesday's win over Washington Wilkes, the two kills apiece. Panthers dominated in stra sets, 25-10 and 25-13.

Senior Adelia Pyle had a team-high four kills while freshman Sofia Swartz had three. Senior Kait McCarter and junior Haley Noe added



R-L: Senior Kait McCarter slips a point in between two Washington Wilkes players. Senior Adelia Pyle with one of her 11 kills vs Oglethorpe County. Photos/Todd Forrest

Sophomores Maci Wil- the second set, 25-14. liams and Riley Allison recorded three aces each, while McCarter, Swartz and Morgan 15-14 lead before pulling away, Fussel had one block apiece.

The second match was much tighter with Union Coun- Union County jumped out front

Trailing 11-5 in the first 15-10. set, the Panthers rallied for a

In the third and final set,

they took the set, and the match, added three.

Allison finished with 13 kills, Pyle added 11 and Fussel had three.

McCarter recorded three blocks, Izzy Zamora and Pyle

ty surviving 2-1 after dropping 6-2 and never looked back as had four digs each, while Noe Rabun, the Panthers dropped the first set in extra points, 26-

> Sophomore Maci Williams finished with 23 assists.

> In the win over Putnam, Union won in straight sets, 25-

21 and 25-18. During their loss to

24. They would bounce back

with a one-sided 25-13 victory

in set two, but Rabun edged

Union 16-14 in the third set to

move atop the Area standings.

## Youth Football: Panthers split at Fannin Blue Ridge - Both Union lace scored the only touchdown

teams traveled to Fannin County to take on the Rebels last weekend.

The 9U team was looking to continue its winning streak as they entered 3-0 with a defense that hasn't been scored The Union County 10U

team, however, was trying to

pick up its second win of the

9U Panthers - In the first quarter, No.88 Micah Walof the day, but the extra point Panthers got the ball to begin was no good as they built an early 6-0 lead.

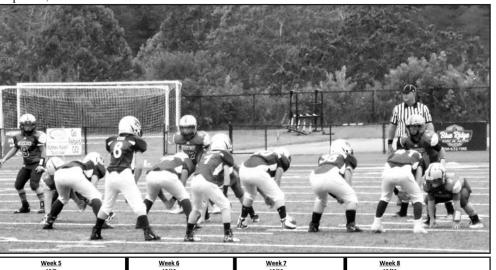
In the fourth quarter, with Fannin trying to even the score or take the lead, the Rebels handed the ball off and there was fumble on the play. The loose ball was recovered by the Panthers' No.34 Isaiah Steep, who preserved the 6-0, Union County victory.

The 9UPanthers are now 4-0 on the season.

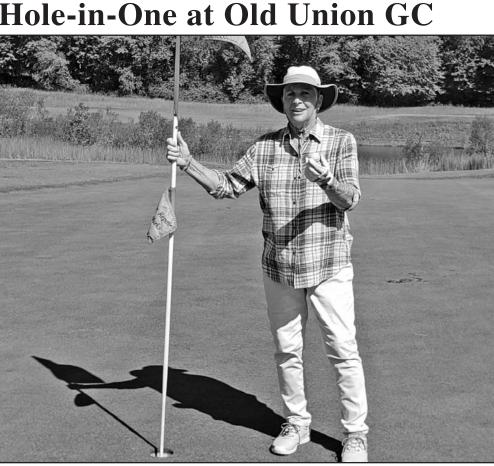
10U Panthers - The the game and they handed it off to No.1 Brandon Lynch, who broke free for a 70-yard touchdown run to give Union

the early lead. No.22 Jaxon Totherow would add the two point conversion for a 8-0 lead. Unfortunately, that would be their only score as Fannin came up with

the win, 19-8. The 10U Panthers are now 1-3 on the season.



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	10/5					-					10/19					10/26			
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12:00pm	White	AT		100	12:00pm	White	VS	Chestatee East Hall	7U	12:00pm	Pickens	AT		90	10:30am 12:00pm	Lumpkin	AT		8U
1:30pm	Fannin	AT	Dawson Dawson	11U	1:30pm	Pickens	AT	Chestatee	90	1:30pm		AT	Dawson Dawson	100		East Hall	AT	Fannin Fannin	90
3:00pm	Pickens	VS	Gilmer	11u	3:00pm	White		Chestatee		3:00pm	Fannin Lumpkin	AT	Dawson	110	1:30pm 3:00pm	Union	AT	Fannin	100
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10:30am	White	AT	Lumpkin	8U	10:30am	Fannin	AT	Dawson	7U	10:30am	Fannin	AT	Pickens	7U	10:30am	Dawson	VS	Chestatee	7U
2:00pm	Pickens	VS	Gilmer	9U	12:00pm	Fannin	AT	Dawson	90	12:00pm	Fannin	AT	Pickens	8U	12:00pm	Pickens	AT	Gilmer	8U
1:30pm	Pickens	VS	Gilmer	10U	1:30pm	Gilmer	AT	Dawson	10U	3:00pm	Fannin	vs	Gilmer	11U	1:30pm	Dawson	AT	Gilmer	9U
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10:30am	Chestatee	AT	Fannin	7U	10:30am	**Fannin	AT	Lumpkin	80	10:30am	White	AT	Chestatee	7U	10:30am	Union	AT	Pickens	90
2:00pm	Gilmer	AT	Fannin	8U	12:00pm	East Hall	VS	Gilmer	90	12:00pm	Fannin	AT	Chestatee	90	12:00pm	Lumpkin	AT	Pickens	100
1:30pm	**Chestatee	AT	Fannin	90	1:30pm	Fannin	AT	Lumpkin	100	1:30pm	Pickens	AT	Chestatee		1:30pm	Chestatee	VS	Dawson	100
3:00pm	**White	vs	Union	90	3:00pm	Pickens	AT	Lumpkin	11U	3:00pm	Gilmer	VS	Lumpkin	10U	3:00pm	East Hall	AT	Pickens	110
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1:30pm	Lumpkin	AT	East Hall	110	1:30pm	Pickens	VS	White	80	1:30pm	Union	VS	East Hall	90	1:30pm	Dawson	AT	White	110
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Week 5 Byes: Week 6 Byes:								Week 7 Byes:					Week 8 Byes:						
8U Pickens					8U Gilmer					8U Lumpkin					8U White				



Diane Walker recorded a hole-in-one on the 13th hole at Old Union Golf Course on Monday, Sept. 23. Walker was playing with the Old Union Women's Golf Association at the time of her ace. Congratulations, Diane!