

# Sports

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## Golf: Lady Panthers pour it on at Area Tournament

### Union County claims the Area 3 championship by 30 strokes at Old Union

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Union County may reside in a new region and classification, but the girls golf team continues to produce the same old results.

Last Tuesday morning, Union hosted the Area 3 Tournament at Old Union Golf Course and proceeded to run away from second place Franklin County by 30 strokes (254-284).

Despite thundershowers passing through the area on Monday afternoon, and overnight, the greens remained firm and quick when play opened at 9:30 a.m. And coupled with increasing winds throughout the morning and early afternoon, a score in the mid-80s would keep one in contention for Low Medalist.

Union County junior Grace Wischmeyer and Dawson County's Sydney Morgan each paced the field with an 83 to share Low Medalist honors.

One stroke behind them was Lady Panthers' junior Ally Horinek with an 84.

Rounding out Union's day was fellow junior Megan Rowe, who finished four back of the leaders with an 87, and senior Maddy Horinek, who fired a 91.

One back of the leaders was Hart County's Natalie Sanford, who tied Ally Horinek for third in the individual standings.

Hart County came in third in the team standings with a 288 - four shots behind Franklin County.

Rowe's 87 was good enough for a top five finish, while Maddy Horinek came in seventh at 91.

Rounding out the team standings was fourth place Dawson County - 306; fifth place Lumpkin County - 328; and sixth place North Hall - 332.

Jackson County placed seventh with a 341; Morgan County was eighth at 345; East Jackson's 372 resulted in a ninth place finish; and Greater Atlanta Christian was 10th at 378.

In 11th was Monroe Area with a 423. Fannin County only sent two individuals - not enough to compete for the team title.

After consecutive seasons of placing third in state, Union gets another crack at that elusive team State Championship.

UCHS has won multiple individual state titles, including golf (Jamie Gibson in 1990) but have yet to claim a team championship in any sport.

The Class AAA Girls State Tournament is scheduled for a two-day, 36-hole tournament on May 22 and 23rd at Okefenokee Country Club in Blakeshear (Pierce County).

This year will mark the first time that the state finals will be a 36-hole tournament, instead of 18.



Union County celebrates after its second consecutive Area Championship. The Lady Panthers have finished third at state in back-to-back years, just missing out on a team and an individual state title. Photo/submitted



Low Medalist Grace Wischmeyer holds the Area 3 championship trophy that her team earned in dominating fashion last week. Union County will travel to Okefenokee Country Club later this month for a shot at the Class AAA State Championship. Photo/submitted



Ally Horinek studies a par putt during last week's area championship held at Blairsville's Old Union GC. Photo/Todd Forrest



The Lady Panthers with a well deserved rest after placing four girls in the top seven at area. Photo/submitted



Senior Maddy Horinek on the first tee preparing for her final Area / Region Tournament. Photo/Todd Forrest

**It is time for Football and Cheerleading**

Sign-ups at the Union County Recreation Department begin May 1-June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

 Ages 7-11  
(Age cut off is April 30)

 Sign up on-line at [unioncountyga.gov](http://unioncountyga.gov)

Go to park and recreation/youth athletic programs or at the Recreation Office located at 310 Wellborn Street

**\*\* For more information please call the recreation office at 706-439-6074 \*\***

**Upcoming Saddle Club events**



At a great open horse show on April 15, we saw many new faces in our trail, western pleasure, speed event, and halter classes. So the Union County Saddle Club is excited to see how many riders compete at the next open show on May 20.

The May 20 horse show is definitely one you will not want to miss. To kick off the day, we will host a Special Invitational

Show starting at 10 a.m. for all the special needs guests in the area. These guests will be provided the opportunity to ride horses with the help of our many volunteers. After they ride, the Saddle Club will perform for all the spectators and will be followed by our regular open horse show which begins with warm-up barrels at 11:30 a.m.

If you know a special needs guest who would like to participate in the Special Invitational Show, please contact Dawn Burnette at [dawnburnette@yahoo.com](mailto:dawnburnette@yahoo.com) to RSVP. There is no charge for spectators, so come out and watch the horse fun all day! For questions please visit [www.unioncountysaddleclub.org](http://www.unioncountysaddleclub.org).

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**Charity Golf Tournament to benefit Healing Hands Community Clinic**

Healing Hands Community Clinic, a volunteer staffed, donation funded non-denominational healthcare ministry serving the uninsured of the mountain area, will host its annual golf tournament on May 22, 2017 at Butternut Creek Golf Course.

There will be a 1 p.m. Shotgun Start. Lunch will be served.

Sign up today to play or sponsor by using our website: [www.healinghandscommunity-clinic.org](http://www.healinghandscommunity-clinic.org) or by contacting Jeri Ann King at [jak.nurse@yahoo.com](mailto:jak.nurse@yahoo.com) or by calling 706-994-6768.

Fees are \$65 per person or \$250 for teams. Sponsorships are available for \$35.

Join us for a swinging good time of fellowship and fun while helping to build a healthier community.

**UCHS Band Spring Concert**

The Union County High School band's Spring Concert is coming Thursday, May 4th, at 6:30 PM at the Union County Fine Arts Center.

Admission will be \$5. The concert will feature a wide variety of musical styles, featuring the UCHS Jazz Band and Symphonic Band.