

Sanchez ninth at War Eagle Invitational

Lady Panthers place sixth; guys finish 13th at Chestatee

By Todd Forrest
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Gainesville - Union County freshman Zoe Sanchez followed up the first victory of her high school career with a ninth place finish against a loaded field at the War Eagle Invitational, hosted by Chestatee High School.

Sanchez finished first amongst all freshmen competing in the varsity race.

The Lady Panthers placed sixth in the team standings behind Region 7-AAA foes North Hall and Dawson County.

Union County was able to topple Lumpkin County, from Region 7-AAA.

Senior Emmi Schakat placed 26th while freshmen Lexi Ochoa (33rd), Sadie Underwood (45th), and Allison Vincent (59th) all placed among the top 20 freshmen in the race.

Kaitlyn Gallagher and another freshman, Jessie Holbrook rounded out Union's top seven.

Meanwhile, Lance Underwood's 24th place finish led the guys to 13th - behind North Hall and Dawson, but ahead of GAC, Lumpkin, and East Hall from Region 7-AAA.

Timothy Murphy came in 70th and Adam Bachman placed 75th for the guys.

Up next is a race at Gilmer County on Thursday. Union has seen Gilmer twice already this season.



The Lady Panthers at the starting line at last month's race at Meeks Park (top). The Panthers warming up prior to the Meeks Park race (bottom). Photo/Todd Forrest

Chestatee War Eagle Invitational

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS

1. Jefferson 60
2. North Hall 94
3. Dawson Co. 106
4. Gilmer Co. 117
5. Chestatee 133
6. North Forsyth 191
7. Gainesville 200
8. Cent. Gwinnett 234
9. Johnson 246
10. White Co. 266
11. West Hall 306
12. Lakeview 319
- 13. Union Co. 350**
14. GAC 351
15. St. Francis 462
16. Discovery 474
17. East Hall 479
18. Rabun Co. 498
19. Lumpkin Co. 547
20. Franklin Co. 572
21. Pinecrest 604
22. Stephens Co. 620

BOYS INDIVIDUAL TOP 10

1. Jacob Poston (Dawson) 16:28
2. Tommy Johnston (NH) 17:03
3. Addison Cochran (Jeff) 17:08
4. Devan Crow (NH) 17:09
5. Axel Avalos (CG) 17:11
6. Issac Hernandez (John) 17:15
7. Max Higgins (Jeff) 17:19
8. Jordan Smith (CG) 17:20
9. Ivan Martin (Chest) 17:31
10. Carson Masenthin (Gilmer) 17:43
- 24. Lance Underwood (UC) 18:34**
- 70. Timothy Murphy (UC) 19:52**
- 75. Adam Bachman (UC) 20:11**
- 89. Colby Ives (UC) 20:36**
- 92. Cole Payne (UC) 20:45**
- 94. Will Harkins (UC) 20:49**
- 105. Gehrig Patterson (UC) 21:21**

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS

1. White Co. 48
2. Chestatee 80
3. North Hall 84
4. Dawson Co. 109
5. Rabun Co. 130
- 6. Union Co. 172**
7. Jefferson 191
8. Johnson 215
9. North Forsyth 273
10. Lakeview 320
11. Gilmer Co. 349
12. Lumpkin Co. 353
13. Pinecrest 357
14. Cent Gwinnett 360
15. Discovery 404
16. Stephens Co. 427
17. Franklin Co. 451

GIRLS INDIVIDUAL TOP 10

1. Frankie Muldoon (Dawson) 19:46
2. Maggie Dyer (Jeff) 19:49
3. Jaelen Alexander (White) 20:14
4. Marley Hamby (Dawson) 20:47
5. Lindsey Grater (Chest) 20:50
6. Mattie Bohanan (NH) 21:26
7. Megan Dew (Chest) 21:45
8. Rachel Gearing (White) 21:45
9. **Zoe Sanchez (UC) 21:55**
10. Merrie Barnett (Chest) 22:04
- 26. Emmi Schakat (UC) 23:31**
- 33. Lexie Ochoa (UC) 24:06**
- 45. Sadie Underwood (UC) 24:47**
- 59. Allison Vincent (UC) 25:57**
- 65. Kaitlyn Gallagher (UC) 26:45**
- 84. Jessie Holbrook (UC) 27:25**

Mike Wilson Named UAB Men's Golf Head Coach

University of Alabama at Birmingham Director of Athletics Mark Ingram has named Mike Wilson the new men's golf coach at UAB. Wilson comes to Birmingham after unprecedented success at Charleston Southern University.

"UAB is a wonderful university with an outstanding golf program that is capable of winning national championships," Wilson said. "The city of Birmingham and its great golf courses was a very strong attraction. I want to thank Mark Ingram and the entire UAB administration for the opportunity to lead an amazing program with rich history."

Wilson spent the previous nine years at Charleston Southern. He was the head women's golf coach from 2007-09 before being named the men's coach in 2009. In 2011, Wilson was appointed the Director of Golf which gave him oversight of both programs while remaining as the head men's golf coach.

The CSU men's team is coming off back-to-back NCAA Regional appearances and captured the 2015 Big South title. The Buccaneers' Regional in the Tuscaloosa Regional in 2016 marked the first time in CSU history that a program earned an at-large berth into an NCAA championship event.

The Buccaneers also won the Kiawah Classic at Turtle Point in late November of 2015 to ascend into



Mike Wilson the Top 25 in the Golfstat rankings.

"Mike Wilson is a tremendous leader and golf coach," Ingram said. "Not only does Mike bring an impressive knowledge of the game, but he has extensive experience as an administrator. Coming off our third straight NCAA tournament at UAB, we are confident that Mike will continue our success on the national stage and elevate our program to new heights."

Under Wilson's watch, Austin James completed the best single season in CSU history, sweeping Big South Player of the Year and Big South Medalist honors as a junior in 2015-16. He won the Big South Championship by five strokes at 11-under par, one shot shy of Dustin Johnson's championship record. James reached the quarterfinals of last year's U.S. Amateur and recorded

nine Top 10 finishes in his junior season.

The year prior, Wilson led the Buccaneers to the 2015 Big South Men's Golf Championship and a berth in the Lubbock Regional in the NCAA Men's Golf Championship. The Buccaneers posted the lowest final round - 10-under - in Big South history to win its first conference championship in 12 years. The Buccaneers won by six strokes over Campbell and earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2003, joining the likes of Texas, Texas Tech, Cal, Auburn, and Duke at the Rawls Course in Lubbock.

Newcomer R.J. Keur was the first freshman since 2008 to win the Big South Championship, finishing the week at 8-under par to win by one stroke.

In Wilson's first season as head coach, the Buc-

caners finished second in the Big South after a seventh place finish the year before. In 2012 Wilson was named the Big South Coach of the Year.

In 2007-08, Wilson led the Lady Bucs to the 2008 Big South Championship and onto the NCAA East Regional, where the Bucs finished 19th overall. Jordan Higgins finished second overall at the Big South Championships and, along with teammate Katrin Rumpf, earned All-Conference honors. Jeter again earned BSC Academic All-Conference accolades as the Bucs shared the BSC Sportsmanship Award with Radford.

Upon graduating from CSU in 1999, Wilson served as an assistant coach for the 1999-2000 season. He spent seven years as the Golf Assistant and Director of Instruction as the Seabrook Island Club on John's Island, SC, before joining the Top Golf Academy in Alexandria, VA, as a teaching professional in 2006. Wilson also spent time as a golf professional at Coosaw Creek Country Club in North Charleston, SC.

Wilson and his wife Jennifer have two daughters, Brooklyn and Blakely. He is the son of Tom and Alice Wilson, formerly of Union County, Blairsville and grandson of A. L. and Mary Wilson, Union County natives. NSSEP7/6CA

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a loss on a 4th-and-2. During the second defensive series, Bryan English went high into the air for an interception at the Hayesville 29-yard line.

Matthew Beise opened the third series with a first down sack before RJ Banton, who was moved to linebacker due to a pair of injuries at that position, picked off a pass at the Jackets' 37-yard line.

Later in the half, McConnell blew up an end around for a loss of five that eventually led to a punt. Union's final score was set up by a Dockrey interception return of 16 yards.

The first half came to a close with a tackle-for-loss by William Lueckert and a sack by Zach Gilliam for a loss of 17.

The Panthers were still without their leading tackler from 2015, senior linebacker Chris Thompson. They were also playing without the services of their leading tackler from the Gilmer County game, senior linebacker Nic Rodriguez.

According to Coach Allison, Rodriguez could return for this week's contest at Andrews, NC, however, the law firm of Thompson and Thompson both remain doubtful for this week.

Wright orchestrated the Panthers' opening drive of the second half before giving way to freshman Pierson Allison and the younger players.

Hayesville's onside kick attempt was unsuccessful, allowing Union to open from their own 45.

With a running clock, Wright broke off a 40-yard run before finding Dyer for nine on 3rd-and-10. Facing a 4th-and-1, Wright connected with Dobbins on an 11-yard score.

The Jackets fumbled on their first offensive play of the half and Dylan Williams pounced on the loose ball at the 16-yard line.

Chad Buzzard carried for gains of 2 and 5 yards before Allison scrambled for four and a first down. With a 1st-and-goal from the five, Allison kept it himself for his first of two rushing touchdowns.

With Union on top 47-0, Hayesville put together its first and only scoring drive of the game. A completion for 9 yards and runs of 5 and 6 yards moved the Jackets into Panther territory for the first time all night. A facemask penalty and runs of 11, 6, and 4 yards put Hayesville on the 11-yard line, where they punched it in for the score.

The fourth quarter opened with Union leading 47-7 and Allison hit Kyle Morlock for 10 yards and Sawyer Drake twice, for 13 and 15 yards. Buzzard carried for gains of 4 and 7 yards before Allison weaved his way through traffic on a 10-yard scoring run.

Facing a 4th-and-15 from its own 29, Hayesville elected to keep the offense on the field instead of punting, and the call backfired.

The Panthers forced an incompletion and with the ball less than 30 yards from pay dirt, the Jackets were unable to keep Union out of the endzone one final time.

On 3rd-and-1, Allison moved the chains with a screen pass to Ben Howard for 4 yards before Buzzard capped off the drive with a 7-yard touchdown carry.

Looking ahead - Up next is Union's first road game of the year at Andrews, NC on Friday.

The 1-2 Wildcats are under the direction of a new head coach James Phillips, who moved last season's 1,000-yard rushing quarterback, Taylor Parker to running back.

This season, Parker is averaging more than 120 yards per

game on the ground. Coach Phillips comes to Andrews, by way of Swain County, where he was won three State Championships as an assistant. Although, Phillips is a graduate of Andrews (1996).

"(Andrews) is a better team, they are sound, and well coached," Coach Allison said. "It's always tough to go up there in that environment and play so I'm prepared for it to be a struggle. We're going to have to execute on both sides of the ball."

Kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Friday night.

Game notes: Prior to last Friday night, the previous high for points scored in a home game came last November when the Panthers totaled 55 points in an overtime loss to Bowdon. The home scoring record for a non-overtime contest was set back in 1984 when Union defeated Towns County 54-7.

Coincidentally, Union County first broke the 50-point plateau during another anniversary season. In 1976, the Panthers routed Towns County 50-0 as the Panthers were celebrating 20 years of football.

Union's 54-point margin equaled the largest in program history - matching a 54-0 victory over Towns in 1985.

Team stats: Union County: 330 yards of total offense. RUSHING: 20 carries, 164 yards. PASSING: 15-of-19, 166 yards.

Hayesville: 147 yards of total offense. RUSHING: 27 carries, 69 yards. PASSING: 12-of-24, 78 yards.

Individual stats (OFFENSE): Wright: 11-of-14, 124 yards, 2 TD, 1 INT. 2 carries, 56 yards. Allison: 4-of-5, 42 yards, 3 carries, 19 yards, 2 TD.

Lynch: 8 carries, 42 yards, 3 TD, 1 reception, 2 yards. Buzzard: 6 carries, 38 yards, 1 TD. Dockrey: 2 carries, 13 yards.

Dyer: 4 receptions, 66 yards. Pattee: 2 receptions, 25 yards, 1 TD. Dobbins: 2 receptions, 22 yards, TD. Drake: 2 receptions, 28 yards.

Strayer: 2 receptions, 9 yards. Morlock: 1 reception, 10 yards. Howard: 1 reception, 4 yards.

Individual stats (DEFENSE): Banton: 11 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 INT. Gilbert: 7 tackles. Williams: 5 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack. McConnell: 4 tackles, 3 TFL. Beise: 4 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack. Winkler: 4 tackles, 1 TFL. Gilliam: 4 tackles, 1 sack.

English: 2 tackles, 1 INT. Stone: 2 tackles. Day: 2 tackles, 1 TFL. Nelson: 2 tackles. Sutton: 2 tackles. Dockrey: 1 tackle, 1 INT. Mancuso: 1 tackle. Colwell: 1 tackle, 1 TFL. Kelley: 1 tackle. Pattee: 1 tackle.

Scoring summary:
1ST QUARTER:
UC - 4 plays, 27 yards in :50.
Lynch 1-yard TD run

2ND QUARTER:
UC - Blocked punt, recovered in endzone by Gilbert for TD
UC - 5 plays, 37 yards in :59. Lynch 2-yard TD run
UC - 2 plays, 30 yards in :23. Lynch 5-yard TD run
UC - 4 plays, 52 yards in 1:02. Wright 16-yard TD pass to Pattee

3RD QUARTER (running clock):
UC - 7 plays, 55 yards.
Wright 11-yard TD pass to Dobbins

UC - 4 plays, 16 yards. Allison 5-yard TD run
HHS - 9 plays, 68 yards.
11-yard TD run

4TH QUARTER:
UC - 7 plays, 60 yards. Allison 10-yard TD run.
UC - 5 plays, 29 yards.
Buzzard 7-yard TD run.

Wounded Warriors Golf Tournament

On Friday, August 26th the Wounded Warriors Golf Tournament was a great success. Funds were raised for the Wounded Warrior Project by 17 teams of 4 golfers competing with the best ball format.

Men's First Place was won by the foursome of: Randy Vaughn, Al Lanham, Joe Miller and Tom Polkowski. Men's second place: Scott Carter, Robert Harkins, Rick Davenport and Andy Burk.

Men's longest drive, 65 and older was Randy Vaughn and nearest to pin was Alan Lanham. Men's longest drive was Levi Kerizk and nearest to pin was Jay Burks.

Ladies First Place was won by the foursome of: Mary Holmes, Karen Mathes, Nadine Brown and Mary Ann Hansen. Ladies second place: Charlotte Maddox, Karen Mussoline, Teri McComb and Jenna Wheeler. Ladies longest drive: Charlotte Maddox; closest to pin: Mary Ann Hansen.

Mid afternoon, the skies threatened but the rain held off until after the tournament. Food for the golfers was abundantly supplied by Chick-fil-A.

There were many persons donating to the Tournament and we are certainly grateful for their participation.

2017 Basketball Registration will open at the Union County Recreation Department

September 1st!

Age Group	Registration Ends
5/6 yrs old	October 3 rd
7/8 yrs old	October 3 rd
9/10 yrs old	October 31 st
11/12 yrs old	October 31 st

****Registration fee is \$50.00 and open to both boys and girls. ****

Registration can be completed online at meekspark.com or at the Recreation Office .

If you need any additional information, please call 706-439-6074.