

# Homecoming 2018: A week to remember for Arnold

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Someday Aladriel Arnold will tell her grandchildren about this past week.

On Friday, Arnold was crowned the 2018-19 Union County High School Homecoming Queen by her UCHS classmates. And if her grandchildren ever find themselves in a similar situation, she'll have some words of wisdom: Don't trip.

"I was just hoping I wouldn't trip," Arnold said when asked what was going through her mind when her name was announced last Friday evening. "Everything has happened so fast this past week, I just hope I can remember it all."

Getting crowned on Friday isn't the only thing she'll remember about last week, however.

On Thursday, Union County softball recognized Arnold and her fellow seniors following a 9-8, extra inning victory over Oglethorpe County.

Once again, Arnold found herself at the center of attention.

Tied at 8-8, Arnold led off the eighth inning with a walk-off home run to secure a top-four finish for Union County and guarantee the Lady Panthers a home playoff series in this week's Region 8-AA Tournament.

"This week has been a blur with softball, Spirit Week and now this," she said. "It's been a lot to take in and it's been stressful but I wouldn't have been able to do this without all the support."

"I have to thank my family, friends, my softball teammates and everyone that's been here for me through the whole experience."



Union County High School's 2018-19 Homecoming Queen Aladriel Arnold (center) along with First Runner-Up Carolyne Stone (left) and Second Runner-Up Madeline Tanner (right). Photo/Todd Forrest



Aladriel Arnold is mobbed by her Lady Panther softball teammates following her walk-off homer one day prior to Homecoming. Photo/Todd Forrest

# Volleyball finishes strong; Union in the hunt for State playoff spot

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On Tuesday, Union County will begin postseason play with a rematch vs Washington-Wilkes at Lake Oconee Academy -- who will await the winner.

The winner is guaranteed a spot in the State Tournament while the loser sees its season come to a close. No. 2 seed Lake Oconee Academy will take on the winner -- also on Tuesday -- with a spot in the region finals on the line.

The loser of that contest will return to action Thursday at 5 p.m. in the consolation match -- at a location TBD -- to decide the No. 3 and 4 seeds in the State Tournament.

The Region Championship game is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday to be hosted by the highest remaining seed.

Meanwhile, the varsity wasn't the only volleyball squad recording Ws last week as the junior varsity team picked up a pair of wins over Rabun County and East Hall.

The JV squad has one more game remaining on Oct. 4.



Union County's JV squad in action earlier in the season. Photo/Todd Forrest

# Union County Softball honors its seniors; host Region 8-AA playoffs Wednesday

By Todd Forrest  
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Postseason play opens for the Lady Panthers on Wednesday, unfortunately the opponent won't be determined until after press time on Monday.

As of this writing, Union County has an outside shot at the No. 2 seed. If the chips fall perfectly into place, that is.

Social Circle paid a visit to Blairsville on Monday to make up a rain out from earlier this month. And if Union County can win by more than five runs, the No. 2 seed belongs to the Lady Panthers.

A loss or a win by five runs or less and Union County holds steady in the No. 4 spot.

Last week the Lady Panthers secured no lower than fourth when they took care of business at Rabun County and vs Oglethorpe County on Senior Night.

At Rabun, Union County escaped with a 3-1 victory after taking a 1-1 tie into the fourth.

The Lady Panthers got on the board first with a Maddie Sutton bunt single and an Aladriel Arnold RBI.

Rabun got the run back in the bottom of the first but Union took the lead for good in the fourth when Hannah Patton and Caley Davis scored on a Sutton base hit.

Trinity Queen picked up the win with a complete game 4-hitter.

Against Oglethorpe, the Lady Panthers jumped out front 8-0 only to watch the Lady Patriots rally to force extra innings.

In the bottom half of the eighth, Arnold opened the inning with a walk-off, solo home run to left-centerfield.

Fellow senior Bailey Ray-



Arnold rounds the bases following her game-winning HR. Photo/TF

field also went deep, spotting Union a 3-0 advantage with a three-run shot in the first inning.

The Lady Panthers tacked on five more in the fourth when they sent 10 batters to the plate.

Megan Lockaby doubled and later scored on a wild pitch. Sutton, Arnold and Skyler Ludlum each singled and scored. Rayfield would also score after she reached on a fielder's choice.

Oglethorpe responded with four in the fifth and seventh innings to even things at 8-8.

Queen recorded the win thanks to another complete game performance by the sophomore.

Regardless of Monday's result, Union County will open the Region 8-AA Tournament with a home doubleheader on Wednesday.

Wednesday's action will get underway at 4 p.m. with game three on Thursday if necessary.



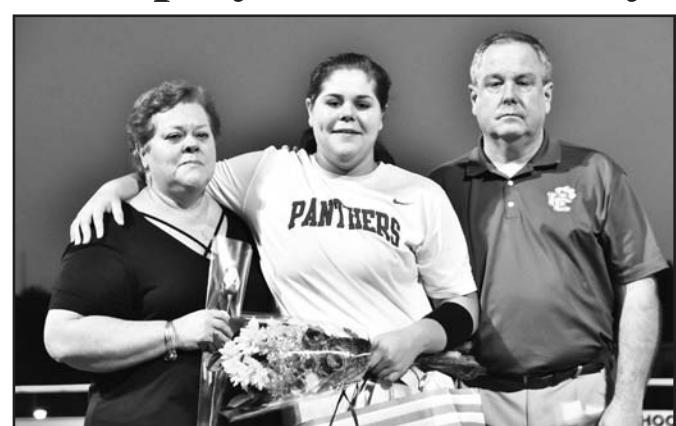
Aladriel Arnold with family



Skyler Ludlum with family



UCHS seniors with coaches



Bailey Rayfield with family



Maddie Sutton with family



Madeline Tanner with family

# Local Racing Report: Blue Ridge Motorsports Park

By Blake Lynch  
Staff Writer  
North Georgia News

**Blue Ridge** - Blue Ridge Motorsports Park hosted a race last Saturday for \$1,500 Crate Late Models top prize. Here are the top five results from each class.

**Street Stocks** - Coming in first place was No. 14 Charles Devine Jr. Coming in second place was No. 9 Jim Twigg. Coming in third place was No. 01 Jacob Lynch. Finishing in fourth place was No. j69 Jim Weller. Coming in fifth place was No. 7D Dylan Turhan.

**Beginner 602** - Coming in first place was No. 25 Jacob Hamby. Coming in second place was No. M42 Roger Morrow. Coming in third place was No. 17 Steve Beavers. Coming in fourth place was No. 22 Matt Sanders. Coming in fifth place was No. 8 Colby Parris.

**Modified Street** - Coming in first place was No. 4 Jacob Parris. Coming in second place was No. 81 John Howard. Coming in third place was No. 17 Brad Thomas. Finishing in fourth place was No. 88 Ricky Smith. Coming in fifth place was No. 28 Dannie



Patterson.

**Hot-Shots** - Coming in first place was No. 32jr Franklin Burk Jr. Coming in second place was No. 22 Tucker Anderson. Coming in third place was No. 1 Nathan Peardon. Coming in fourth place was No. 55 Chase Norton. Coming in fifth place was No. 1 Cooper Twigg.

**FWD** - Coming in first place was No. 73 Wayne Champion. Coming in second place was No. 14 Trey Champion. Coming in third place was Eddie Segon. Coming in fourth place was No. 65 Larry Whitelaw. Coming in fifth place was No. K3 James Klankul.

**Pony** - Coming in first place was No. 32 Franklin Burk.

Coming in second place was No. 43 Tain Ross

**Limited** - Coming in first place was No. 30 Deven Delbeck. Coming in second place was No. 4 Danny Ledford. Finishing in third place was No. 16w Wesley English. Coming in fourth place was No. 4 Trigg Parris. Coming in fifth place was No. 00 Ted Lowe.

**Crate** - Coming in first place was No. 24 Shawn Chastain. Coming in second place was No. 9 Brain Kinnersley. Coming in third place was No. 17 Chip Brendle. Coming in fourth place was No. 12 Drew Deaver. Coming in fifth place was No. 1 Junior Whitener

# Youth football splits vs White Co.

By Blake Lynch  
Staff Writer  
North Georgia News

**9U Panthers** - The 9U Panthers took on the White County Warriors and it literally came down to the last play as they went into double overtime tied at 0-0.

White County was at its own 10 yard line and the Panthers stopped them on fourth down. The Panthers were at the 5-yard line with a fourth down of their own.

Needing a score to win, they handed the ball off to No.44 Chetley Cox, who ran it to the outside and scored the game winning touchdown to give the Panthers the 6-0 win. The Panthers are now 3-1 this season.

**11U Panthers** - The Panthers also took on White County in a physical game. Here's how it went down.

First play of the game the Warriors were at the Panthers' 40 yard line when their running back scored a touchdown and the extra point was good. Later in the game, the Panthers would have to punt and the punt returner ran this one 50 yards to the house.

The Panthers would lose this one 33-0, falling to 0-4.

# UCHS 2018-19 Basketball schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Varsity	JV
November 15	Rabun Gap	Home	6:00/7:30	
November 20	Towns	Home	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
November 27	Robbinsville	Home	6:00/7:30	3:30/4:30
November 30	Fannin	Away	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
December 5	Rabun Gap	Away	6:00/7:30	Boys 4:30
December 8	Towns	Away	6:00/7:30	3:00/4:30
December 14	Elbert	Away	6:00/7:30	Boys 4:30
December 15	Monticello	Home	2:00/3:30	
December 18	Social Circle	Home	5:00/6:30	
December 20	Murphy	Home	6:00/7:30	3:00/4:30
December 27	TBD	Towns	TBD	
December 28	TBD	Towns	TBD	
December 29	TBD	Towns	TBD	
January 4	Rabun	Away	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
January 5	Putnam	Home	3:00/4:30	12:00/1:30
January 8	Banks	Home	6:00/7:30	Girls 4:00
January 11	Oglethorpe	Away	7:00/8:30	
January 12	Fannin	Home	6:00/7:30	3:00/4:30
January 15	Elbert	Home	6:00/7:30	Girls 4:00
January 18	Monticello	Away	5:00/6:30	
January 22	Social Circle	Away	5:00/6:30	
January 25	Rabun	Home	7:00/8:30	4:00/5:30
January 26	Putnam	Away	3:00/4:30	12:00/1:30
January 29	Banks	Away	6:00/7:30	Boys 4:30
February 1	Oglethorpe	Home	6:00/7:30	