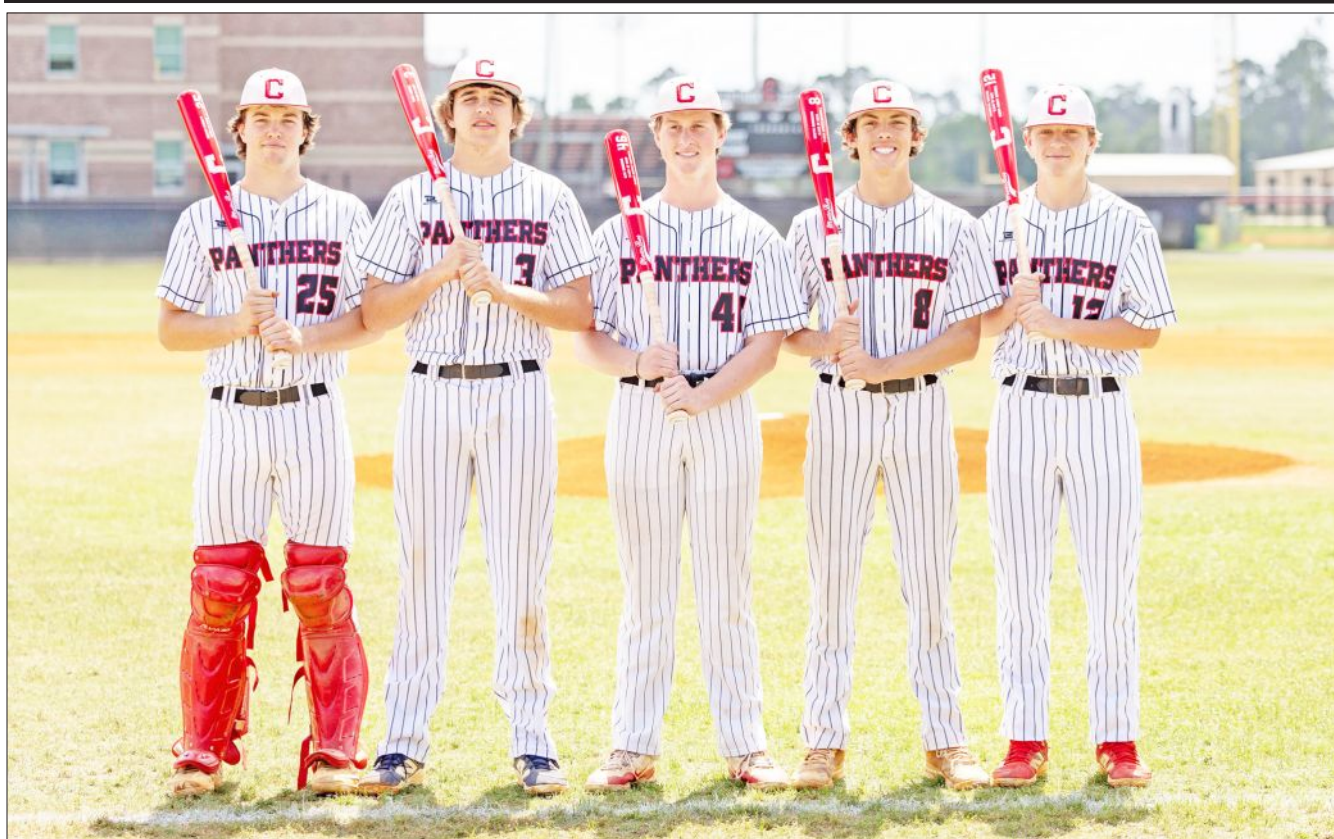


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Sports

Covering Kickoff to the Final Out in Clinch County Athletics



Panther senior baseball players recognized Friday included, from left, Weston Bennett, Rayce Godfrey, Alec Goodman, Hunter Henderson, Remington Wheeler – Photo by Joy Sumner Photography.

Second-ranked Charlton edges Panthers twice in week

By Len Robbins
Publisher

The Clinch County Panthers split for the week – drilling Brooks County and Wheeler County, then falling to Charlton County later in the week on consecutive days.

Lee Douglas' Diamond Panthers ripped Brooks County in Quitman Tuesday, 20-5. The Panther bats stayed hot a day later, defeated Wheeler County 18-3. The Panthers then lost a 3-2 thriller in Folkston Thursday to Charlton. Friday, they went to Charlton, falling in another close one to the Indians, 6-4.

At Brooks Tuesday, Clinch scored three in the opening inning, two more in the second, then exploded for nine runs in the third to take control of the game. They pounded out 13 hits, with Jake King, Sage Delk (double), Dane Brown (doubles), Weston Bennett, and Rayce Godfrey (doubles) all having two hits. Tate Denmark (double), Remington Wheeler, and Joshua Delk also had hits. Delk also got the win on the hill, going 2 1/3 innings, striking out four. Joshua Leccese finished the game, striking out two in 1 2/3 innings.

The Clinch bats hadn't cooled off 24 hours later. At Cecil Barber Field, the Panthers scored five runs in the first, then pounded out nine runs in the third, and four more in the fourth of the run-ruled contest.

Clinch had 12 hits for the game, with Joshua Delk going 3-for-4. Sage Delk, Dane Brown and Godfrey all had two hits, while King, Denmark and Wheeler also had singles.

Hunter Henderson and Dane Brown combined for the no-hitter, as Henderson started, going three innings, whiffing four. Brown finished the last inning, striking out two and allowing no hits.

Thursday's game at Charlton was scoreless for three innings. The hosts then got a single run in the fourth and another in the sixth. Clinch tied it 2-2 in the top of



Clinch's Weston Bennett makes a tag at home plate Friday against Charlton County – Photo by Joy Sumner Photography.

the seventh, with the Indians pulling out one run in the bottom of the 7th for the key region win.

Wheeler started on the mound for Clinch, going six innings, relieved by Weston Bennett.

Clinch had seven hits for the game, with Brown going 2-for-3 with a homer. Other hits came from Sage Delk, Bennett, Wheeler, Godfrey and Braden Herlocker.

Friday was another battle in Homerville against the second-ranked Indians. They took a 2-0 lead after the

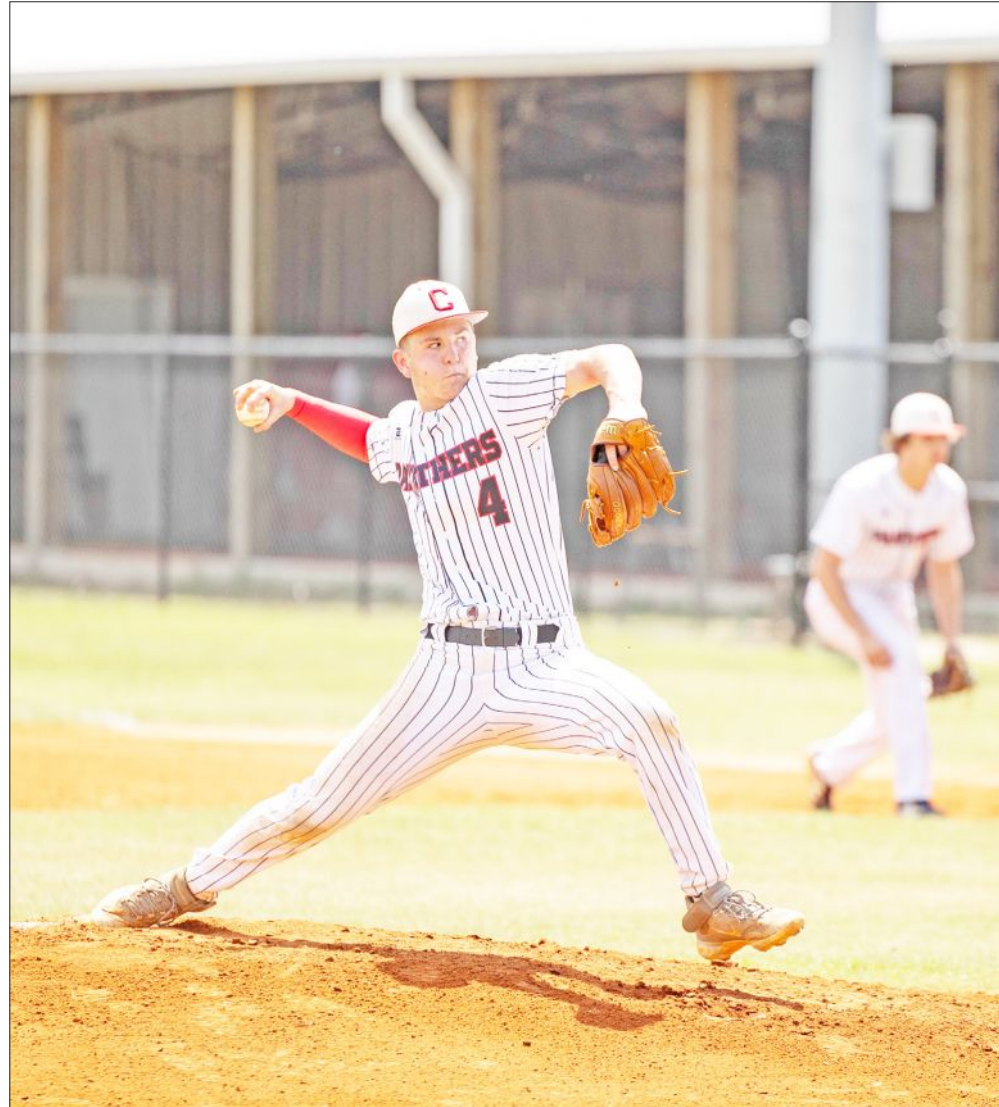
second inning. Clinch scored single runs in the third and fourth innings to make it 5-2 after five innings. The Indians added an insurance run in the sixth, while Clinch had two more in the bottom of the seventh.

Clinch had eight hits for the game, and left nine on base. Godfrey led the Clinch bats, going 2-for-2 with a double. Panthers with one hit Friday included King (double), Sage Delk, Denmark, Brown, Bennett, and Herlocker.

Denmark started on

the mound for Clinch, going two innings. He was relieved by Brown, then King finished the final inning.

This week, the 15-7 Panthers face Telfair County Monday at home, then go to Echols County Tuesday (6 p.m. start). Wednesday, the Panthers have a key region battle at home against Irwin County (4 p.m. start). The Panthers will then take the rest of the week off, playing next at Lanier County on Tuesday, April 14, at 6 p.m.



Clinch's Tate Denmark delivers a pitch to Charlton County Friday at Cecil Barber Field – Photo by Joy Sumner Photography.

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The Subway Spring Sports Player of the Week is

baseball's Joshua Delk.

Tuesday, Joshua got the win on the mound, striking out four. The next day, he went

3-for-4 at the plate.



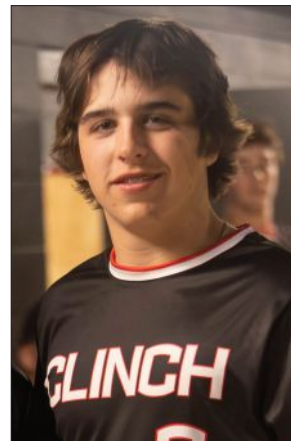
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Rayce Godfrey



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