

## Bulldog Sports



### Tennis Team Has Ups Downs 2-6

The Gardner Webb tennis team is having its ups and downs this season. Playing a very tough schedule has made its mark on the netters.

Recent wins over Mars Hill and Wofford, however, has given the team life. G-W defeated a very strong Wofford team by a score of 5-1. Tommy Bell has been the most impressive netter in recent matches. The wins have moved the tennis record to 2-6.

The doubles team of Larry Smith and Tommy Bell has been very successful for Coach James Taylor. Smith and Bell combined to defeat Mars Hills Peggs and Mallette by scores of

6-0 and 7-5 as G-W captured the match handily.

In Spartanburg, S.C., G-W defeated Wofford as Billy Walters and Tommy Bell came through for singles wins. Walters also teamed with Charles Nixon to win a doubles match.

### Track Team Drops Two Lacks Men

Track Coach Cole Proctor has led his team into 2 meets thus far this season. Composed mostly of football players, the track team has done well individually in first and second place but due to lack of participants has found itself lacking in other spots. Ken Long has been throwing the Shot Put well and Coleman Hunt has been impressive in the 100-yard dash. In the Broad Jump 22 feet in the field over against Catawba and North Carolina won the High Jump at 5' 10".

G-W dropped both the Wofford and Catawba contests. Coach Proctor feels the program will pick up and that the efforts will pay off in football next fall.

### Highly Sought 6-9, 215 lb.

### Florida Cager Signs With G-W

Kirby Thurston, 6-9, 215 pounds, one of the most sought after cagers in the state of Florida has signed a basketball grant-in-aid to Gardner-Webb College.

Thurston, along with teammate Alvin Jones, a 6-8 forward, inked the contracts this week and Gardner-Webb coach Eddie Holbrook expressed his elation over the signings.

"He's a super kid, I feel that he is one of the top prospects we've signed since I've been at Gardner-Webb," Holbrook said when questioned about Thurston. "If he plays like we think he can, this will allow us to move George (Adams) to a wing position and this should make us even stronger than we are this year," Holbrook continued.

Thurston was named "Player of the Year" in Florida by the Pompano Beach Sun Sentinel, the Fort Lauderdale News and the Miami Herald. He was also named to the first team All-State and Region IV All-Tournament squads in Florida.

Both Thurston and Jones averaged 20 points per game on a team which ended the season with a record of 28-2 and runner-up in the state championship before being beaten by West Stanley 33-31 in a hard fought defensive struggle.

"We were very impressed with Donald's outside shooting and ball handling," assistant coach Ron Hooper said. "Eddie Hooper, who was responsible for recruiting Elliott, said, 'It's not every day that you see a kid 6-6 who can bring the ball up court against the full court press and this really impressed me. Donald has real good size, speed and agility and has the potential to be an outstanding defensive player,'" Hooper continued.



Gardner-Webb's 1971 Baseball team are: front row, left to right: John Lipe, Mike Anthony, Ron Nee, David Heffner, Larry Sisk, Gary Mull, Terry Brewer, Larry Lecroy, David Jacobs, Gary Wiley, manager Jerry Costins. Second row, left to right: Head Coach Jerry Bryson, Joe Stepp, Bobby Lail, Johnny Phillips, Mike McDaniel, Joe Brown, Roger McSwain, Ron Lacy, managers Joe Jenkins and Danny Caldwell, assistant coach Joe Ellenburg.

### Competition Falls In Face Of Dogs Hitting & Pitching

Gardner-Webb College's baseball team is enjoying a great season. Gardner-Webb has compiled a great 15-2 record and is hoping for a berth in the district and national playoffs. Great pitching, hitting, and fielding have been the key to the success of Coach Jerry Bryson's club.

To single out one individual would be impossible since every player has contributed greatly to G-W's cause. Fitch-Perkins has been our greatest asset however. Of course when it comes to pitching at G-W, automatically you think of ace-hurler Bobby Lail. Lail, a left hander, has been absolutely superb thus far. Lail looked especially bright against Catawba College as he struck out 17 batters and captured G-W a 7-0 win.

Other pitchers who have played very well are Buddy Starnes and Johnny Phillips. Starnes is a sophomore from Charlotte, and Phillips is a junior from Greenville, S.C. Starnes looked good against Emory and Henry of Virginia in winning the first game of a double header here. Starnes pitched a one-

hitter and G-W captured a 17-3 win. Phillips came back in the second game and allowed only eight hits in capturing a 15-1 win. (Bob Lacy, another hurler has been coming on strong, also).

Hitting has been outstanding for G-W also. Roger McSwain won't get for 6 against Elon, Joe Brown, homered in the Emory and Henry game, and Joe Stepp, who blasted two out of the park against Emory and Henry. Larry Sisk and Mike Anthony have come on strong recently. Both homered against Emory and Henry, David Heffner, a freshman from Shelby has been a good hitter also.

In fielding G-W has gone almost unbeaten. Coach Bryson's team has shown to be a quick, and very smooth fielding team. John Lipe, a sophomore from Old Fort, N.C. has backed the plate very this season. Larry Lecroy scored twice against South Georgia Tech. He is a speedster and excellent baserunner.

Stepp, a strong hitter from Hickory, has earned a reputation as a "slugger" when facing opposing pitchers. Stepp is a

### Hannon, Way, Thompson Will Lead 71 Gridders

Two defensive stalwarts and an offensive quarterback will lead the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs into action during their second year of senior college competition on the gridiron. Leading the pack will be Lee Thompson, a 6-2, 220 pound linebacker from Mableton, Ga. Ray Sherrell, a 5-11, 175 pound quarterback from Greer, S.C., and Tommy Way, a 5-8, 193 pound defensive halfback from Augusta, Ga.

The Bulldogs, who are under junior college status, will be depending heavily on these young men to give them the leadership that is necessary for a young, inexperienced squad.

"It usually takes a couple of years to get your program underway when you move from junior college into senior college competition and we feel fortunate to have three outstanding players such as these to lead our team," Head Coach George Litton said when announcing the selection of the captains.

Two of these boys, Thompson and Way, transferred from Junior College where Litton was head coach before accepting the Gardner-Webb post.

"We think that Lee Thompson is as good a linebacker as there is in this area," he has said. "He led our team in tackles last year and we're expecting him to have another great year. He led our team in sacks last year and we're confident. 'His quickness and agility made him

good long-ball hitter and has proved to be a most effective player at the plate.

Bobby Lail has lost only one game in his 3 year pitching career at G-W and centerfielder Roger McSwain seems to improve his hitting percentage in each game. Bryson's squad has really started clicking on the last stretch before the playoffs. With some very important games left on the schedule, including home games with Guilford and Wake Forest, G-W has a good chance of getting into post season play.

### Stubbs Signs Is Good All Purpose Man

Bill Stubbs, a 5-11, 195 pound offensive guard from Bennettsville, S.C., has signed a football grant-in-aid to attend Gardner-Webb College.

Stubbs lettered four years as a member of the Bennettsville High School football team and was named to the first team SAA-A All-Conference and Coastal Plains All-Star teams. He was also a member of the track team where he set a new school record in the shot-put and finished third in the state his junior year.

Aside from being an offensive guard and defensive linebacker, Bill also handled kickoff and extra point chores for Bennettsville.

"We're certainly pleased to have Bill. He has tremendous speed and quickness and we feel he can be his very best." George Litton, head football coach at Gardner-Webb said. "I'm glad Bill signed with us. Bennettsville High School coach Fred Bradley said, 'He has great speed and a tremendous desire to excel,' he continued.

### GW Signs Top Guard

He is 6-0 and weighs 165 pounds. His high school coach was Gary Sherrell.

Ellis has been chosen to play in the annual East-West High School game in August of this summer in Greensboro. His high school game accomplishments include: Player of the Year in North Piedmont Conference; averaged 29.3 points per game; set conference single game scoring record with 31 points; played in a conference tournament; leading scorer in tournament with 40 points per game; played in National Class-I Tournament setting scoring record with 35 points; made 19-20 field goals in game; set Sentinel All Northwest team; averaged 19.6 points per game in 68 high school conference games; set team free throw line.

"Although Ray Hannon is only a junior, his teammates certainly recognize his outstanding leadership ability," Litton said. "Ray started our offense last year and we feel that as a tri-captain he will do us well into our performance this year." Litton explained.

One of the top high school guard prospects in North Carolina, Billy Ellis, of South Fredale High School, has signed a basketball grant-in-aid with Gardner-Webb College.

Coach Eddie Holbrook, basketball coach, was well pleased with the decision of Ellis to sign with the Bulldogs.

"Billy can score, but we were equally impressed with his ballhandling, speed, usefulness and burning desire to win," said Holbrook. He has a real winning attitude, a real style of play, both offensively and defensively. He has a real winning attitude which is a must with our team."

Holbrook said the young athlete had been contacted by more than 20 colleges. He