

# Clover Star Signs With USC

Ann Gardner, 6-0 center for the Clover High School basketball team, has signed a grant-in-aid to play basketball at the University of South Carolina.

Gardner is the daughter of Carolyn Jonas Dailey, former ly of Kings Mountain, and the granddaughter of Dot and Jim Jonas of Kings Mountain.

Watching as Gardner signed with the Lady Gamecocks were he mother, her high school coach Sheila Stewart, UNC Coach Nancy Wilson, and Clover Athletic Director Mike O'Shields.

Gardner said playing college ball was something she's work for since the ninth grade and praised her teammates and coach for making her dream come true.

"It's always been a goal of mine to play basketball in college," she said. "Now I feel like the pressure is off and I can concentrate on this season."

Gardner becomes Clover High's first female athlete to play college basketball on the Division I level. She averaged 10.1 points and 9.1 rebounds per game last year in helping Clover to the state 3-A playoffs.

Gardner also plays volleyball and softball at Clover and has lettered in all three sports since the ninth grade. When she closes out her high school career, she will have 12 letters.

Gardner said she had received 46 letters from colleges and universities and had narrowed her choices to



**INKS WITH USC** - Ann Gardner, senior center at Clover High School, last week inked a basketball grant-in-aid with the University of South Carolina. Gardner and her Clover teammates will be at the KMHS gym Thursday night to battle the Kings Mountain girls in their season's opener.

South Carolina, North Carolina, Missouri, Marshall and Minnesota. She narrowed that list down to UNC and USC and said she chose South Carolina because she was so

## Ken Alexander

From Page 6-B

Poston, who led Cherryville's Ironmen to the State 2-A championship a couple of years ago, expects to see a lot of action as a sophomore forward at N.C. State this season...

Some fans from Brevard blamed the officiating for the Blue Devils' 17-14 loss to Kings Mountain in the first round of the State 3-A playoffs.

An article in last week's Transylvania Times said some Brevard fans criticized the officials (three from the Southwestern Conference and three from the Western Athletic Conference) who "frequently huddled up" after throwing flags which made the game "chaotic and jerky."

The fans, the article said, noted in particular the last play of the first half, when Brevard was penalized 15 yards with no time remaining, allowing Kings Mountain's Rusty Bumgardner to kick a 43-yard field goal which eventually was the winning margin.

But Coach Frank Robinson of the Blue Devils defended the officials and said the controversial calls they made were correct. "You can say what you want to about the officiating, but we had a chance to win and didn't so we only have ourselves to blame. We have to understand that we lost the ballgame, not the officials," Robinson was quoted as saying.

The call on the last play of the half was a defensive block below the waist. Coach Robinson said the penalty was established several years ago to eliminate chop blocks except in the free-blocking zone (three yards on either side of the ball). It allows only interior linemen and those that tackle the runner to block below the waist. Robinson said he has only seen the penalty called twice in 28 years of coaching.

Another call which upset Brevard fans, according to the paper, was an illegal participation call which nullified a long pass from Jeff Bailey to George Wike. Officials ruled that Brevard receiver Steven Penn stepped on the out-of-bounds line and then returned to the playing field to make a block on the play.

The paper said many Brevard fans are writing Dick Knox of the NCHSAA about the officiating in the game.

Norris Jones, western N.C. booking agent, defended the referees and said that communication problems aren't that unusual in playoff games because officials who aren't used to working with each other are assigned. Jones said only class 1 and 2 officials are allowed to call playoff games.

"We always have this problem at playoffs, but the officials have called many scrimmages, games, attending meetings, and have had many years in the association," he said. "There was plenty experience on the field, that's for sure."

Jones said the state is considering going to neutral crews in playoffs, using officials who are used to working with each other and who have not called games involving either team during the regular season.

## Stores To Give Awards

Winn Dixie Stores in North and South Carolina have announced that they will start a new award for the most valuable offensive and defensive players in the Shrine Bowl.

A thousand dollars will be donated to the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Greenville in honor of each most valuable player. In addition to the \$2,000 gift, \$500 will be given for the Hospital's Christmas party.

Brendle's Department Stores will be providing gifts for each child.

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impressed with the coaching staff.

Coach Stewart said Gardner had improved ever since her freshman year. "She's a hard worker and has spent almost every summer playing basketball," Stewart said. "She has a great attitude and personality and is an excellent role model."

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