

SIGNS WITH A&T - Kings Mountain High football player Johnny Surratt signs a national letter of intent with North Carolina A&T University on the first day of signing Wednesday. Looking on, left to right, are KMHS offensive line coach Dave Farquharson, Surratt's parents, Johnny and Rita Surratt, and KMHS head football coach Ron Massey.

GWU to host SAC tournament

Gardner-Webb University committee that is planning the 1997 Food Lion Men's and Women's South Atlantic Conference Basketball Tournament has revealed a number of activities that are sure to please fans who attend the event February 26-March 1 on the GWU campus.

Included in the special guests who will attend are the Carolinas Panthers' cheerleaders, the "Top Cats," and the Panthers' mascot, "Sir Purr," who will both give halftime performances and sign autographs for the young and old alike. Appearances by a number of Panthers players are pending

Also, "A Night of Champions" is being planned during which several area high school football teams who won state championships will be honored by a member of the NFL World Champion Green Bay Packers who was featured sign autographs and mingle with fans throughout his visit.

Committee members also advise fans to come prepared to be caught on camera, as jumbosized screens around the arena will catch all the on-the-court action as well as the activity in the stands. Roving cameras at all corners of the court will ensure that no matter where you sit, you won't miss a moment of the tournament's festivities.

Each day and night of the tournament will feature special opportunities for groups to enjoy the action. Church youth groups and YMCA members are being personally invited for their involvement, and rallies for Fellowship of Christian Athletes members and those involved with Girl Scouts are also being planned to coincide with the tournament, making for large crowds and plenty of noise. Food Lion, who lends its name and sponsorship to the in the post-Super Bowl issue of Sports Illustrated. That player is GWU about getting its employ-

BOILING SPRINGS - The also making arrangements to ees far and wide to the game for special recognition, according to the office of Tom Smith, CEO of Food Lion.

Prizes and luxury items are being prepared for giveaways and student groups from the individual campuses are being contacted about how they can benefit from attending. A spe-

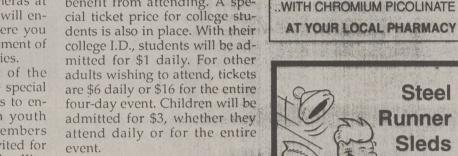
about this tournament."

John Hill's hit lifts G-W over Armstrong

SAVANNAH, GA. - Senior John Hill's two-out, two-run single in the 10th inning sparked Gardner-Webb to a season-opening 6-4 win over Armstrong State Atlantic

The Bulldogs rallied to tie the score at 4-4 in the eighth on an RBI double by junior Brad Cuttino. Gardner-Webb squelched two bases-loaded situations in the sixth and eighth with inning-ending double

The Bulldogs were led offen-sively by freshman Jason RBI performance.



Matt Webber, director of Gardner-Webb public relations and a planning committee member, said, "It's coming together as a spectacular four-day event. We want fans of the South Atlantic Conference schools to come away with a sense of pride and excitement

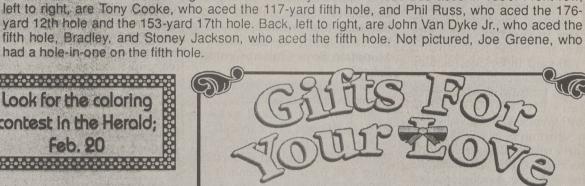


had a hole-in-one on the fifth hole.

Look for the coloring contest in the Herold;

Feb. 20

ALL NATURAL T-UTE

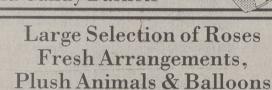


ACE GOLFERS - Keith Bradley, owner of Golfer's Choice in Kings Mountain, presented hole-inone awards to members of Kings Mountain Country Club who recorded aces in 1996. Front row,

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New Gardner-Webb coach signs 12 prospects to team

football Coach Steve Patton has announced the signing of 12 prospects to the 1997 recruiting class, including eight freshmen, three transfers and one returning player, linebacker Ty Byars, a former all-state performer at Gaffney High.

Three talented transfers include defensive end Casey Allen of North Mecklenburg High, who transferred from South Carolina; Brian Brooks, defensive end from Burns and NC State; and James Tippins from Middle Georgia College.

The eight high school players signed combined to play on seven state championship team. Quarterback Jamie Smith led Crest to the North Carolina 4-A

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Gardner-Webb University state championship, and quarterback Bill McCall and linebacker Styrone Miller led Berkeley, SC High to the South Carolina 4-A titles in 1995 and

> Abbeville High lineman Corey Burton has a state title under his belt, and lineman Jeff Smith led Bandys High to the North Carolina 2-A championship game. Other signees include line-

man Corey Burton, who led Abbeville, SC High to the 1996 state 2-A title, linebacker Kareem Mitchell Summerville, SC, defensive back Marco Patterson of Lancaster, SC, and running back Justin Richardson of Garner,

Kings Mtn. Truck Stop

Restaurant

I-85 and Dixon School Rd.

Saturday.

Walker with a pair of doubles, catcher Wes Gentry with 2-for-4 and an RBI double, Cuttino's 2for-5 effort with a run-scoring double, and Hill's 3-for-5, three

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