

"Building Communicative Bridges  
in a Tri-Racial Setting"

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## WEST ROBESON

### GROUND BREAKING A REALITY



### Annual Unity Conference Speakers



Governor Jim Hunt was one of the speakers at the Seventh Annual Indian Unity Conference held March 4-6 in Raleigh. He is shown addressing the assemblage during the 2nd day of the conference. The theme for the conference was "Building a Better Future Through Indian Unity." (Sarah Lucas photo)



Dr. Joseph Oxendine of Temple University was one of the main speakers at the Seventh Annual Indian Unity Conference which convened in Raleigh March 4-6. Oxendine, Lumbree, was one of the many Indian advocates in attendance. (Sarah Lucas photo)

Making history in Robeson County March 9, groundbreaking ceremonies were held on the site of West Robeson High School. Speaking on behalf of the Town of Maxton was Mayor Mac Henderson. Acknowledging the occasion for the Prospect area was Harbert Moore. There were no officials present from the town of Pembroke. Superintendent Purnell Swett introduced Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners, Carl Britt (shown left); Commissioner of the Pembroke-Maxton-Smiths District Herman Dial; David Green, Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Education. Purnell Swett, shown right, Superintendent of the Robeson County School System.

Other notables in attendance included Paul Graham, county manager; Roy Maynor, Principal of Pembroke Senior High School; James A. Jones, principal of Prospect School; John McNeill, assistant principal of Maxton High School; members of the Robeson County Board of Education: Peto Clark; E.B. Morton; Rufus Graham; Lillian Locklear; David Green; Gerald Maynor and Laymon Locklear. In addition the members of the advisory councils of the three schools were also represented. (An Elmer Hunt photo)

### Dr. Chavis named to Block Grant Committee

Governor Jim Hunt recently announced his appointments to the Governor's Advisory Committee on Education Block Grants, designating Rep. Ed Holmes of Pittsboro, attorney for the Chatham County School Board, to serve as chairman of the committee.

The Committee will advise the State Board of Education on the allocation of federal block grant funds reserved for state use and on the formula for allocation of funds to local school systems. It will also advise the board on the planning, development and evaluation of state programs that receive block grant funds.

Federal legislation establishing the education block grant program requires an advisory committee, appointed by the Governor.

Dr. Jim Chavis of Pembroke, vice chancellor for student affairs at Pembroke State University has been named a member. He is a member of the State Board of Education.

### Miss Pembroke Jr. High Pageant set for March 19

The 1982 Miss Pembroke Junior High Pageant will be held at Pembroke State University's Performing Arts Center on Friday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m. Contestants for the pageant are Miss Edith Ann Frazier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Neal C. Frazier of Rowland who will sing "Leaving on My Mind;" Miss Collette Renee Dial, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Dial of Maxton rendering a piano selection entitled "Lose Blatter, Flying Leaves;" Miss Kimberly Oxendine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Heavied Oxendine of Pembroke who will perform a creative dance to the song "Heaven Must Have Sent You;" Miss Delind Maynor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Maynor of Lumberton who will sing "The Rose;" Miss Bobbie Gail Locklear, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Locklear of Pembroke who will sing "If;" Miss Stephanie Locklear, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benford Lowry, Jr. who will render a piano selection entitled "Fur Wise;" Miss Paula Kaye Chavis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Farlin Chavis of Pembroke who will sing "The Sweetest Thing;" Miss Flynnette Brewington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Flynn Brewington who will play a selection on the flute entitled "Fiddler on the Roof;" Miss Wendy Lynn Blue, daughter of Mr. Jackie Ray Blue who will sing "Tomorrow;" and Miss Michelle Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grady C. Harris of Pembroke who will sing and play on the piano "It Was Almost Like a Song."

Judges for the pageant will be Miss Dehaeva Drake, a former PSU music major; Mrs. Marilyn Hunt, librarian at Robeson Technical College; Mr. Phillip McRae, a Laurinburg attorney; Mrs. Patricia Pierce, a specialist in learning disabilities at Oxendine School; and Mrs. Alice Revels, a cosmetologist who resides in the Saddletree area.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend this very special annual event. The admission fee is \$3.00.

### Hilly Branch name change Part of Board of Education Deliberations

The Robeson County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday afternoon. They decided that effective July 1, 1982 the name of the Hilly Branch Vocational Center will be changed to the Robeson County Career Center. They accepted the audit report for the 1980-81 school year by S. Preston Douglas and Associates at the last meeting. They also accepted that firm for services for the 1982-83 school year.

The board endorsed the NC 2000 Project, co chaired by Dr. Norma Jean Thompson and Tommy D. Swett. They authorized the distribution of questionnaires relative to that project to students in grades 1-6.

Mr. Archie Oxendine, coordinator of the Community Schools Program for the county, gave a challenge to the board members to adopt a school. The program comes under the umbrella of the Community Schools project and is concerned with volunteers into the schools. Mr. Oxendine reported that many agencies, such as the Robeson County Sheriff's Department, has adopted the entire school system. The program urges civic organizations, public agencies and individuals to adopt the school in their community and volunteer their services to the educational project.

He promised the board that if they would each volunteer 50 hours to a school that they would be eligible to receive one of 72 T-shirts that will be distributed to volunteers in the spring.



Contestants for the Miss Pembroke Junior High Pageant, shown left to right, are: Flynnette Brewington, Paula Chavis, Collette Dial, Delind Maynor, Bobbie Gail Locklear, Michelle Harris, Kim Oxendine, Wendy Blue, Edith Frazier and Stephanie Locklear. (An Elmer Hunt photo)

### Robeson County Democratic Party Elections Tonight

An election is scheduled tonight, March 11 in all Robeson County precincts at 8 p.m. for the purpose of selecting delegates to the Robeson County Democratic Convention, according to Bobby Freeman, County-Democrat Chairman.

The convention is planned for April 3 at the Robeson County Court House, convening at 1 p.m.

The election will be held in each of the precincts' respective polling places.

Freeman urges all Democratic Party members to participate in this election.

Pembroke's election will be held at the Pembroke Junior High School. Chairman Milton Hunt invites all Democrats to participate.

### Rev. T.M. Swett "Doing Well"

Reports that the Rev. T.M. Swett has had a heart attack or a stroke are unfounded. Rev. Swett is at home resting and "doing well." He is keeping up with his endless duties via telephone.

Rev. Swett is the pastor of Bear Swamp Baptist Church. He has been performing ministerial duties for many many years and, reportedly, has no intention of slowing down although he is 83 years of age.

### PEMBROKE STUDENTS WIN HONORS



The Forestry Team of Pembroke Senior High School won second place in the North Robeson Federation held in Lumberton recently. Shown left to right the members are Donald Oxendine, Kent Cummings, Scotty Locklear. Not pictured is Marty Brayboy. The team will compete May 7 at Bladen Technical Institute. (Photo by Michael Harvey)



The Land Judging Team of Pembroke Senior High School won first place in the North Robeson Federation held recently in the Barville area. Shown left to right they are David Wayne Jacobs, Robert Locklear, Kent Cummings and Scott Locklear. The team will compete again in April in Lenoir County. (Michael Harvey photo)

### GOP cites possible violation of law

FAYETTEVILLE — The state Republican Party's "truth squad" questioned Tuesday whether the Tobacco Growers Information Committee Inc. violated federal election laws during the campaign of U.S. Rep. Charles G. Rose III, D-N.C.

Ed Johnson, head of the "truth squad," and Tom Gibson, a Lumberton Democrat, joined state GOP chairman David Flaherty in contending that the committee may have violated federal election laws by distributing a copy of a letter about a fund-raiser scheduled by Rose in December.

The Republicans contended that Reggie Lester, head of the tobacco group, may have acted improperly in distributing copies of a letter about the fund-raiser that were sent to him by John Merritt, Rose's administrative aide.

The Republican group made the allegations during a news conference in front of Rose's Fayetteville office.

Johnson told reporters that the GOP "truth squad" had made no attempt to investigate the allegations or questions it had raised.

Merritt called the allegations a joke. "We didn't ask TGIC to do anything," he said.

Merritt said he sent the letter to Lester, a friend, to inform him of the upcoming fund-raiser and to ask his help in contacting officials of the Tobacco People's Public Affairs Committee, a registered political action committee.

Lester said he made copies of Merritt's letter and sent it to about 75 people on his group's mailing list. Merritt's letter said no contribution was necessary to attend, Lester said.

"It was not an attempt to endorse his re-election nor to solicit funds for his re-election," Lester said. "It was distributed openly and simply as a matter of information."

