



Editorial and Opinion Page

Politics, PSU and LRDA

The filing deadline is Monday, February 5, 1996. At 12 noon on that day the voters of Robeson County will know who is running for which position. The race for the Register of Deeds office seems to be one of the most crowded. Maybe it has to do with the announcement of Joe B. Freeman that he won't seek reelection. It is going to be an interesting race with candidates from all three distinct races vying for the position. We will be watching that one with interest, especially since we keep hearing that our former sheriff, Hubert Stone, is "campaigning" for one (or two) candidates. We are always skeptical whenever we hear that the infamous ex sheriff is involved. We suspect that he continues to play old political games from days gone by. With two Indians, a Black and a white in that race, it is not hard to figure out which candidate is Hubert's choice. The game is called "Divide and Conquer" and it worked very well in Hubert's early years as ruler of the political game. Voters should not forget so easily, the former sheriff's "reign of terror" in Robeson County. Indian people, especially, should remember that the sheriff's son, Kevin, killed Jimmy Earl Cummings in 1986 and was promoted to a position as a federal marshal. We certainly want to continue to progress and have all political offices in this county be reflective of the population, of which Indians are the majority. Remember the past. Those who forget it are condemned to repeat it.

Dr. Adolph L. Dial's replacement on the PSU Board of Trustees should be announced soon. We hope that the man or woman who fills that position will remember that PSU is one of the largest employers in the county. We hope that they will encourage Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine to make the racial make up of employees reflect the racial makeup of the area. As we scrutinize the racial breakdown of employees at the University, we are saddened and disappointed in the hiring practices of our chancellor. While we realize that the Board of Trustees do not hire, we encourage them to take a serious look at the racial

breakdown in employees. While the chancellor and others have reminded us that PSU is NOT an Indian University, we remind them that neither is PSU a WHITE university. We encourage both chancellor and the board of trustees to become more active in minority recruitment and hiring of faculty and staff.

We also publicly make this suggestion on the name of the new administration building. We would like to see the building named in honor of the Indians who laid the foundation for that prestigious institution. It does not matter which name you call it, the history, heritage and foundation of the University won't change. We all know that the history, heritage and foundation is Indian. Therefore, we would recommend that the new administration be called the Lumbee Administration Building in honor and respect for the rich, unique and historic foundation of what is now PSU.

In years past we have seen buildings named for individuals. One building in particular on the campus, Givens Performing Arts Center, named for a person who did no more than serve as Chancellor. And in our opinion, he was not an outstanding Chancellor. We rate him as mediocre, if that good. Nevertheless, they named the performing arts center, which by the way, was already there when he came, after Paul Givens. That sounds petty and self-serving and did not lift Paul Givens up, or add any respect, to our already low opinion of him. Now there is a new administration building and the old one has been torn down. The old building was named for Oscar Sampson who was one of the earlier founders of which we spoke earlier. So, they tore that one down, and did not just transfer the name to the new building which is what happened with the Mary Livermore Library. Certainly we are not suggesting that the Livermore Library should not maintain that name. We simply question why the Sampson name was not transferred to the new administration building. Somehow, it leaves one to wonder if perhaps the reason is that Oscar Sampson was Indian. The point is, names seem to get lost, especially Indian names at

PSU. We cannot imagine why with an Indian chancellor, these things happen. We encourage Dr. Oxendine and say publicly to him, there is nothing wrong with being Indian. There is nothing wrong with recruiting and hiring Indians. There is nothing wrong with preserving the rich Indian heritage that is a part of our history and our pride. We hope that our Board of Trustees as well as our Chancellor will consider our suggestion on the name of the new administration building, as well as our suggestion on the recruitment and hiring of Indians at PSU. It is the right thing to do, based on the population of our county and based on the fact that PSU is one of the largest employers in the county.

According to LRDA's news letter, that agency has set some positive goals for 1996. Among their goals, as announced, "Implement the use of the Lumbee Tribal Rolls in future elections for the N.C. Commission of Indians Affairs and the LRDA Board elections for the tribe." We find this encouraging. We have suggested that the board hold elections and the addition of using the tribal rolls, in our opinion, is an indication that the board is serious about improving their public image and in allowing people to participate and feel a part of the agency that purports to serve them. We commend LRDA for the establishing of these positive goals and encourage them to follow through on them. It is the right thing to do. People should always have the opportunity to elect, vote for or against, those who serve them.

Pediatric Pointers

by Dr. Joseph T. Bell
Pediatrician with Robeson Health Care



Allergic contact dermatitis (ACD) is an inflammation of the skin caused by the skin coming in contact with a substance it is sensitive to. ACD affects young and old and can be seen in kids as young as one week old! It is estimated that up to 20% of all rashes in kids are ACD. The most common source of ACD in this country by far is poison ivy, oak and sumac. Other common sources include jewelry (with nickel), certain tanned shoes, topical creams, soaps, perfumes, cosmetics and lotions (with lanolin). Rashes to these agents usually appear within hours to days, depending on how potent the substance is.

The rash of ACD is usually itchy and located at the site of contact to the skin. Potent substances like poison ivy and nickel cause intense inflammation rashes with redness, swelling and blisters. Less potent substances cause mild inflammation with slight redness, scaling and scratch-induced thickening of the skin.

ACDs are usually localized to certain areas of the body. For example, non-clothed exposed areas of skin (arms, legs and face) are common sites for poison ivy. The neck, earlobes and waist are common sites for nickel jewelry and belt buckles. Of course the feet is the site of shoe dermatitis.

Treatment of ACD involves removing whatever is causing the rash. Most simple ACD also responds well to topical steroid creams such as hydrocortisone (Cortaid). For more severe cases, a doctor may want to give a shot or prescribe several days of oral steroids to reduce the inflammation. Even without treatment, most ACDs will resolve in 2 weeks.

So that's allergic contact dermatitis in a nutshell. One recommendation--a good way to avoid the most common cause of ACD, poison ivy, is to teach your kids how to recognize the plant. Remember, avoidance is the best prevention.



Notice of a Corridor Public Hearing on Alternate Locations for the Proposed Relocations of US 74 from the Maxton Bypass to NC 41

Project 6.469002T R-513 Robeson County
The North Carolina Department of Transportation will hold the above public hearing on February 8, 1996 at 7:30 PM at the Purnell Swett High School cafeteria, SR 1339 near Pembroke.

The hearing will consist of an explanation of the proposed alternate locations, right of way requirements and procedures, and relocation advisory assistance. The hearing will be open to those present for statements, questions, comments, and/or submittal of material pertaining to the proposed project. Additional materials may be submitted for a period of 15 days from the date of the hearing to: C.B. Goode, Jr., P.E. at P.O. Box 25201, Raleigh, NC 27611.

Under this project, it is proposed to improve US 74 to a four lane divided facility with controlled access between the Maxton Bypass and NC 41. Two build alternatives will be presented for public comments at this hearing. One will upgrade the existing US 74 to freeway standards. The preferred alternative will construct US 74 on new location from the Maxton Bypass to I-95 and upgrade existing US 74 from I-95 to NC 41. Additional right of way and the relocation of homes and businesses will be required for this project.

Prior to the public hearing, between the hours of 5 PM and 7 PM on February 8 at the Purnell Swett High School, Department of Transportation representatives will be available to provide project information and answer questions for the public. Interested individuals may attend this session at their convenience during these hours.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Mr. C.B. Goode, Jr., P.E. at P.O. Box 25201, Raleigh, NC 27611 or phone 919-250-4092.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment describing the project and a map setting forth the proposed alternate routes are available for public review at the Department of Transportation's District Office on NC 711, one mile from NC 72 at Lumberton.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services for disabled persons who wish to participate in the meeting to comply with the American Disabilities Act. To receive special services, please contact Mr. Goode at the above address or phone number or fax 919-250-4208 to provide adequate notice prior to the date of the hearing so that arrangements can be made.

NOVEMBER 5, 1996 STATE GENERAL ELECTIONS:

"REGISTERED, QUALIFIED VOTERS"
ROBESON, HOKE, AND SCOTLAND COUNTIES-DISTRICT 87

TO "VOTE AND ELECT" FRANCES M. CUMMINGS
FOR THE NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES...
ROBESON COUNTY: "SHADE THE OVAL"
HOKE AND SCOTLAND: "PULL THE LEVER" NEXT TO THE NAME
"FRANCES M. CUMMINGS"

DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS, INDEPENDENTS,
DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH MEMBERS, AND MINISTERS
OF "THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST":

LET US "PRAY" FOR "WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING"
SO OUR MINDS WILL BE "ACTIVE AND OVERFLOW" WITH
"UNLIMITED WISDOM" TO "VOTE AND ELECT" A
"WISE AND HONEST" CANDIDATE FOR DISTRICT 87.

WE ARE TO REMEMBER: THERE IS NO "BIRTH CERTIFICATE"
WITH THE NAME DEMOCRAT OR REPUBLICAN. THEREFORE,
"VOTE AND ELECT" THE NAME OF THE CANDIDATE.

THE SCRIPTURE SAYS:

JER. 23:1-- "WOE BE UNTO THE PASTORS WHO LEAD MY SHEEP ASTRAY."
ISAIAH 8:6--"FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, AND THE GOVERNMENT SHALL
BE ON HIS SHOULDERS"--WHICH BE THE "HOLY WORD."
JOHN 1:14--"IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE 'WORD' AND THE 'WORD' WAS
MADE FLESH AND DWELLED AMONG US."--(JESUS CHRIST).

THEREFORE, WHENEVER THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST INDWELLS IN A "LEGISLATOR" OF THE NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ALL "REVISED AND NEW STATE LAWS" WILL BE FOR A "PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE."

THE HONORABLE FRANCES MCARTHUR CUMMINGS--
OUR "WISE, BEAUTIFUL, AND HEALTHY STATE REPRESENTATIVE"
HAS NOT CHANGED HER "VISION FOR THE FUTURE" AND STILL
"HOLDS THE KEY TO PROGRESSIVE PROSPERITY" FOR ALL PEOPLE.

REPRESENTATIVE CUMMINGS HAS "ALWAYS SUPPORTED A HOUSE BILL
WHICH BE FAVORABLE FOR DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS, & INDEPENDENTS."

STATE REP. CUMMINGS LOOKS "NOT" AT THE LEGISLATOR'S "POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION" IN NORTH CAROLINA (DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL PARTY OR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY), BUT RATHER, "AT THE HOUSE BILL."

LET OUR CONSCIENCE BE "OUR VOICE AND GUIDE"
AND THE "LOVE OF PEACE" BE WITH US. AMEN.

Written by Yvonne Maria Leow

Paid for by Cummings for NC House Committee