

# Editorial And Opinion Page



## AS I SEE IT

Bruce Barton

### UNC-Pembroke seeks new image

PEMBROKE-There's a wonderful article in Wednesdays (Apr. 4) *Fayetteville Observer* entitled *UNCP seeks new image*. I guess that's needed but one statement caused me to run up my red flag. The article noted that Chancellor Allen Meadors wants the university to "break away from the label of an Indian school. He said UNCP welcomes all students, including Indians, from all over the country."

That's good ... up to a point. I don't see anyone, however, talking about Fayetteville State University backing away from its black roots, nor have I read anything lately where UNC-Chapel Hill, for instance, is decrying its white identification or heritage.

Before I cast my aspersion though, let me say that I think Dr. Meadors is generally doing a wonderful job at UNC-P. He is open, and interested in collaboration. One of his suggestions, *The Speaker's Series*, and the revised concert series, have been wonderful, and well received by the community. I look forward, for instance, to hearing Col. Oliver North on the 10th at the Givens PAC. And I cannot remember when I enjoyed anything as much as musicians Doc Watson, David Holt and Richard Watson (Doc's grandson) recently in concert at the Givens PAC.

But I believe Dr. Meadors doth protest too much about the Indian tag. The university, in my opinion, needs to actively recruit Indian students big time. UNC-P is losing many of the best of the Indian students to Chapel Hill and other schools near and far. I don't see many programs specifically tailored to Indian students at UNC-P, nor do I see recruiters actively pursuing them. They ought to!

Yes, UNC-P needs a new image, but the school must never forget, nor shunt aside, it's glorious "Indian" past. Croatan Normal School, the forerunner of UNC-P, and all of its antecedents, came into being because the then powers that be would not provide an education for Indian children. Period. That fact is why we now have UNC-Pembroke. The schools' Indian past and present and future should be showcased, highlighted, and treated as a strength, not necessarily a hindrance as the article would have one infer.

I can never repay "the college" for all it has done for me. This Indian is a proud UNC-P alumnus, and fervently supports and commends the school to all, especially Indians.

# Along The Robeson Trail

by Dr. Stan Knick, Director, UNCP Native American Resource Center

Once upon a time in America there was a place called "the Indian territory." The term was not used to refer to all the lands which had truly been occupied by Native Americans — that would have to include everywhere in North and South America. "The Indian territory" was used to refer to that place to which the United States government removed Indian people.

"The Indian territory" began as a larger area, but eventually came to cover almost all of what is now Oklahoma (by the way, *oklahoma* means "red people" in the Muskogean Choctaw language). After the United States purchased from the French what was called "Louisiana" (in 1803), including all the lands from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada and from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains, someone came up with the idea of moving the Indian people who remained in the eastern United States to these new lands (ultimately removals would happen not only from the east, but from other parts of the U. S. as well). The very next year the U. S. Congress enacted a law which made it "legal" to remove Indian people from their traditional homelands. By 1830 Congress felt that it was necessary to act again to speed the removal process, and so it passed the "Indian Removal Act."

The lands of the Louisiana Purchase lying west of what had be-

come Missouri and Arkansas came to be known as "the Indian territory," and soon a hundred thousand Indians were "resettled" there. The treaties which accompanied the removal of these people typically called for these lands to belong to the Indians forever. The treaties often said that these lands would never become part of, nor under the jurisdiction of, any State without the permission of the Native Americans. Among those removed to "the Indian territory" by 1889 were members of the following nations: Quapaw, Peoria, Modoc, Shawnee, Ottawa, Wyandot, Seneca; Osage, Kansa, Pawnee, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Oto, Caddo, Sauk and Fox, Potawatomi, Wichita, Comanche, Kiowa, Apache, and the so-called "Five Civilized Tribes" (Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, Seminole and Cherokee).

The largest parts of "the Indian territory" were given to the largest of the removed Indian nations, the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Cherokee. As it turned out, the tribal governments of these nations (plus the Seminole) chose to support the Confederacy in the Civil War, a decision which would prove costly. After the Civil War, the federal government proclaimed that the treaties it had with these Indian nations were no longer valid because these five nations had sided with the South. New treaties were developed

which took lands away from these nations.

With the passage of the "General Indian Allotment Act" in 1887, most of the removed Indian nations began to lose further lands from "the Indian territory." In 1889 the government set up a federal court over the Indians at Muskogee, and opened the so-called "unassigned" lands in the middle of "Indian territory" to settlement by non-Indians. In 1890, the government established Oklahoma Territory, and by 1893 the only lands still officially part of "the Indian territory" were those held onto by the "Five Civilized Tribes" and the small reservations in the extreme northeast of what is now Oklahoma (Quapaw, Peoria, Modoc, Shawnee, Ottawa, Wyandot and Seneca). By 1898 allotment was underway even in these lands, and "the Indian territory" faded more rapidly. Despite the efforts of some leaders of the "Five Civilized Tribes" to set up a separate state for themselves in 1905 (it would have been called "Sequoyah"), the state of Oklahoma was established in 1907 and "the Indian territory" slipped into the history books.

For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in historic Old Main Building, on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke (our Internet address is [www.uncp.edu/nativemuseum](http://www.uncp.edu/nativemuseum)).



### Save Up On Shipping Out

(NAPS)—For many holiday shoppers, wrapping and sending gifts can end up costing almost as much as the gifts themselves. Fortunately, a new type of Internet retail service is giving shoppers more of what they've been looking for: free shipping.



The best things in life are free—including shipping from an online retail site.

In addition to thousands of name brands at discount prices, BrandsForLess.com offers such services as "real time" chat, e-mail and phone service with customer representatives—24 hours a day, 7 days a week—and free shipping anywhere in the United States.

"BrandsForLess.com already offers the 'best-of-brands' at great prices to online shoppers," said George Russell, president and CEO of BrandsForLess.com. "Real-Time customer service now solves one of the major problems consumers have with online shopping, which is receiving personal help in finding and purchasing items online."

By clicking on the Holiday Shopping Assistance icon, customers may enjoy a personalized shopping experience and get immediate answers to their questions.

To find out more, visit the website at [www.brandsforless.com](http://www.brandsforless.com).

Be not afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living, and your belief will help create the fact. —William James

## Sundiata: The Lion King of Mali

The Givens Performing Arts Center on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke will present the national tour of the Theatreworks/USA production of *Sundiata: The Lion King of Mali* on Tuesday, April 24 at 7:00 pm.

*Sundiata: The Lion King of Mali* is a vibrant musical weaving together African rhythms, music, dance, puppets and masks, and is based on the inspiring African folk tale about a boy who leads his people to freedom. A fun and exciting musical for the entire family.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children and students. For reservations and more information, call the GPAC box office at (910) 521-6361 or (800) 367-0778. *Sundiata: The Lion King of Mali* is sponsored in-part by McDonald's of Lumberton.

## New Book

(NAPS)—"Clearing the Air," describes the policies and politics of what we might expect from the Bush Administration. Widely respected among Republicans, "free market environmentalism" is anticipated to be the new strategy implemented by a Bush EPA.

"Clearing the Air" documents Becky Dunlop's tenure as Secretary of Natural Resources for the state of Virginia. For four years, Becky Norton Dunlop worked to improve air and water quality in her state and others while battling Carol Browner, Vice President Albert Gore, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

"This is a great state government book," says Alexis de Tocqueville Institution President Ken Brown. "It offers a positive alternative—and shows how new approaches can bring about environmental improvement."

For more information, visit [www.adti.net](http://www.adti.net).



The heaviest rainfall ever recorded for a 24-hour period occurred on the tropical island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean. The town of Cilaos received 74 inches of rain on March 15-16 in 1952.

## Final registration for Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp

Final Registration is now being held for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys, ages 8-19, and Girls, ages 10-19, can apply. Players are selected by Invitation Only. Past participants include "Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill, Bobby Hurley, Antawn Jamison, Christian Laettner, Tom Gugliotta, and Trajan Langdon. Camp locations include: Boiling Springs, NC., Redlands, Ca., Thousand Oaks, Ca., Sackville, N.B. Canada, Babson Park, Fl., Gainesville, Ga., Champaign, Il., Macomb, Il., Græncastle, In., Atchison, Ks., Midway, Ky., Hillsdale, Mi., Saint Paul, Mn., Fayette, Mo., Rochester, Ny., North Canton, Oh., Lock Haven, Pa., Bristol, Ri., Lebanon, Tn., Commerce, Tx., Fort Worth, Tx., Blacksburg, Va., Olympia, Wa. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players named to The All-American Team. For an evaluation form call (704) 568-6801 ANY-TIME.

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Your FREE SUBSCRIPTION is included when you register for our FREE Affiliate Program. Complete details at [WWW.sixfigureincome.com/7449668](http://WWW.sixfigureincome.com/7449668).

### The Carolina Indian Voice

Published each Thursday in Pembroke, N.C. by First American Publications

The first issue of the weekly newspaper, The Carolina Indian Voice was published on January 17, 1973, by then editor, owner and founder, Bruce Barton with a \$500 personal loan. It has a proud history of continuous publication, having never missed an issue since its inception. Bruce's sister, Connie Brayboy, the current editor, is the only person to have enjoyed full-time employment since the newspaper's inception. A brother, Garry Lewis Barton came to work full-time in 1973 and ended his affiliation with the newspaper in 1985; its founder, Bruce Barton left to further his education shortly thereafter. Another brother, Ricky Barton, has been affiliated on a part-time basis with the newspaper since its inception. For the first time in years, the four siblings are reunited and dedicated to publishing the best newspaper humanly possible.

Connie Brayboy ..... Editor

## BJ Thomas in Concert

Multiple award-winning artist BJ Thomas will be in concert at the Givens Performing Arts Center on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke on Friday, April 27 at 8:00 pm. Thomas is the winner of 5 Grammy Awards, Two Dove Awards, 2 platinum and 11 gold records and has topped the charts on the pop, country, gospel and contemporary charts. Hits include "Hooked on a Feeling," "The Eyes of a New York Woman," and "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head."

Tickets are \$20, \$18, \$16 and \$8 for children and students. For reservations or more information, call the GPAC box office at (910) 521-6361 or (800) 367-0778.

Local musician Willie Lowery will open for Mr. Thomas at 8:00 with Mr. Thomas taking the stage at 8:30.

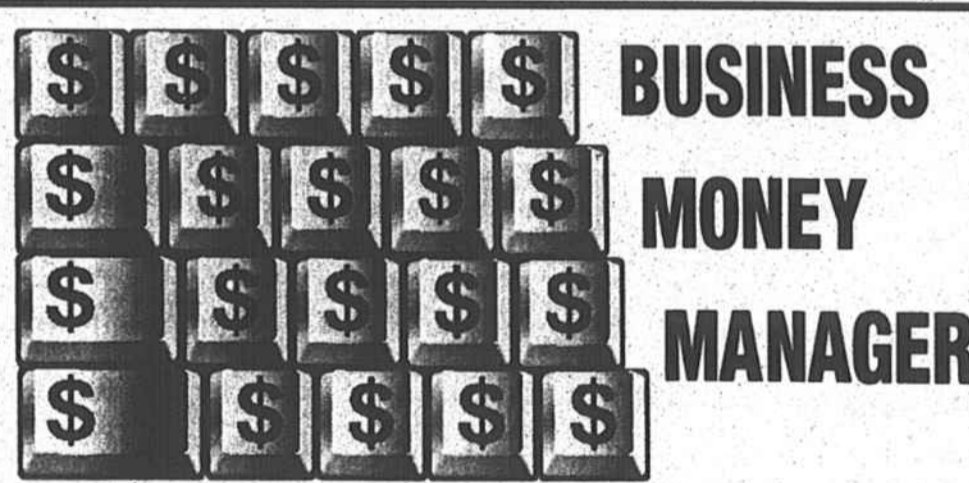
BJ Thomas in concert is sponsored in-part by The Robesonian, Up & Coming Magazine, WKML, WQSM, WFLB, WFNC and WGQR.

## Trip to Branson, MO planned

Robeson County is offering a trip to Branson, MO. Dates are Sept. 17-23. Please call Wendy Sampson at 671-3090 for more information. Limited seating. Call ASAP!!!

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