

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following news article was recently printed in the Detroit News. The article provoked the ire of many of the Lumbee Indians now residing in the Michigan area. Many of them complained bitterly to the Detroit News newspaper and WWJ-TV Station, both owned by the same corporation.

Many were concerned about the fate of the Indian youth mentioned in the article, and many were bitter at the oversimplification and poor characterization of Lumbee Indians in general.

Here is the article as it appeared recently in the Detroit News.

### A child is waiting

TOM HAS been waiting all of his 10 years to be somebody's special son. The third grader was taken from his parents at age 6 because of neglect. He responds to attention and enjoys singing.



By RUTH CARLTON  
News Special Writer

Tom is a 10-year-old Lumbee Indian who was so badly deprived in early childhood that it is impossible to predict whether he can catch up. This is his third year in school, and his reading and math abilities are still at kindergarten level. Tom was 6 when he was taken away from his parents because of neglect — not a propitious time to start school. Psychological tests indicate Tom has perceptual and emotional problems. "He has a lot of problems in his own head around race," the social worker says. Lumbee Indians exist in one small area of the South. They are not a tribe and do not have a language. Seemingly a mixture of black, white and Indian, they are so intermarried that no one can define the racial mix.

TOM IS a handsome, very appealing child who responds quickly to affection. The foster mother says he is a nice boy to have around. He enjoys singing. For a Christmas program last year, he was the little drummer boy, and the song remains his favorite. "He's a little kid who desperately

craves attention," the social worker comments, "and will do anything to get it." Unfortunately, his tries for attention — acting silly or teasing — turn other kids off. He gets along better with 7-year-olds than with children his age. The foster mother says, "He's good company. He will sit and talk with you like an old man."

SUE SCHROEN of Spaulding for Children is seeking a home for Tom. "It doesn't matter particularly what race the adopting parents are," she says. "What is important is that they be able to help Tom accept his own mixed racial heritage with pride." If you would like to adopt Tom, call Miss Schroen at 1-475-2500 or write her at Spaulding for Children, 3660 Waltrous, Chelsea 48118. Spaulding is a private agency devoted solely to finding homes for "hard-to-place children" — those over 12 or having physical or mental handicaps.

A Child Is Waiting appears regularly in the Accent on Living section of The Sunday News and every Monday on News 4, WWJ-TV, at 12:30 p.m.

## PSU Homecoming Week Activities Scheduled

by Gene Warren

Pembroke—Six days of exciting activities ranging from three musical specialities to a bonfire—a big homecoming parade through downtown Pembroke, are scheduled as part of Homecoming Week Jan. 24-29 at Pembroke State University.

Alumni and students are invited to participate in all events scheduled for them in making this 1977 homecoming the most gala in the history of the institution.

Climaxing the week Saturday, Jan. 29, will be the crowning of the homecoming queen during halftime of the PSU Atlantic Christian basketball game which is on tap at 8 p.m. in PSU's Jones Physical Education Center.

Prior to the game a reception for alumni will be held at 5 p.m. in the PSU Student Center with music provided by the PSU "Singers and Swingers." The alumni annual Homecoming Dinner will follow at 8 p.m. in the Student Center during which new officers will be installed.

The list of events for the week are currently scheduled includes:

MONDAY—"The Bluegrass Experience" in concert.

TUESDAY—Wrestling match, Barber-Scotia at PSU at 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY—Student bonfire and pep rally at 6 p.m.; basketball game, Coastal Carolina at PSU at 7:45 p.m.

THURSDAY—Voting all day for homecoming queen. Float-building for Saturday's parade. National Players of Washington, D. C. will present "The Tavern" at 8 p.m. in the PSU Performing Arts Center.

FRIDAY—Voting for homecoming queen continues. Semi-formal homecoming dance in ballroom of Red Springs/Robeson County Day School (Vardall Hall) featuring "Cracker" from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost: \$2.50 per couple.

SATURDAY—Homecoming parade at 11 a.m. through downtown Pembroke. Reception for alumni at 5 p.m. in PSU Student Center, featuring the PSU "Singers and Swingers." Alumni banquet at 6 p.m. in PSU Student Center with new officers being installed. Homecoming basketball game with Atlantic Christian at 8 p.m. in PSU's Jones Physical Education Center with homecoming queen being crowned at halftime. Student dance at 10 p.m. in PSU Student Center. Alumni "Victory Party" at 10 p.m. in Pembroke Jaycee Hut.

Wayne Bailey, new alumni director of PSU, says he is hoping for a large turnout of alumni. "Tickets covering all events are \$12.50 per person. They pay for the alumni dance, alumni dinner, reception and basketball game," said Bailey. These tickets can be purchased at the alumni office in PSU's Sampson Hall Administration Building.

At the alumni banquet the class having the most returning alumni is always cited. This year's banquet has been moved from the student cafeteria to the student center to provide a more affable setting.

Twenty coeds, all sponsored by various organizations on campus, are competing for "Miss Homecoming." They are as follows: Charlene Averitt, Raeford; JoAnne Britt, Orrum; Wanda Burns, Pembroke; Betty Coe, Winston-Salem; Dehaeva Drake, Lumberton; Debbie Hammonds, Raeford; Tanel Hunt, Pembroke; Donna Johnson, Evergreen; Martha Kivett, Fayetteville; Debra Lamm, Pembroke; Patricia Locklear, Laurinburg; Linda Lovell, Fayetteville; Debbie Lowry, Parkton; Agnes Marie Mayo, Ft. Bragg; Diana Nelson, Fayetteville; Pamela Pait, Bladenboro; Gwenn Strickland, Pembroke; Faith Wallace, St. Pauls; Daffinette Whittington, Maxton; and Zoe Ann Woodell, Pembroke.

President Hollowell set many records as a national director and is continuing to set them as President of the North Carolina Jaycees.

For his performance he was recognized at the Jaycees' State Convention as the Number One National in North Carolina and was the recipient of the Ed Ellis Award. At the National Convention in Indianapolis, he was one of the top ten National Directors in the nation and received the Clint Dunagan Award.

Joe resides with his wife Lynda and their three children, Joseph, 10, Mark, 8, and Kerry Lynn, 6 mos., at Morgan Park in Edenton. He is a 1963 graduate of North Carolina State University and a farmer by profession. He believes in performance and his records show him to be a performer.



## "The Tavern" at PSU

by Gene Warren

Pembroke—"The Tavern," which is a salute by the National Players of Washington, D.C. to America's famous song-and-dance man, George M. Cohan, will be presented Thursday, Jan. 27, at Pembroke State University as part of the university's Lyceum Series.

This comedy-melodrama will take place in PSU's Performing Arts Center with curtain time being 8 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults and 75 cents for children under 12. PSU students with I. D. cards will be admitted free.



Joe Hollowell, President, N. C. Jaycees

## Reflections by Alta Oxendine

though we had talked of visiting Cousins Max and Cora Lee at Christmas time, our clocks kept us at home. So I checked with Mary on how they were doing!

The conference included persons from a number of different denominations and faiths. A Presbyterian couple—former missionaries to Zaire, Africa, described a simple life style in that country, where their only furniture was a bed. And Flo told me about using the Laubach method to teach persons there to read in their native language. It was a real culture shock for them to come back to the States, where most

of us are engrossed in the accumulation of things. One of the many "beautiful people" whom I met was an unassuming nun dressed comfortably in a feminine green and white pantsuit. She told us of the soul-searching she was forced to do when wearing the "habit" became optional and she decided to stop hiding behind a particular form of dress.

But we were all at the conference to study the problem of hunger, overseas and here at home, and to look for a variety of ways to attack the problem. We were challenged to come back to our local

communities to do something constructive about the causes and results of hunger.

One way the Church and Community Center has found to provide emergency food in crisis situations is to give out canned food donated by Center staff members and others concerned about people. Russell McDonald is now providing boxes for churches and other groups who wish to donate cans of food. The Center's expenditure on food for emergency use has come to around \$1,000.00 a month when the pantry shelves were empty.

If you have other suggestions for fighting hunger in our area, please call us at 738-5204 or call me at 521-4619.

Governor Hunt's public school program has three parts. One would provide money for additional aides and materials to improve reading instruction. Another part of the program would require the student to pass a minimum competency test before graduating from High School.

Alan Share (standing on the table) is the vagabond, and Brian Corrigan is the tavern keeper in the National Players production of "The Tavern," to be presented Thursday night, Jan. 27, at Pembroke State University's Performing Arts Center. The play was written by George M. Cohan, America's famous song-and-dance man.

Attend the Church of your choice this Sunday.

does not exist. She misses the whole point that Lumbee Indians are proud and progressive folk and that they have clung to their heritage against insurmountable odds."

In an interview with Ruth Carlton, who wrote the article, she intimated that the Detroit News was not familiar with Lumbee Indians although thousands of them live in the Detroit area, and throughout Michigan.

Ms. Carlton said, "I guess this would be an apology of sorts...I should have done more research before I wrote the article." Later she added, "I am sorry that anyone was offended by the article." She also noted that she had done considerable research on Lumbee Indians after she wrote the article. According to the reporter most of her information was based on data supplied by Sue Schroen of the Spaulding for Children agency.

After a number of Lumbee Indians complained about her unfair characterization of Lumbee Indians, Ms. Carlton called the Bureau of Indian Affairs and discovered, alas, that they do not recognize Lumbee Indians as Federally recognized Indians.

This reporter did inform her that more than half the Indians in North America had no affiliation with the BIA since they are concerned primarily with Indian tribes with Treaty relationships or Indians who live on reservations. I added, "Thank God! Lumbee Indians fit neither category. We are free and progressive and proud of our heritage and accomplishments."

The editor of the Detroit News said, "You don't sound like an Indian." And I responded painfully, "How the H... is an Indian supposed to be? He didn't know."

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Locklear of Lincoln Park, Michigan wrote the social worker, the newspaper and radio station. Here is their letter.

Jan. 10, 1977  
Sir, Madam,

"I'm responding to the article on A Child is Waiting, 'The Indian Boy' Who Needs a Home. I feel I should respond to your article about his racial

heritage or racial mixture as you call it. I happen to be a Lumbee Indian and feel your article is a slap in the face about my people. We are not a small number of people in the South, and a racial mixture of Negro, White and Indian as you imply. We are a proud people of Indian ancestry.

Do you have to be a government ward or tribe to be identified as an Indian? It seems to me you are ignorant of the facts of Indians and have everyone stereo-typed as reservation Indians. If you would check the records you would find the Lumbee Indians to be the most progressive Indians any place in the U.S.A.

As for the boy having emotional problems because of his race, I have raised four children in Michigan and have always taught them to be proud of their race as Lumbee Indians and they don't have emotional problems.

I am greatly insulted by your article and you have insulted all Lumbee Indians and you should do more research before you write such damaging articles.

Sincerely,  
Mr. and Mrs.  
Gerald D. Locklear"

Mrs. Frances Pogers of Detroit, Michigan objected strenuously and wrote:

"Dear Bruce,

"I'm sending you something I want you to read. You may have already received a copy. I read it and it made me sick, also my family. I don't know if you can reprint it or not. I just want it to be seen down there. I'm very proud of my race of people. If you can't reprint it please let everyone you see read it. We have been in Detroit for 23 years. But we still love our home town. Me and my husband both are from Pembroke. Everyone I talk to about this is upset. Thank you.

Mrs. Frances Rogers  
6709 Seminole  
Detroit, Mich. 48213"

The editor of the Detroit News did say that the newspaper had carried some of the dissenting letters of the Lumbee Indian community and invited this reporter to write an article about Lumbee Indians and submit it for publication.

A fault in the construction of the chimney is believed to be the cause of the fire. An estimated damage of \$10,000 was placed on the Sampson home.

No one was injured.

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Many others have written and called about the plight of Tom. What will happen to him? Will he be adopted by an Indian family? A white family? A black family? At the moment Tom's fate is uncertain.

Anyone concerned about the plight of Tom should contact Sue Schroen of Spaulding for Children, 3660 Waltrous, Chelsea, Michigan 48118 or call 1-313-475-2500.

Tom needs you desperately.

Many callers have suggested that Odom's Children Home (formerly an all Indian orphanage) would be a suitable home for Tom until parents could be found for him. Certainly, Odom Home would be a welcome respite from his now uncertain fate. Odom Home is now administered by the N.C. State Baptist Conference and is located in Pembroke, North Carolina, the economic and spiritual capitol of the Lumbee Indian community.

## Pembroke Fire Dept. Responds to Fires

Pembroke Fire Department responded to two fires yesterday. First was at 1:00 a.m. at the residence of Robert Earl Lee of Rt. 1, Pembroke in the Moss Neck community.

A short in the heater was the cause of the fire. The trailer home was a total loss.

Mr. Lee received minor burns while escaping the fire.

The second fire was reported at 11:20 p.m. at the residence of Mr. W.O. Sampson of Rt. 1, Pembroke on Union Chapel Road.

A fault in the construction of the chimney is believed to be the cause of the fire. An estimated damage of \$10,000 was placed on the Sampson home.

No one was injured.

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## Bradshaw, N.C. Secretary of Transportation



Thomas W. Bradshaw, Jr.

Former Raleigh Mayor Thomas W. Bradshaw, Jr. was sworn in as Secretary of Transportation on January 10, 1977.

While he is the youngest chief executive in the Transportation Department's history, Bradshaw is no stranger to Raleigh or the workings of government.

Bradshaw, 38, is a lifelong resident of Raleigh. He graduated from the Needham B. Broughton High School, served on the Raleigh City Council from 1969 to 1973, and in 1971 became the youngest mayor in Raleigh's recent history. He helped form the Triangle J. Council of Government and served as its Chairman for three years. In 1972-73 he also served on the Board of Directors of the National League of Cities and the Transportation Committee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Bradshaw is an active member and Elder of the Memorial Presbyterian Church and has a long record of involvement in civic organizations and present affiliations include the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, Home Builders Association, Raleigh Board of United Fund, YMCA Towers, North Carolina Symphony, North Carolina School of Recreation, Parks and Recreation Commission and many others.

Bradshaw, who received the "Boss of the Year" award and again in 1972, named one of five "Young Men of the Year" in 1972. He was named the "Boss of the Year" in 1973. He is married to the former Mac Davis of Raleigh and has four children.

## Educational View By Dr. Dalton Brooks

Many of the decisions that school administrators make for improved school planning depends on decisions made in Washington and Raleigh. The question is, could an observer predict, with some accuracy, what will take place in the next four years; if so, what planning could be done to make significant change in the total effectiveness of our schools.

At the Federal level, President Carter is suggesting the elimination of categorical grants with more emphasis on non-categorical monies. It means that more money will be appropriated to local educational agencies to remedy an educational need at the local level. This suggests that the County will have more money to spend in area's like 1) Special Education, 2) Early Childhood Education, 3) the physical handicapped, 4) gifted and talented, 5) remedial programs, 6) compensatory education, 7) Migrant Education, and 8) Indian Education monies.

With these increased budget for elementary and secondary education, the County could swell to million in four years.

WHAT CAN BE DONE? Programs can be improved. The criteria for improvement should be based on scores on Achievement, Aptitude Tests, SAT should definitely improve entering Freshmen at colleges and Universities. competency and professional development show significant improvement. Parents will participate actively in the decision-making school-questioning programs, and any other operations.

## Request for Quotations Licensed Electrical Contractor & Air Conditioning Installer

LUMBEE RIVER ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORP. will hold a Meeting, January 10, 1977 at 7 p.m. at the Red Springs Community Center to discuss installation of Radio-Controlled Switches Residential Hot Waterheaters and Central Air Conditioning unit.

Quotations will only be accepted from Licensed Electrical Contractors who meet L.R.E.M.C. Specifications. Contractors must meet all State and County Electric Codes and L.R.E.M.C. Specifications.

Request for Quotations will be sent to Qualified Contractors after meeting of January 10, 1977.