

EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

Put it before them briefly so they will read it, clearly so they will appreciate it, picturesquely so they will remember it, and, above all accurately so they will be guided by its lights.

-Joseph Pulitzer



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Indian Lawyer?

Dear Bruce:

With regard to the public forum letter of Willie Archie Oxendine in the Jan. 27 issue of the CIV, I would like to say that the people he is criticizing as "an outside pressure group" - we are the same people who put the Board of Education members in public office. In other words they are the citizens, voters and parents of Robeson Indian children. The voter has every right to publicly reprimand any public school official who in his judgment does not vote in favor of the best educational advantages of his children. We have no wish to make puppets of any public official, but we do have the right to expect officials to be responsive to the citizen's needs. But now a more weighty matter.

Church Responds Request for 'Food For The Needy'

In response to a drive by the Robeson County Church and Community Center to raise food for the needy, Harper's Ferry Church has set aside Sunday as a day to collect food staples and canned goods.

They are urging members (and other interested Robesonians) to bring food staples and canned goods to church Sunday. All foods collected will be given to the Robeson County Church and Community Center to distribute to the needy and those who are hungry.

Besides the morning service, the hours are set aside for those who take part and the greatest thrill of all, give to those who and in need.

Harper's Ferry Church is located approximately three miles from Highway 74, Rev. is the pastor.

AS I SEE IT



Bruce Barton

WHAT WILL THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DO TUESDAY?

The Robeson County Board of Education will meet Tuesday evening in the library of the Robeson County Board of Education administration building. The meeting begins at 4 p.m.

What will they do? Will they, once again, consider the contract (or retainer) of I. Murchison Biggs? No one knows. The board is keeping quiet about the matter and the politicians have called off the dogs, in essence, putting out the word "to give the board some breathing room."

O. K., but the people still want to know what they are going to do and when. Maybe they will give us an answer Tuesday. I hope so, truly I do.

We have competent and able Indian attorneys. How about hiring one of them to represent the interests of the children? I. Murchison Biggs has always, as I see it, represented the interests of the board members. And, until this election, they were mostly honest to goodness white conservatives. Honest!

The people seem to want bold and courageous action. And they need a competent attorney to represent them. I. Murchison Biggs fought and lost the double vote suit and he has, in every way possible, as I see it, hampered the desegregation plan of 1970. Why reward him by continuing to employ him as the school board attorney of a school system that is 90 percent minority, 60% Indian and 20% Black?

Anyway, we shall see what they do Tuesday.

GENERAL JAMES M. GAVIN IS A VERY NICE MAN...

Retired General James M. Gavin is a very nice man. He is now Chairman of the Board of Arthur D. Little, Inc. in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

He earned his spurs in the field with the 82nd Airborne during some of the most arduous combat of World War II. He was then Colonel James M. Gavin, Regimental Commander of the 505th Regiment, more colorfully known as the Cannonball Regiment. The 505th was involved in four Air Assaults during World War II, and participated in some of the most famous battles of World War II, including D-Day - the Normandy Invasion.

We wrote an article in December about Frank Scott, a Lumbee Indian, who participated in all four air assaults, including D-Day. His spine glowingly of General Gavin and we called him and sent him a copy of the article we did concerning Frank Scott. We

arranged a telephone call between Scott and General Gavin. His first words to Mr. Scott were, "Can I do anything to help you?"

We received the following letter from General Gavin:

Dear Mr. Barton:

Thank you very much for your letter and for the accompanying Carolina Indian Voice. That is a fine piece about Frank Scott. I have written to him this afternoon. I hope he is not in too bad shape. I know that he went through a very great deal, since I was with them in all four of the combat operations.

You are quite right, too, in writing, "Yes, the Frank Scotts of this world who secured freedom for America and the rest of the free world." I would like to thank you for honoring the men who gave so much and, in particular, Frank Scott.

Sincerely Yours, James M. Gavin

In a letter to Mr. Scott, Gavin said, "G Company (Frank Scott's company) of the 3rd Battalion of the 505th Regiment probably had more combat than any outfit in the 82nd Airborne Division and, as you know, that is saying a very great deal. I am sure that you did more than your share of it..."

I want to share this special moment with you because... well, darn it...General Gavin seems such a refreshingly sincere and caring man. Men of his caliber are rare creatures in these cynical days we live in. As a matter of fact, General Gavin seemed more concerned about Private Frank Scott's welfare than anything else. He seemed really to care.

General Gavin retired as a four star general. He is now 70 years old and was also wounded in combat, suffering from a broken back once and again from a direct wound in battle. He is former Ambassador to France under the administration of the late President John F. Kennedy. He also is being considered as a possible choice of the Central Intelligence Agency. He is a rare and decent man.

GENE LOCKLEAR SUBJECT OF A NICE ARTICLE IN THE FAYETTEVILLE TIMES...

Gene Locklear, the talented Lumbee Indian outfielder with the New York Yankees and an accomplished painter was the subject of Times Sports Editor Perry's Wednesday

morning column. Jennifer wrote of Gene's talents and experiences as a major league ball player and developing artist. It was a nice article and complimentary to the talented Locklear.

We wish Gene well this year as he prepares for the coming season with the New York Yankees. If ambition and determination has anything to do with it Gene Locklear will do with it Gene Locklear will make the squad this year. He has already been in the big leagues four years longer than many of his critics expected him to.

Feb. 28 is the day Gene reports to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida for spring training with the Yankees. I dare say, if they give him his times at bat, he'll lead the squad and maybe the league too in hitting. He's that kind of ballplayer.

I just like the style of the man. He thinks well of himself and his talents. Gene Locklear swings a mean bat and brush. Good luck, Gene!

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DID YOU KNOW? BY Janita



HIPPOPOTAMUS

WILL EAT AROUND 130 LBS. OF VEGETABLE MATTER A DAY. AND MAY WEIGH 5800 LBS. A HIPPO MAY LIVE 30 YEARS IN NATURAL SURROUNDINGS - 50 YEARS IN A ZOO. THEY CAN SMELL WELL, BUT CAN NOT SEE VERY GOOD. THEIR TUSKS PROVIDE IVORY. FOOD EXPERTS URGE THAT HIPPOS BE RAISED FOR THEIR MEAT. ABOUT 2/3 OF THE WEIGHT OF HIPPOS IS EDIBLE. ITS MEAT HAS A HIGH PROTEIN CONTENT.

A TREACHEROUS GUARD, THOMAS HICKEY TRIED TO CAPTURE GEORGE WASHINGTON AND TURN HIM OVER TO BRITISH GENERAL HOWE. HICKEY WAS SEIZED, TRIED AND EXECUTED JUNE 27, 1776.

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE 521-2826 - An Editorial Viewpoint -

Who are Archie C. Sampson & Willie Archie Oxendine?

A number of readers have taken issue with the views espoused by Archie C. Sampson and Willie Archie Oxendine in last week's issue of the Carolina Indian Voice. A couple of readers even went so far as to question the authenticity of Sampson and Oxendine.

A belated investigation has left the staff of the Carolina Indian Voice uncertain too as to the authenticity of their letters to the editor. We can't prove it but maybe Sampson and Oxendine are pseudonyms. No matter, we believe the issue in question (namely the hiring or not hiring of an Indian law firm to serve as attorneys, to the Robeson County School Board) needed to be aired, including both sides.

Henceforth, in order to be fair to everyone, a telephone number should be included along with the real name and address, when writing a letter to the editor. That way, we can satisfy ourselves, if need be, as to the "realness" of our readers.

Honest dissent, as we have stated, is welcome but readers should sign their names, addresses and telephone numbers to their letters in the future.

If Archie C. Sampson and Willie Archie Oxendine are bonafide readers...well, then of course, we apologize profusely for our doubt.

Reader Questions PSU Security Officer

To the Editor:

I write in reference to a most unfortunate incident which occurred over the Christmas Holidays. While riding through the campus of Pembroke State University, Derek Lowry, along with two friends, were stopped by the security officer on duty. During the ensuing happening, a quantity of marijuana was discovered on the car in which Derek per chance to be a passenger. Naturally, at least a natural for Robeson County, all three were hauled down to Lumberton and jailed-being the threat to society that they posed. (?)

One point I wish to make centers around the alert arresting officer, Mr. Larry McNeil. I think the entire Lumbee nation owes a hearty "Thanks" to Mr. McNeil for making it perfectly clear, in The Robesonian article, that Mr. Lowry was a leading player in "Strike at the Wind." I am sure this comment pleased many non-Indian folk very much. One cannot help but wonder whether or not his attitude is shared by Mr. McNeil's employer. In any event, the statement represents the epitome of naive stupidity common among our Indian leaders today. I myself witnessed Mr. McNeil saying to one of Derek's friends, "Well, I got the old Indian leader the other night!"

This leads to point two. Why were these young people stopped? In the past few years I have noticed a growing suspicion among Pembroke youngsters that they have no right to be on PSU's campus, unless in class room attendance. Realizing the intimacy of the Pembroke community, I am sure the arresting officer recognized the car, as well as Derek himself, before he made the stop. I cannot help but wonder if possibly Mr. McNeil had an ulterior motive, i.e. personal vendetta, for stopping Derek and his friends. Would charges have been filed if the offenders had not been from Robeson? I, for one, have noticed the flagrant disrespect for not only area residents but for law enforcement in general by the fraternities residing within the "town limits."

Could Indian youth gather as these frat do and party until three in the morning and not be harassed by narrow-minded, ego driven bullies wearing a badge simply because they have the desired mentality? Do not get me wrong: Pembroke has some very fine officers of law. The majority, however, gives all the reputation of being pitifully inept.

And now for the reason which inspired the writing of this letter. I have kept relatively up-to-date on the Board of Education's recent decision point of view of The Carolina Indian Voice editorials. Mr. Barton, you are indeed a credit to the Lumbee as well as to Indians everywhere. Keep up the Redness. Anyway, the point I wish to make concerns the benefit we as parents can expect to see as a result of a progressive school system. Upon investigation of Derek's bust, I discovered that Derek was employed with the N. C. Indian Commission - a very good job indeed. I pray he does not lose it over this affair. Also, I found out one of the other people with Derek is a diligent student at PSU and that the other is a Senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Folks, I ask you, what earthly right do we parents have to ask our children to study hard, make good grades and try and make your life count when they face the very real possibility of encountering McNeils, Freemans and Britts? If you think I exaggerate, I challenge any one to go attend any session of court in Robeson County and note the proportion of Indian and Black waiting for trial. If you find more than 10% white, I'll publicly apologize to Mr. McNeil. I sincerely believe it is time to stop condoning the actions of certain multi-faced puppets who please those pulling their strings by dragging the Pembroke identity thru the sanderous mud of hypocrisy called Robeson County Justice.

More on Security Officer's Action

Editor:

I have a very important piece of news which I think might interest all Indian folk. A while back, the young man who played Henry Berry Lowrie in "Strike at the Wind" was arrested. The arresting officer was Mr. Larry McNeil. A few days after the arrest, I talked to a very close friend of the arrested youth and learned of the following story.

This friend went to visit Derek Lowry, the arrested player, in the Robeson County Jailhouse. He asked the apparently non-Indian jailer if Derek was being held there. The jailer replied, "Yes, we got Henry Berry back there." (Laughter in the background)

Being a taxpayer of this county as well as a darn proud Indian, this comment put my blood to boiling. Is this the type judicial system I've been reading about which exists only in these parts? I pray to God I never have to go before a court conducted in Robeson County?

A Very Concerned Reader, Miss Sally Blanks Route 1, Pembroke, NC 28372

Does Not Agree With IEA Views

Dear Bruce,

I've read the learned Indian principal's objections to the receipt of monies especially marked for the use of our Indian children in their struggle to catch up after centuries of educational deprivation and must say that it seems a pity the writer of those objections didn't have access to the same kind of help when he was receiving his education. If this had been the case, he might have been better prepared to handle and expend Indian monies. This man seems to be confessing that he doesn't know what to do with money intended to enhance the education of Indian children. Yet he himself is an Indian and an Indian principal at that! Why?

This same man criticized the Congress of the United States for ever passing laws favoring the educational advancement of his own people! I would suggest, in view of this and other glaring admissions publicly stated, that this man would do the Indian children of this county a favor by promptly tendering his resignation. Our children have suffered educational deprivation at the hands of anti-Indian educational too long already. If Principal Brooks is incapable of handling special education funds, as he has stated, then I doubt his capabilities in handling any of the best educational interests of any student under his jurisdiction. Is Mr. Brooks the only principal in Robeson County who doesn't know how to spend IEA monies?

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

521-2826

Luther C. Oxendine, Sr.

Rt. 2 Box 296 A
Maxton, NC 28364

...Has A Job

To the Editor:

A well known man of the Prospect area has finally seen the light. After three years of "employment" and "unemployment" he has gotten a job. Can you believe it? He is now employed by Kelly Springfield of Fayetteville. He is better known as Raymond (Hot Shot) Bullard.

M.G.B.
Rt. 3, Maxton, N.C.

Educational View By Dr. Dalton Brooks

HIGHER EDUCATION COST \$8,500.

Education beyond the high school is referred to as higher education. In North Carolina that education can be obtained from the North Carolina University System or the Community College System. There are 16 constituent universities, of which Pembroke State is one; and there are 55 community colleges and technical institutes. These institutions provide a wide variety of course offerings and certificate areas for the high school student to pursue. Pembroke State University has some 18 majors and some 25 certificate areas for student participation and study. With the increased flexibility along with inflation, in general, higher education has skyrocketed.

In 1960, when the total enrollment was 3 million, nationwide, the total operating expenditures of our Colleges and Universities were \$8.4 billion. By 1970, enrollment had increased to 6.8 million and expenditures had risen from \$8.4 to \$24.2 billion. As the figures show, not all the increased cost resulted from expansion in enrollment. Costs per student also rose sharply and some of these higher costs were passed on in tuition increases, particularly at private institutions, but also at public institutions. Today, it is estimated that a four year college education at a private institution will cost the learner an average of \$17,500 and at a public institution an average of

higher education figures, by 1970, assumed a more place in total age 1960, current expenditures of colleges and universities represented 2.5 percent of the Gross Product; by 1970 risen 2.5 percent education expenditures had once occupied modest part of State budgets. All this cost time when compared other public expenditure as welfare, health, and education. SIGNIFICANT

What significance the implication of for Pembroke State? An in-state would incur approximately \$1,000 a semester. Campus with full appropriate amount and supplies. A student receive at PSU on a college education that received at any other university in the States. For Cost, Knowledge, and Pembroke State stands tall, and grows every year. For every County, Pembroke State is a Gold intellectual development personal profession.

Those Rusty Golden Leaves

My feet wandered restlessly over the leaf covered ground Overhead the songs of the bluejays and Hummingbirds darted from flower to flower Way up there above the treetops the majestic eagle flew The noisy chatter of the squirrels rang sweetly in my ears The sweet fresh mountain air filled my lungs with melody I am alone on God's land with God's creations The clouds drift lazily above my head The sunshine floats in through the trees and bushes And fills my eyes with delight I look out over the distant valleys and see the blue mountains Their tips capped by snow the mountains reach upward toward the sky The melody of the birds and the sweetness of my surroundings I can not comprehend the wonder of my surroundings For I had not known such before Oh if this is a dream let me forever sleep I am falling... My head rests among the pine needles And leaves and grass on the ground Oh if only my dream could come true As if in a trance I lift myself up and Look upward toward the sky And before my eyes floated those rusty golden leaves.

Lawrence D. Malcolm
October 24, 1974

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God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and the wisdom to know the difference.

The Carolina Indian Voice desires to be notified promptly of a change of address. Send address change to: The Carolina Indian Voice, P.O. Box 1075, Second Class Postage Paid, Pembroke, NC 28372.

Howard Says:



Pembroke Drug Center, Odom and W. 3rd, Pembroke, NC, Dial 521-4805

Aged need attention when on drug therapy

The handicaps of older citizens are often overlooked. Diminishing mental and physical conditions can leave the aged person in a feeble-minded, child-like state. Yet, many of these same people are given the responsibility of taking powerfully potent medications - a responsibility we'd never dream of giving our kids! In all honesty, I can see little difference between the handicap of old age and that of extreme youthfulness where strong drugs are indicated. Like children, older citizens need special attention while taking medications. Let's make it our business to help the elderly use drugs safely and properly.

pembroke DRUG CENTER

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