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Vine Deloria, Jr. Visits Pembroke

SPEAKS BEFORE A LARGE TURNOUT AT LRDA'S ANNEX BUILDING

Vine Deloria, author, theologian, lawyer, orator, thinker, came to Pembroke last night to speak to an estimated 200 Indian admirers and friends.

Deloria is a Sioux Indian and is recognized throughout America as an advocate of Indian rights in his many roles as theologian, lawyer, author, interpreter of American Indian thought and ideology.

Deloria has written a number of books, including the best seller, "Custer Died For Your Sins, An Indian Manifesto."

He is also a former director of the National Congress of American Indians.

His appearance in the Pembroke area was coordinated by the Lumbee Indian Education Project of Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. Mrs. Janice I. Locklear is project director of the Indian Education Project and a long time friend of Deloria.

Earlier in the week, Deloria appeared at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill during American Indian Week there.

Last night Deloria recalled his days as executive director of the National Congress of American Indians. He said, "those were days when Lumbees were voting members of NCAI."

Deloria lauded the Lumbees. He noted "one does not see the spiritual deterioration here that one sees on reservations where most of the problems are caused by the Bureau of Indian Affairs."

Deloria presented the audience with a suggestion. He said, "What Indian people need is a generation of scholars." He said the problems with whites stemmed mostly from the fact that Indians did not write their own histories and learn about themselves so that their history and culture could be presented to the rest of the world.

A humorous man, Deloria took light hearted cracks at anthropologists, congress, the BIA and sundry bureaucratic paper toters.

Deloria fielded a number of questions from the audience including one that asked, "What is the definition of an Indian?" Deloria, in response, said that Indians should learn about themselves and develop their own measuring sticks.

Deloria praised the Indians of Robeson County as "a proud and resolute people." and said, in response to a question from the audience concerning the problems Lumbees have encountered from Federally recognized tribes and organizations.

AMERICAN INDIAN DAY

Pembroke--Alex Haley's Pulitzer-Prize winning book, Roots, has received tremendous acclamation since its publication and adaptation for television.

Jones, who graduated from PSU in '57 with a B.S. in Mathematics spoke of the "many precious memories I have associated with this school. Twenty years ago it was an all-Indian school, now it is a bona fide member of the oldest state university system in the nation."

Then he said, "Our roots make us (the Lumbee Indians) descendants of the oldest race to live on this land. We as Indians stand at an important crossroads where we must have a firm sense of direction with questions about where our roots lead and where our future is heading."

Jones emphasized that Indians still have not achieved "our full rights. Our native American brothers and sisters are still fighting to have the federal government honor its promises and treaties and are still struggling to make America honor her promises."

Then he made this promise to the group of students, faculty and administrators at the PSU quadangle. "The N. C. Commission of Indian Affairs is and will be committed, as long as I am executive director, to the struggle to make government honorable--to assist Indian self-determination."

Jones made reference to some who suggest Indians are trying to take over the state. "We are not trying to take it over," he smiled. "It belongs to us. It's rightfully ours. It doesn't belong to the people who claim it now."

He said when the N. C. Commission on Indian Affairs had its infancy in '71 its first appropriation from the state was \$12,500. "During the fiscal year 1975-76 the amount from the state has grown to \$138,000--and the commission was responsible for approximately \$1.5 million."

He pointed out that "the 1970 census Indian households in the state of which 48.6 percent were renting in contrast to the general state population rate of 38 percent renting. The commission has developed a rent supplement program for 255 households per year."

Jones also reported that the 1970 census revealed that 43 percent of N. C. Indians lived in poverty in contrast to the state rate of 20.3 percent. He noted that Indian median income was then \$2,700 lower than the state median.

"Our unemployment rate traditionally is double the state figures," he noted, "and was even higher during the economic depression. To counter these trends, we operate a CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) program. During the past fiscal year, CETA placed 402 Indians directly into jobs, gave 304 Indians work experience, provided 108 Indians with classroom training and worked 191 youth in summer jobs."

Among the improvements he cites was the "Talent Search" program to counsel and assist students in grades 7-12. "The 1970 census recorded that Indians averaged an eight grade education and that less than one-half of one percent of the state's population was Indian. Things have changed slightly since 1970. We have over 15,000 students in grades 1-12 in contrast to 13,000 in 1970."

In Robeson County where he said over half the state's Indians live, "the state actively resisted making elections to the county school board more democratic," said Jones, "until 1976 when the federal court found the election process unconstitutional...and ordered a new election and an end to double-voting."

Speaking of PSU, he said, "no other university is so well suited in location and history for a broad American Indian Studies program. I realize the difficulties in funding and staffing an innovative program, but now, as never before, Indian scholars are available. We now have many Indian doctorates. PSU can attract people from not only this state but the nation as well in learning about our Indian roots."

Jones warned against Indians letting themselves be assimilated into the general population and lose their culture, heritage and selves. "Thank God I'm an Indian. He proud and tell the world you are. I'm not white, I'm not Black--but I'm an American Indian. I'm thankful that I can tell people far and wide I'm a Lumbee Indian," he concluded.

Kenneth Maynor, executive director of the Lumbee Regional Development Association, introduced Jones and praised the university's American Indian Student Association. He encouraged the organization to recruit more members because he said "numbers are the name of the game." He suggested letting students out of class to attend the special "Indian Day" program and also said there was a need to recruit PSU faculty.



A. Bruce Jones, executive director of the N. C. Commission of Indian Affairs, speaks on "Native American Indian Day" at PSU.

"There are many organizations on campus and I'd like to see this one be one of the best--if not the best," said Maynor of the sponsoring American Indian Student Association.



Kenneth Maynor, executive director of the Lumbee Regional Development Association, introduces Bruce Jones.



Indian cultural exhibits on grounds near PSU quadangle. It was part of "Native American Indian Day" at the university, sponsored by the university's American Indian Student Association.

Pembroke Town Council Meets

The Pembroke Town Council, with Mayor Reggle Strickland presiding, met Monday night in open session.

The council also gave the town manager, McDuffie Cummings, the authority to deal with recalcitrant tax payers. They passed a unanimous motion declaring that "the town manager has the discretion to take whatever action he deems necessary to collect delinquent taxes after giving the taxpayer a thirty day notice concerning delinquent taxes."

The council also passed a motion to publish all delinquent taxes for 1976.

The board also took under advisement the possibility of extending pavement from the Pine Street extension to the Lowry Recreation Field. The town manager was instructed to consult with the highway department to determine if the state might consider the work.

Resolutions also passed: The town council also passed two resolutions. One resolution recommended that Monroe Lowry be reappointed to the county agricultural and industrial commission. Lowry is presently on the board.

The council also passed a unanimous resolution supporting Brantley Blue, a native of Robeson County, and presently serving on the U.S. Indian Claims Commission, for a seat on the U.S. Claims Court.

The resolution was to be sent to the president and appropriate legislators. The council also considered the furnishings that will be needed for the new district court house and officially accepted a lease proposal from Pates Supply Company for use of the old First Union National Bank building as quarters for the new court house. The lease is for a year and is for the sum of \$350.00 a month.

A native of Raleigh, Miss Dorsey was named an "Outstanding Young Democrat in North Carolina" in 1972 and was listed in "Outstanding Young Women in America" in 1971. She is a free-lance writer and speaker on women's rights.

Women's Rights To Be Discussed

Miriam J. Dorsey, recently appointed by Gov. Jim Hunt as the executive director of the N. C. Council on the Status of Women and an advisor to the Governor on women's issues, will speak at Pembroke State University Friday at 11:00 a.m.

Her talk will be delivered in Moore Hall Auditorium.

Miss Dorsey has been a member of the Steering Committee of the National Women's Political Caucus and the Steering Committee of the N. C. Women's Forum.

From 1967 until her appointment to her present post, she was staff assistant to Congressman Horace Korgay and Richardson Preyer. While in Washington, she was active in the women's movement and served as chairperson of the Capitol Hill Women's Political Caucus. This group led the fight for equal pay and better working conditions for women on Capitol Hill and coverage under the civil rights legislation for Capitol Hill employees. Miss Dorsey directed the definitive study which pointed out that women working in the Senate do not earn as much as the men in comparable positions.

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people and places and things

NO ACTION TAKEN ON PARKTON-ST. PAULS MERGER POSSIBILITY

St. Pauls held a public hearing Tuesday night relative to the possible annexation of Parkton School into the St. Pauls School District.

Some 50 citizens attended the public hearing and, according to news reports, seemed split down the middle on the possibility of taking Parkton into the St. Pauls City School District.

Many fear bussing might be a consequence of annexation but the fears were abated by Paul Cannady, St. Pauls School Board Attorney, who said that bussing was not an issue. Cannady said that if the merger were effected only the respective high schools would be merged into one facility. According to Cannady, elementary schools would remain as is and the high schools would not merge until a facility was built that was capable of housing both high schools.

Said Elizabeth Fulgum, St. Pauls School board member, the merger of St. Pauls and Parkton High Schools would expand the number of courses taught and make for a larger tax base.

According to the merger plan, all administration would be shifted from Parkton to St. Pauls and all property of the Parkton School would become the property of St. Pauls.

Parkton, a member of the Robeson County Administrative School Unit, would no longer be allowed to vote on the make up of the Robeson County Board of Education and present county board member, David Green from Parkton, would be forced to resign.

Cannady claimed that there would be no problem with the Voting Rights Act because the racial break down would remain about the same.

If the petitioners in the St. Pauls area are successful in getting a majority of the taxpayers in the area to sign up, the measure would still have to be approved by the St. Pauls School Board as well as the county school board. After this procedure, assuming the measure gets that far, the petition would be presented to the county commissioners who would set up the mechanism for an election.

But, according to another interpretation, the state board also has to approve the measure. Earl Hughes Oxendine, a Lumbee Indian, is a member of the North Carolina Board of Education. Additionally, 6 of the nine members of the county school board are Indians.

According to knowledgeable school people, the measure stands little chance of becoming the law of the land. The St. Pauls Unit itself was once a part of the county system.

Open Letter

Dear Constituents:

It has recently been purported in several newspapers in the State that I have had heated differences with some political leaders in Pembroke. I feel it time that I write and clear up my stand on some of the false accusations made by a few ill-felt leaders.

When I began my political career last year, my campaign platform was to represent all the people of the 21st District on a fair and equal basis. It seems to me that this is not what a few of the people in my district want. I, therefore, take this opportunity to let these people know that I refuse to be a "political puppet" for any special group. For me to become would be to let down the people who faithfully supported me.

I further take this opportunity to promise all the people my continued support, and pledge to do anything within my power to protect your interests, and not the interest of a small, disconnected few.

I beg you for your continued support, and encourage you to write to me regarding any matter on which I might assist you.

Sincerely Yours, Representative Horace Locklear

JAYCEES TO SPONSOR DANCE

The Pembroke Jaycees will sponsor a dance on May 21st at the Jaycee Clubhouse. The dance is not open to the public. Tickets may be purchased from any member of the Pembroke Jaycees. Music will be provided by Gene Lowry.

DIAL SPEAKS AT RED SPRINGS, CHAPEL HILL THIS WEEK

Adolph Dial, Chairman of the American Indian Studies Department at Pembroke State University, was guest speaker on two occasions this week.

Wednesday he spoke to the American Indian Student Association at UNC-Chapel Hill at 8 p.m.

Tonight he will address the Kiwanis Club of Red Springs at its 7 a.m. breakfast.

Dial, who has been a member of the PSU faculty since 1958, is co-author of a history on the Lumbee Indians, "The Only Land I Know." He is also chairman of the Robeson Historical Drama Assn., which sponsors the outdoor Indian drama, "Strike At The Wind," each summer in the Pembroke area.

INDIAN SCHOLAR FROM COLORADO TO SPEAK AT PSU TODAY

PEMBROKE--Vine Deloria, Jr., writer and author from Golden, Colo., will speak to an American Indian Studies class at Pembroke State University at 12:30 p.m. Today, April 21 in Room 201 of the PSU Business Administration Building. The public is invited.

The class, taught by Adolph Dial, chairman of the American Indian Studies Department at PSU, is on "Contemporary American Indian History."

Deloria is author of such books as "Custer Died For Your Sins," "We Talk: You Listen," "Behind The Trail of Broken Treaties," and "God Is Red."

"ALUMNI SPRING FESTIVAL" APRIL 22 AT RTI

Robeson Technical Institute is open to the public this Friday night (April 22) for the "Alumni Spring Festival." Musical entertainment begins in the school courtyard at 7:30 p.m., followed by an Open House from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Joan Miller, Robeson Tech visiting artist, has arranged a program of top-flight performers to join her in a "variety show." Mrs. Miller's accompanist is Mary Carol Warrick, former pianist with the San Diego Opera Company. The 15 piece Stage Band from St. Andrews College, Lenoirburg, presents new sounds in popular music. Vocalists Dehavia Drake, Don Brock, and Rudy Locklear add folk, popular, and gospel music. Another special guest performer is Steven Hunter, visiting artist from Wayne Community College, classical and jazz pianist.

Open House will be held after the program at 9 p.m. Special guests for the evening are all Robeson Tech alumni.

PSU TO OFFER FOUR CED COURSES THIS SUMMER

Four courses will be offered in Pembroke State University's Continuing Education Division (night classes) this summer during a special 10-week period from May 31 to August 5.

Classes usually meet from 7-9 p.m.

Courses offered provide three semester hours credit each. They are as follows: Physical Science 100 (Development of Physical Thought 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays and Wednesdays. Professor: Dr. Jose D'Arruda.

Psychology 101 (Introductory Psychology)-Mondays and Wednesdays. Professor: Paul W. Killian, Jr.

Music 230 (Introduction to Music Appreciation)-Tuesdays and Thursdays. Professor: Dr. Francis Pfeifer.

Sociology 362s (Crimes Without Victim)-Tuesdays and Thursdays. Professor: Dr. Frank Schmallegger.

Mayor Finch to Speak

Mrs. Beth Finch, mayor of Fayetteville, will be guest speaker for the spring meeting.

Dance Concert Planned

The Company of The Dancers' Place, Pembroke, North Carolina, a local company of eight dancers under the direction of Joyce Cadle, will present "Concert No. 2" on April 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pembroke State University Theatre. The public is cordially invited, admission free.

Town Manager and Town Clerk



Shown above are the new town manager and town clerk for the town of Pembroke. They are shown conferring in front of town hall.

McDuffie Cummings is the new town manager. He is married to Delora Cummings, Artist in Residence for "Strike the Wind!", the fabulously successful indoor drama featuring the exploits of a very Berry Lowry and the Lumbee Indians. Mrs. Cummings also supervises operation of Home Florist, the floral concern owned by the Cummings family. They have three children: Duffie Cummings, Jr., 8; Lora Gail, 4; and Patrick Hoyes, 2.

Cummings began his new duties with the town March 1. Formerly he was assistant director of the Pembroke Housing and Redevelopment Commission.

Mrs. Ruby Neal Smith is the new town clerk for Pembroke. She formerly was employed at Pembroke State University as an accounting technician. She began her new duties March 14.

Mrs. Smith is married to James Patrick Smith, a carpentry contractor. They are the proud parents of a daughter, Christy, 9.

Both Cummings and Mrs. Smith reside in Pembroke.