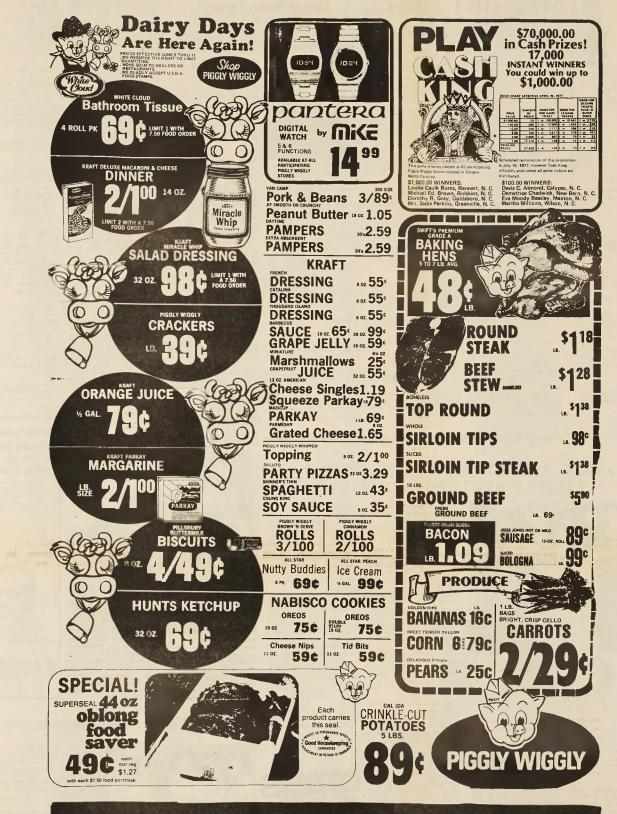
Thursday, June 9, 1977



## PEMBROKE-MAXTON-ST. PAULS PIGGLY WIGGLY

by Dick Pirozzolo



**Red Springs** 

By Dick Pirozeloi "A rainbow is more beautiful than the dull gray which would result if all the colors were mixed," said Joseph Oxendine, a Lumbee Indian, commenting on the benefits to be derived from a diversity of cultures within a atiom. Oxendine, Dean of Temple University's College of Heath and Physical Education, called for Indians and other groups to work for cultural puralism in a keynote address delivered at the School of Education's Expo '77 at Boston University earlier this month. Extolls Cultural Pluralism

GOVERNOR' RICK BROOKS 9 AM: 3 PM MON THRU FRI favorite

Oxendine, a respected authority on physical education, grew up in a poor, segregated section of Pembroke, North Carolina. As a boy he and his neighbors were prohibited from frequenting "white" stores and were relegated to the, balcony in the local movie theater.

"Cultural pluralism," he said, "supports ethnic character. Simultaneously, it strengthens the larger community by fostering mutual appreciation and understanding, cooperation in economic and civite mistituions, and the peaceful coexistence of life styles. folkways, languages, religious beliefs and family structures."

began with the early missionary schools' attempt to "Christianize" the Indians, continues today, he said. He told of a group of Chippewa Indians who were required, as part of a Bicentennial activity at their school, to write an essay on "Why Were Glad the Pligrims Landed at Plymouth Rock." "Of Course, their parents wished it had been the other way around--that Plymouth Rock had landed on the Pligrims," Oxendine commented wryly. "Following many years of Indians Wars," Oxendine said, "the U.S. Government established a policy for assimilating American Indians, and even mary them"-except in his home state, where mixed marriages were prohibited, he added. Assimilation seemed to be working. The one million Indians estimated to have been living in America when Columbus arrived had fallen to 240.000 by 1900. "It was thoght the assimilation process would be completed within a few years, and only a few treal' Indians would remain as a cultural curiosity." Oxendime continued However, he added, "The Indians population grew, andnow it's as large as it was four or five centuries ago He noted that some American Indian leaders, as well as leaders of other cultural groups, have encouraged isolationism ''I believe, however, 'he said, '' that striving for 'ethnic purity' through isolationism is not only destinctive to society at large but

The alternative approaches, he added, are assimilation or separatism.

"I have no problem with assimilation, but I find it abhorrent for any group to be pressured into assuming another group's culture," Oxendine told his audience at the two-day educational exposition.

Forced assimilation, which

destructive to society at large, bu is self-defeating." Is self-adreamer. Oxendine fled his home when he was 17 to work in Detroit. A year later, having saved \$1700.00 he enrolled in Catavba College, in Salisbury, North Carolina. He subsequently earned a full scholarship, and in his senior year he was named to the state's All-American Football Team, in 1952 he earned a muster's degree a Boston University and, after a tour in Korea, he returned to the University to earn a doctorate in education. He joined the faculty

"I wonder if the white man can ever understand how great an inferiority complex the average minority member has, and how easy it is to crush his personality in the tender years," Oxendine said. He said it was not until he was in college that he realized "how many dull souls frequent the white man's ranks."

in 1959.

The subile put-downs continue, he added, noting that "A book used in a California elementary school is declicated to "All children who like Indians and animals." And a series of books published by the National Geographic Society is composed of "Spiders, ""Catey, ""Creepy Crawly Things" and "Indians."

A son Francesco Exominer article last year criticized land concessions made to American Indians by reporting. "The 0 original occupants were the most prunitive people, who had never learned to use metals, and knew mothing of fibers. If the while settlers brought nothing but those gifts and skills. (the Indians) were well paid for their land."

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## Awards Day Program Held at PSHS





Left to right, Micheal Bryant, Keith Jacobs and Pattle L. Brayboy



Mr. Steve Jones

The Awards Day Program for Pembroke Senior High was held on Friday, June 3, in the PSHS gymnasium. The program is an annual affair to recognize students who have excelled in gymnasi annual

Mr. Fred Lowry, the assistant principal, welcomed parents and visitors. Mr. Clarence F. Locklear, guidance counselor, was master of ceremonies. The chairman of each department presented the awards for their

department. Mrs. Pattie L. Brayboy, guidance counselor, presented special awards. Wanda Bullock was the recipient of the Lucy Smith Scholarship. Valerie Roberts received a \$100 scholarship from the Pernbroke Jaycettes. Michael Bryant was first place winner and 1976-77 PSHS Chess Champion Jeff Campbell was protested a chess set which was nuchased in

chess set which was presented a Lenengrad, USSR by Mr. Samue Kerns.

## Union Chapel Day Care Center Birthdays Observed

The Union Chapel Day Care Center has hosted four birthday parties this month. Oh. Boyl Looks like its going to be a partying month. The ones celebrating birthdays were: Jackie Lynette Cummings, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry M. Curumings; Amy Leance Oxendine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs William H. Oxendine: Willie Von Lowry, son of Ms. Barbara Lowry; and Monica Locklear, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Locklear.

Indians' contribution to the white settlers included medicines, corn, potatoes, and most of the other vegetables we cat today." Oxendine commented (Oxendine, a sports bluff who is currently preparing a book on American Indians and sports, also added parenthetically: "To say nothing of everything needed for a ball game-peanuts, popcom, cracker jacks, chewing gum, cigaretes, and even the rubber inside a baseball...")

He concluded by noting that one of the greatest difficulties facing American Indians is life in the city, where the prevailing attitude is often "Do it as we do it, or leave." Frequently, he said, Indian city-dwellers can taxian success at work, "but they can't sustain a social life in the reservation and to poverty."

Praising the universities with which he had been affiliated, he said, "Things are looking up. With institutions like Boston University and Temple, we're bound to win." Dr. Oxendine is the son of Mr and Mrs. Thomas H. Oxendin of Route 2, Pembroke





Jackie Lynette Cummings

