

# EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

We Cannot Know Where We Are Going If We Don't Know Where We've Been...



## So fittingly we honor our Pioneer Fathers

### AS I SEE IT



by  
**Bruce Barton**



**SIM OXENDINE: A LUMBEE TREASURE**  
Pembroke is fortunate to have Simeon Oxendine in her ranks, and the Lumbee people rightly consider him a treasure. He has been in the forefront of every progressive movement affecting Lumbee people over the last forty years or so. A successful businessman, Sim has also been a civic leader of some note. Fireman, politician, one of the leaders who routed the Ku Klux Klan in 1958, he has never backed down from a fight. Now 65, the fires still burn bright in his breast. He is well known for simply helping people on a one on one basis.



where along the parade route, making sure the floats and beauty queens, ROTC units, veterans and sundry parade entries move along at a brisk and orderly pace.  
Sim has served in just about every capacity of leadership at Locklear-Lowry VFW Post, including stints as post commander. He has also served as 8th District Commander and has attended the National VFW Convention as a delegate from this area.

It's always assuring to see Sim Oxendine along the parade route of the Veteran's Day Parade in Pembroke, and this year was no exception. Here, he is shown (right) conferring with Walter Jackson, Band Director at West Robeson Senior High School, one of the many entries taking part.

We depend on men like Sim Oxendine to see that our country is secure in the time of war, and veterans are national treasures and should never be forgotten in times of peace.

## Youth's body found

A house fire claimed the life of a 17-year-old West Robeson student on Tuesday. The fire was reportedly caused by a gasoline explosion caused when it came in contact with a kerosene heater.

Deceased is Lanford Locklear, of Route 1, Pembroke. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Locklear, Jr. His grandfather is the Rev. Sanford Locklear of the Mt. Airy Community.

The body is at Locklear and Son Funeral Home and funeral arrangements were incomplete at press time.

Jack Dempsey fought only 138 minutes as world champion. During that time he made \$2,137,000—or \$15,000 per minute.

The Greek national anthem has 158 verses.

# Letters

## Reader suggests Signs Saying where PSU is...

Dear sir:  
I have a few comments on why no one knows where Pembroke State University is. That is the reason Paul Givens (Chancellor) gives for wanting to change the name to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

The reason PSU's location is known by so few people is evident. All one has to do is circle around the community surrounding PSU and watch for signs pointing to the town. Pembroke reminds me of riding in South Carolina. No reflection on the great State of South Carolina, but if one doesn't know where he's going in that state, he certainly will not find the place.

If you are driving in this county, for example, before turning off Highway 301 onto Highway 711 there is a big sign that reads: Red Springs and Parkton. Red Springs is 15 miles away from Pembroke. With a university so near and that such a well-traveled route, there should

be a sign indicating one's entrance into the direction of Pembroke State University.

Also, if one is leaving Maxton there should be a sign indicating Pembroke or the University. I have found signs pointing to Maxton when I was as far as twenty miles from Maxton; but one has to come within one mile of Pembroke before he can find a sign that indicates where PSU is. The exception is the sign on Interstate 95 entering Route 72. It took legislative action to have that one erected. It seems like the PSU Board of Trustees would do the university, not to mention Pembroke, a great favor by trying to get some signs up where people will know where it's at. This would be far more productive than changing the name.

The old theory is still true. If one doesn't know where one is, one certainly cannot tell one where to go.  
James D. Dial  
Pembroke

## Prospect Class of '64 Plans Class Reunion

Dear Graduate of Prospect High:

Twenty years have come and gone since we took that memorable walk to receive those longed for diplomas from Prospect High School. It is in remembrance of this event that we are planning a class reunion for the Class of 1964. The event will be held December 28, 1984 at the Red Carpet Inn, Lumberton, North Carolina, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The cost for the dinner gathering will be \$35 per couple or \$20 per single.

We are planning an exciting night. Won't you make every effort to join us for a night of reminiscing, fellowship and renewing of old and previous acquaintances?

As you already know, the Prospect Community is the most unique area in our county. There is much his-

tory, culture and pride exhibited there. Many memories are there, although the school is no longer a high school. It is our hope that many of the teachers and the principal who was there during our tenure will be able to attend. This is the most opportune time to say thank you to those members of the faculty and staff who made a lasting impression on your life.

Please plan to attend. We would like to have the entire class in attendance. Make checks or money orders payable to Prospect Class Reunion and mail to: John R. Brayboy, Route 1, Box 423, Pembroke, N.C.

I am really looking forward to seeing you there.  
Sincerely Yours  
John R. [Bender] Brayboy

## The Name-changers Are Back Ho, Hum!

by Lew Barton  
Knight of Mark Twain  
Alumnus of PSU & UNC-CH  
"What's in a name?" asked Shakespeare. "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet!"

And so would an onion by any other name smell just as oniony!

Still there is a move afoot to change the name of Pembroke State University, "now a branch of the consolidated University of North Carolina," to "The University of North Carolina at Pembroke."

Ho, hum! What for?

What good would that do? Will it make the bigots any less prejudiced against the Indians who established the Robeson institution which continued to thrive and grow while every "White" institution in the same area faltered, died and is now all but forgotten?

I think not. The fact that the Jews were—and still are—the chosen people of God made other people no less prejudiced against them. Indeed, ironical as that is, the fact of who and what they were seems to have intensified the ignorance and prejudice and hatred against them.

Do you think Hitler would have been less inclined to wipe them all off the face of the earth if only they had changed their name to "something more palatable"?

Of course not! Even the vow of the Almighty to "bless them that bless thee and curse them that curse thee," a promise God has never failed to keep, had little or no effect upon Hitler. The burning passion of his life was to eradicate the Jews, and he did so by the million.

You say, that was stupid of him. It was. But it took a long time for his stupidity to catch up with him. In the meantime, God's favored people suffered and died.

I see the name-change movement at PSU as one more move to disassociate the now White university with its Indian past.

# RANTING & RAVING with Darryl Barton

Remember folks: These views are mine. They are not necessarily anyone else's. Heck! They ain't even necessarily views! Just my rantings and ravings. I guess!

## THANK GOD! IT AIN'T TUESDAY!

Well, folk. The votes from Tuesday's election have been tallied. The voters of our fair land have made known their choices of who they wish to represent them—or, at least the ones who voted did. The ones who failed to see the wisdom in going out to vote need to keep their griping, moaning, groaning and complaining down to a dull roar. After all, abstaining from voting is actually a vote in favor of whoever goes into office. So, if you didn't vote, there's no need to bellyache. Take your medicine like a big boy or girl. No matter how bitter the pill may be to swallow later on.

## PRESIDENT REAGAN STILL A HALF-WAY DECENT ACTOR

I wasn't all that surprised that Reagan handed Mondale such a thrashing. After all, the Democrats turned me off and turned my stomach by seemingly embracing every faction or group from homosexuals to hobos. Indeed, the Democrats didn't have a whole lot to offer. It's small wonder so many Democrats voted a straight Republican ticket.

Too, ol' Reagan was a half-way decent actor in his hey day and... needless to say... still is today. Heck! He's had four years to study his latest role of President. So, it's small wonder that he always seems to say and do just the right things. The truth of the matter is that the whole world's a stage for him. And, no doubt, his main passion in life is to put on the performance of his lifetime. I just hope he doesn't go out with a bang, signaling World War III.

But, Mondale didn't help matters much by coming out and promising to raise our taxes if we voted for him. That was pretty stupid, son. You ought to have been smart enough to not make a big issue of raising taxes until you went into office, like ol' Reagan. No doubt, Reagan will raise our taxes. But, he'll probably sneak it by us or find something to blame it on. I wonder if ol' Mondale was naive enough to think there's a place in politics for honesty? You ought to have known better, son.

And Mondale even had the gall to make a big issue about something to the effect that God shouldn't be in politics. You reap what you sow, son. Evidently, God decided that Mondale shouldn't be in politics.

Oh, yea! Any sane-thinking fella knows there are two issues that are taboo if you're running for public office. One is promising to raise folks' taxes. The other is attacking religion. Mondale was naive enough to try

and milk votes out of both those sacred cows. And he ended up with clabbered milk.  
GIVENS IS A PAIN

"When in Rome do as the Romans do." Evidently, Chancellor Givens of Pembroke State University takes that saying to heart. It didn't take him long to join in with the countless others who have been persecuting and crucifying Indians of this area for centuries. Givens is responsible for the campaign underway at PSU to change the name to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

In fact, Givens reminds me of the Roman soldier who pierced Jesus' side long ago with his spear to hasten his death on the cross. You see, the Indian blood at PSU, which began as an all-Indian school, has been steadily dripping, like sands in an hour glass, from the gaping wound inflicted upon Indian pride and heritage for years now. Indeed, since whites began meddling in Indian affairs almost immediately after Indians began the all-Indian school in 1887 by using good ol' mother wit and "INJUN-nuity." The all-Indian school was a sore point of contention for white folk back then. Now, they have managed to turn the cards. What began as a sore has turned out to be an ugly, gaping, festering wound to Indian pride and heritage.

So, you see, it doesn't surprise me in the least that Chancellor Givens wants to be the one to make that final thrust with his spear, the final thrust that will open up that gaping wound to our heritage again and start it bleeding profusely. He seems intent upon continuing to gouge and irritate the wound until the last drop of Indian blood disappears forever from the campus of Pembroke State University.

Well, man. I ask you, for God's—and my children's—sake! Leave the name alone. Quit gouging us. Quit aggravating us. Quit irritating us. Quit tampering with something as sacred as a people's heritage. Put away your spear Gladiator Givens. Would it be so terribly out of character for you to do the right thing simply because it is the right thing to do? The right thing, my friend, in this instance, is to leave the name alone.

No matter the outcome of your name-change fiasco, Gladiator Givens, I feel no ill will toward you or others who think as you do.

Indeed, my prayer for you is: "God, forgive him. For he knows not what he does."  
Or does he?  
We'll talk later, folk.

## Wagram Prisoner Registers Complaint against Sheriff, etc.

Mr. Barton,  
I'm writing regarding an article being printed regarding the brutal treatment I suffered during the arrest of August 27, 1983 and actions resulting therefrom.  
I've been a resident of Robeson County for a number of years, residing in Red Springs, North Carolina. Sheriff Hubert Stone, Officers Ben Smith, James Edwards, Jerry Parker and several other Robeson County officers came to my residence on August 27, 1983 in pretense of investigating an alleged assault report, but failed to identify themselves as officers, instead began discharging firearms into my home, which at the time was occupied by my grandson of seven and myself.

After being shot, my home riddled and officers finally identifying themselves, I surrendered to officials. My hands were then cuffed behind my back & I was brutally beaten with butts of guns until relatives and neighbors complained. I was then taken to Southeastern General Hospital where it was determined that I had suffered gunshot wounds of the left hand with nerve injury and flex or tendon injury to the little and ring fingers, blunt trauma to the abdomen, right and upper area and tenderness of the liver. Three bruises in the upper midepigastrium and the right upper quadrant with bruises in the skin. Photos were made and submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate the matter. I was then tried, convicted and imprisoned with a term of six years for assault upon officers. Since that time I have brought civil action against Sheriff Hubert Stone, Officers Ben Smith, James Edwards, Jerry Parker, the City of Red Springs and the County of Robeson. The defendants now claim that there was only the necessary amount of force to arrest me, but disputed such injuries until medical records reflected treatment.

The defendants contend that no such photos were within FBI files when letters dated August 9, 1984 and

August 15, 1984 reflect such copies being released to me as exhibits for my complaint. Defendants hired four attorneys, including Mr. Rufus Edmisten of the N.C. Dept. of Justice. The basic issues are based clearly on Constitutional deprivations.

1. The right to be secure in person and property.
  2. Excessive Force administered as a result of personal prejudice.
  3. Officers failure to inform me of Miranda Rights and arrest without showing of cause to initially be at my home—no records reflect the alleged reported assault.
  4. Endangering the life of my grandson and other possible occupants of my house without lawful authorization.
  5. The City of Red Springs and County of Robeson are cited as defendants due to elections and employing incompetent members to serve the population of Robeson County. The people of Robeson County are responsible for the person chosen to hold public servant office throughout Robeson County.
- I submit this letter in hopes of making the citizens of Robeson County aware of official actions so that they may more closely view people elected to such official positions. I'm sure the many parents and grandparents share my concern for the children as well as simply being unjustifiably taken advantage of by the people we as voters appoint to these offices. Any family could be next. It was me this time, might me you next.

A Battered and Concerned Citizen  
Sincerely Yours,  
Early B. Locklear



Noah Young ran a mile in 8 minutes 30 seconds carrying a 150 pound man on his back. Young weighed 198 pounds. He made the run on April 12, 1915, at Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. Sherwood Hinson, Jr.

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