

# EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

## AS I SEE IT



by  
**Bruce Barton**

### ISAY LEAVE THE NAME--PEMBROKE STATE UNIVERSITY--AS IS...LET'S WORK ON REAL PROBLEMS LIKE HOUSING, ESPRIT DE CORPS, ETC.

I have sit on the sidelines for a couple of months now, reading letters pro and con that have appeared in the *Carolina Indian Voice* relative to the proposed name change of Pembroke State University to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. The dialogue has been good and positive, assuring a reasonable resolution to a contentious issue. If proponents of a name change cannot face criticism and respond positively to that criticism then their proposal is not worthy of consideration.

And criticism has been strong and convincing. I believe Dr. Givens and the PSU Board of Trustees have come forth with an empty proposal, one without redeeming value. All of us should be thankful to John Godwin, Libburn Murray and all those who have written letters to the editor explaining their opposition to the proposed name change. And, conversely, we are grateful to Gene Warren and others who have attempted to defend their position. The letters reaffirm our contention that a letter to the editor is more desirable than the negative feedback of a shotgun blast.

Martin Luther King, Jr. said once that he longed for an America where the content of a man's character was more important than the color of his skin. And we remember the childhood saying: "Sticks and stones may break my bones but words can never harm me." It's the quality of a person, an institution, that is important; not the name. One is either good and decent...or a profligate and worthless. We are what we are... nothing more!

### ESPRIT DE CORPS, A HOUSING PROBLEM, A FOOTBALL TEAM AND MORE...

Do we care whether the PSU Braves win or not? That's the important question, not the name of the team. We ought to care. And we would if we saw a good faith effort from the administrators, faculty and coaches at Pembroke State University. We want to care. But, following a Braves victory, for instance, would we have to go to basketball coach Billy Lee's home in Lumberton to have a victory party?

First of all, we applaud Dr. Givens for his emphasis on fund raising. We believe Pembroke State University serves a good purpose in our region, and we ought to support the institution without reservation. That is why I started the Braves Club a few years ago. I am proud of that, and always mention it when university officials complain that the community is not supportive. And, recently, the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce instituted an endowment, and ticketed the monies for a student in the American Indian Studies Department. Admittedly, it is a small endowment but we plan to build upon it in the years to come. And, of course, the *Carolina Indian Voice* has cooperated fully in telling the story of Pembroke State University. It is a good story, and one worthy of recounting.

I say the above to qualify my criticism. One should put something in before taking something out. As Gene Warren, PSU's effective public relations director, said, one should "walk the talk." That is what I have tried to do. And my record speaks for itself.

Pembroke State University will never become what it ought to be until the housing problem is resolved. It is a fact that more than 90% of PSU's faculty, administrators and supporters live some place other than the Pembroke area. Most of them live in Lumberton, contributing their tax base, and their expertise to where they live. For instance, Ray Pennington, PSU's athletic director, is on Lumberton's City Council. Pembroke realizes little from the knowledge bank that is in residence at Pembroke State. Some of us laugh cynically at the close of the day when they begin to leave PSU en masse. One could easily get run over as they scurry home, taking their talents and monies with them to spend where they live.

Dr. Givens has said on a number of occasions that he cannot tell someone where to live. We know that, but he could suggest that they become part of the community they work in. Too, the university, Board of Governors and General Assembly could resolve the problem if they were interested in doing so. Land and monies could be found for a decent sub-division, suitable for the PSU family to live and build equity in. Pembroke smells condescension, and acts accordingly. There is land available for homes in Pembroke.

And why can't Pembroke State have a football team? They could if they wanted one; and the community is ready to help them field a team.

But is the university ready to be a member of the community? Are they ready to share their resources fully? A street runs two ways, and many of us await a positive response from the university. How about a teaching laboratory on campus?

In the meantime, those of us who have supported the university, in spite of the condescension, the lack of a football team, the abandonment of the town, will continue to press for a resolution of the problem as we see it. It is not the name, it is the content of the university character that is at stake. Show us that you care about the community; give us a good faith gesture. We want to help... but, conversely, will the university help us? A university that cannot solve a housing problem, field a football team, and become a viable member of the community it is located in is not worthy of the name "university."

And I say the above as one of the oldest sophomores (43) in America. I just finished a semester's work at Pembroke State; I earned five A's and a B. I enjoyed my studies too, and hope to finish and get my degree in time. I am thankful that a university is located in my community.

But, for all the reasons above, and more, I say leave the name--Pembroke State University--as is. And let's work on some real problems. Changing my name will not make me a decent person. And changing the name of Pembroke State University to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke will not improve the quality of the school.

And if Representatives Danny DeVane, Sidney Locks, Pete Hasty and Senator David Parnell vote against the wishes of

## LETTERS TO EDITOR

### A NICE NOTE FROM A READER

Dear Bruce:  
I would like to thank you for publishing my announcement. I was delightfully surprised when I received my C.I.V. I never thought you might blow up the picture, better yet, place it on the front page!

On behalf of the community and those who no longer live

in the Pembroke area, I express our gratitude to you for providing a media to express local news and concerns. Unfortunately, the effort is too often a thankless one. Continue in the faith, and may God bless and keep you.

Sincerely yours,  
**Richard (Ricky) Locklear**  
Attorney at Law  
Salisbury, N.C.

### Hoke County Indians Want Oxendine as IEA Director, says Writer

The Indian community of Hoke County has watched the development of the IEA Program with much interest since the retirement of Earl Hughes Oxendine as Director. We have wondered when we'd get a new director. Many months have passed since his retirement, still no replacement has been named.

On Nov. 16, 1984 the Native American Council of Hoke County sent a certified letter to the Superintendent of Hoke County Schools, Dr. Nelson, requesting a meeting to discuss this situation. The letter was received as designated by Anna Kelly's signature. Dr. Nelson wrote Junior Dial, Chairman of the NAIC, stating that a meeting would be scheduled. Approximately 35 parents and students met at the Board of Education at their last meeting. They were forced to stay throughout the meeting only to be told they were not on the agenda and were only allowed 15 minutes to discuss what is to us a serious problem.

We were informed that the Board had not made a recommendation and no director would be hired until after the first of the year. I believe it was unfair to have our people sit through the entire meeting and then have the Board go into executive session for an hour and 15 minutes before they were heard. This is unfair after a letter from the superintendent which said they would be heard. We feel strongly that this action was only to discourage public attendance of Board meetings.

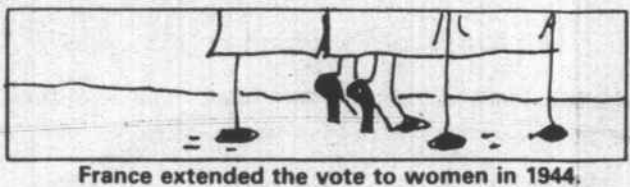
We have recommended that Jerry Oxendine be hired as Director of IEA. We have known him for many years as

a teacher, a friend, a former IEA director and a fellow Indian. We know for a certainty that he will be the best director and always look out for the best educational interests of Indian students.

Dr. Nelson requested a meeting at the last Board meeting with the IEA Parent and Student Committee as well as some parents and grandparents who were present. The meeting was supposedly held to hear what the real wishes of the Indian people were. We told him again our preference was Jerry Oxendine. He informed us that the Board of Education had a variable policy requiring employees to live in the county. He stated that Oxendine would not move into the county. He further stated that the IEA Committee had no power to hire a director. The hiring, he said, was up to the Board of Education and his authority. I asked him the following question, "If this is true, what is the purpose of the IEA Committee?" He answered that the Committee could only recommend. If this is true, what prevents the Board of Education from honoring their recommendation? After all, who knows the needs of Indians better than another Indian?

It is my opinion, Dr. Nelson has done more to politically divide our county than any other person. Indians must stay in Hoke County--it is home! Chances are when Dr. Nelson retires, he'll return to his "home" in Alamance County. May I suggest that Dr. Nelson analyze the situation and begin to unify the people instead of divide them.

Rev. Elias Rogers  
A Hoke County Indian



France extended the vote to women in 1944.



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\*Please pray for us, and we'll pray for you. We need your prayers always. God bless each and every one of you...Bruce Barton, editor

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the people they will face an irate constituency come election time. They ought to know that when it comes time to vote on the issue.

Some of us met with Dr. Givens last week and we left the meeting without resolving it. Dr. Givens said, "I wish we could have changed your minds... but it is obvious that we have not." And he told the truth. Leave the name alone, I say, and let's join hands and make the university as good and decent as it can be. It was a gift to the world at large from the Lumbee Indian community. We are not Indian givers and we do not want to take it back. We just want to make sure that it becomes what it ought to be--a place for all students to receive the best possible education at the most economical cost. That's a good goal, and one within reach...together.

### More on PSU Name Change

To The Editor:

In a letter to the editor of the *Carolina Indian Voice* and the *Robesonian* on 11-10-83, I stated that in my opinion, Pembroke State University Chancellor Paul Givens and his staff are not promoting and/or selling their product with any degree of success. If people are asking "quote" is this a private school? "unquote" is proof of a low-profile promotion of the commodity Givens and his staff are producing. Colleges and universities are nothing more than business institutions, selling education as their only commodity. When you fail to attract prospective buyers, business drops off. Changing the name will not improve the product, or the relationship of Givens and his staff with the Pembroke community.

The above statement was confirmed by Pembroke State University Chancellor and Vice Chancellor, Paul Givens and James B. Chavis respectively on 12-19-84. Dr. Givens and Dr. Chavis admitted the primary reason for the drop off in enrollment and identity is due to marketing Pembroke State University and its product. Dr. Givens and Dr. Chavis are saying that marketing PSU is difficult because it is not tied to the University of North Carolina properly. PSU has been a part of UNC since 1972. It seems that to say or write PSU-UNC system is too much time and space consuming for those who are involved in time and space only. To add just nine letters to PSU is all the identity needed. I suggest that when any one talks or writes of PSU that they add UNC System, thus PSU-UNC System.

Pembroke State University Chancellor Paul Givens, extended a very gracious welcome to Bruce Barton, owner and editor of the *Carolina Indian Voice*, Garnell Locklear, general manager of *Strike at the Wind*, Libburn Murray, director of *Migrant Farm Workers* in Pembroke, Ms. Dorothy Lowery, with the local Head Start Program and yours truly on Dec. 19, 1984.

Vice Chancellor James B. Chavis was present at this meeting also. We had a very lively discussion pertaining to the name change of PSU. We thanked Dr. Givens and Dr. Chavis for granting us an audience but reminded them the name change was not the answer to the issue at hand. If Dr. Givens and Dr. Chavis as professional educators are convinced their opinion is positive thinking, then I am sure my statement to the *Carolina Indian Voice* and the *Robesonian* on 11-10-83 was positive thinking also.

I am asking Dr. Givens to issue a directive to all his staff when answering the telephone or any form of communication to inform the caller or

## RANTING & RAVING WITH

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

*Danny Barton*

### AKERACY IS MI TRADEMARK!

Well, folk. Hope the Fat Fella was good to all of you out there. And hope ya'll have a Happy New Year.

This week, I want to respond to a yokel who brought it to my attention that I make a lot of mistakes while "Ranting and Raving." To this person, I dedicate the following rebuttal:

"I beg too difer wid yu. Akeracy is mi trademark; i make no mistakes? Mi spelling iz leter-purifik. So iz my gramer? An i'm good wid Kommas and periods an such".

Now, since I've cleared myself of those trumped up charges, I want to tell another story this week.

Like the motto at a nudist colony says, "Bare with me." Maybe I'll get back in harness next year. Maybe.

Anyhow, here's a little something to fill the space for this week.

The little boy sat all alone on the park bench, crying uncontrollably. With tears streaming down both cheeks, he felt as if he had no friends; that no one loved him. You see, his mother had just rushed into his room upon hearing a terrible crashing sound which was caused by him knocking over and breaking a bedside lamp. She had caught him in mid-air, right in the act of using the bed as a trampoline. His mother had warned him about jumping up and down on the bed

countless times.

"You could bounce off the bed, land on the floor and break an arm or something!" she had chastised him severely just the day before. So this morning, when she caught him jumping up and down on the bed again, she spanked him. Then she sent him outside to play. Since the park was only a couple of doors down the road from his home, he went there. And that is where the old man found him--sitting and crying on the park bench.

"Why are you crying, little boy?" The Old Man asked as he sat down beside him on the park bench.

"Things just ain't like they used to be at home, anymore," the Little Boy answered in between sobs. A new flood of tears welled from his eyes as he continued. "And I can't have fun in bed no more!"

The Old Man thought for a second. Then, throwing an arm around the Little Boy, he cried too.

Oh, well. I guess that's the end of that story. And this week's column wraps up the end of this year. I'm gonna give you folk a break; I won't write no more until next year. Meanwhile, as I said, have a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. And, my New Year's Resolution is that I'm not going to make any New Year's Resolutions this year. After all, I'd probably just end up a'lieing to you folk if I did. Cheers!

### Delicious Native American Recipes Easily Enhance Today's Meals

Many of America's truly creative recipes originated with native Americans. Over the centuries, Indian cooks had learned to combine the bounty of their land and waters into tasty, nutritious meals. Lacking metal cooking pots, the Indians devised a unique method of steaming or boiling their food in watertight woven baskets and artfully decorated pottery. Since neither the baskets nor the pottery would have survived an open fire, the heat was provided by red-hot stones placed in the vessels along with water and the raw food.

One boiled dish prepared in this manner combined fish, corn and beans. The Indians called it succotash. Later, the fish was omitted, creating the vegetarian version of succotash we enjoy today.

Another Indian staple prepared in this manner, which is now considered a gourmet treat, is wild rice. While today's cook can pick up this delicious grain at almost any supermarket, the Indians harvested their wild rice along river marshes and stored it in underground holes lined with animal skins.

Wild rice is a delicious accompaniment to fish and meat. It is especially tasty when cooked in beer according to this recipe featured in *A Taste of the West from Coors*, an attractive cookbook published by Adolph Coors Company.

#### Indian Wild Rice

- 1/2 cup wild rice
- 3/4 cup beer
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 4 slices bacon
- 1 cup sliced fresh mushrooms
- 1 cup shredded carrot
- 1/2 cup chopped onion

Run cold water over rice in strainer for 1 minute, lifting rice to rinse well. In saucepan combine rice, beer, salt and 1/2 cup water. Bring to boiling. Cover and simmer 40 to 50 minutes. Meanwhile, cook bacon till crisp; drain, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings. Crumble bacon and set aside. Cook mushrooms, carrot and onion in drippings till tender. Stir in rice; heat through. Turn into serving bowl; sprinkle with crumbled bacon. Serves 6.

The hardcover, 100-page, *A Taste of the West from Coors* is illustrated with full-color food and scenic photography. It shows western food lovers how to bake, mix and flavor with beer, a centuries-old cooking ingredient. All recipes have been tested and approved by the *Better Homes and Gardens* Test Kitchen. To order by mail, send check or money order for \$7.95 to Coors Cookbook, P.O. Box 10227, Des Moines, Iowa 50336. The books may also be obtained through local bookstores.



There are said to be two million comets in the solar system.



There are 100 billion stars in our galaxy, but from the earth only about 6,000 can be seen by the naked eye.



The call of the South American bullbird sounds like a cow's moo.

**Dr. Sherwood Hinson, Jr.**

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