

Celebrating 100 Years of Indian Education in Robeson

Editor's note: Our Indian Renaissance began with passage of 1885 N.C. Laws, Ch. 51 designating Robeson County Indians as "Croatian Indians" and providing for an Indian School System. Read the Carolina Indian Voice weekly as we tell this remarkable story throughout 1985 in celebration of our CENTENNIAL OF EDUCATION.



THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1985

JOHNNY DIAL SIGNS WITH DETROIT TIGERS ORGANIZATION

WEST ROBESON HIGH SCHOOL--Johnny Dial fulfilled a life long dream Wednesday as he signed a professional baseball player's contract with the Detroit Tigers organization. He signed the Class A professional baseball contract in the office of his former high school baseball coach, Ronnie Chavis, now at West Robeson High School. Chavis coached Dial at Pembroke High

School in the late 70's and praised him for his attitude and desire. He made all conference under Chavis' tutelage as a catcher, outfielder and 3rd baseman. On hand for the signing was Dwight Lowry, a former team mate of Dial at Pembroke High; now a major league catcher with the Detroit Tigers, it was Lowry who recommended Dial to the Tiger brass. Also on hand were Grady Chavis, an

uncle; Hardy "Red" Bell; and Rudy Locklear. Dial is expected to report to the Tigers' Lakeland, Florida spring training camp around the first of March for classification and assignment. Dial finished his collegiate career at PSU in 1984 with the kind of year most players dream about. Carolinas Conference Player of the Year, Dial batted .492 with 13 home runs and 37 RBI's.

PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

TOUR TO FLORIDA APRIL 9-13
You are invited to spend 3 nights and 4 days, from April 9 through April 13th in Florida, visiting such sites as Walt Disney, Cypress Gardens, Kennedy Space Center and St. Augustine. Deposit must be paid by Feb. 28th. For more information call Hazel L. Hunt at 521-0542 or 521-4892.

PLATE SALE AT DEEP BRANCH VOL. FIRE DEPT.
There will be a Plate Sale Friday, February 8, 1985, from 11 a.m. until, at the Deep Branch Volunteer Fire Dept. Chicken and home-cooked barbecue plates will be on sale for \$3 each. Will deliver for orders of 10 plates or more. To order, call 739-2221.

BURNT SWAMP BAPTIST ASSOC. SPONSORS WMU FOCUS FAIR
The Burnt Swamp Baptist Association W.M.U. will sponsor a W.M.U. Focus Fair Feb. 10, 1985 from 3-5 p.m. at Island Grove Baptist Church to inform the public of programs in the area like crime and drug prevention and other programs. The public is cordially invited.

Come by and see the fire truck built by the volunteer firemen for the Deep Branch Fire District which will be on display.

STRIKE AT THE WIND RECEIVES GRANT
Robeson Historical Drama Association, Inc., the producing organization of the outdoor drama "Strike at the Wind" has been awarded a \$15,000 grant by the North Carolina Theatre Arts, a section of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources which is funded by the N.C. General Assembly.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED
Beverly Enterprises awarded a \$320.00 scholarship to PSU to be used for Field Experience by the Social Work Program.

Carnell Locklear, general manager of the drama, said, "We are very pleased to receive the grant because it will help pay some of the bills left from the 1984 production due to the bad weather we experienced. Also it will be used for general support which includes pay-bills, telephone bills, insurance payments, salaries, office supplies, etc." Locklear continued to say "We are very grateful to the Theatre Arts Board and staff for their understanding of the chances the outdoor theatre company takes because they are not guaranteed any monies from anywhere."

Clisby Locklear was chosen from several applicants. He will receive training in the areas of identification of psychosocial needs of the aging, screening inquiries for admission, discharge planning, interviewing techniques, group therapy sessions, and utilization of community resources. Clisby will be working with the Kingsdale Manor Nursing Center until graduation in May, 1985.

Monday, Feb. 11 will be exercise night. On Tuesday, Feb. 12, they will attend the East Central Region's Open House hosted by Fayetteville Jaycee Women in Fayetteville. On Wednesday, Feb. 12 they will prepare a covered dish dinner for the Pembroke Jaycees. On Thursday, Feb. 14 they will visit senior citizens. On Friday, Feb. 15 they will visit the North Carolina Cancer Institute in Lumberton. Saturday, Feb. 16, will be a day with the family.

Fennie Oxendine, Social Service Coordinator for Kingsdale Manor, said: "I feel the internship program is most beneficial to the student, as well as the agency. Clisby exhibits a genuine care for his profession and the residents of Kingsdale Manor."

Shown above with Mayor Milton Hunt (seated) are Pembroke Jaycees (left to right) Carolyn V. Oxendine, secretary-treasurer; Freda P. Locklear, administrative vice president; and Rose M. Lowry, President. [Elmer W. Hunt Photo]

FACULTY & STAFF OF HAWKEYE [SOUTH HOKE] SCHOOL TO MEET
The faculty and staff who serve Hawkeye School (now South Hoke) during 1962-73 will gather with the principal, Earl Hughes Oxendine, at Lakeside Seafood Restaurant on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 1985 at 7 p.m. They are gathering for an evening of fellowship and reminiscing. Members of the faculty and staff who have not been contacted are urged to contact Mrs. Macy Dial at 521-4167 or Wilson Chavis at 521-4481 for further details.

TOURS PLANNED
Tours are planned for Nashville and Memphis, Tenn. April 6-9, 1985 and to Nova Scotia on July 27-August 4, 1985. For additional information call Normie Bullard at 521-0139 after 5 p.m. or 521-8717.

MONTHLY SINGING PLANNED
Mount Olive Baptist Church of the Saddletree area will be holding its monthly singing on Sunday, Feb. 10, at 3 p.m. Rev. Lockie Carter would like to invite everyone to come out and enjoy good gospel singing.

QUARTERLY SINGING PLANNED
First Baptist Church, Union Chapel Road, Pembroke, invites you to their quarterly singing on Sunday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. Rev. Charles P. Locklear is pastor.

ARMORED HELL ON WHEELS DIV. VETS TO MEET
Forty or more years ago the 2nd Armored "Hell on Wheels" Division helped make news for all the newspapers throughout the USA and now we would like to use this paper in some way to contact all 2nd Armored "Hell on Wheels" Division Veterans and let them know about a reunion May 29- June 2 at the Holiday Inn International Air Port, Tampa, Florida. Many live in this area. "Hell on Wheels" may contact Loren De. Guge, 805 High Point Blvd., Brooksville, Fla. 33512 or phone (904) 596-6834.

PRECINCT MEETINGS PLANNED
Mr. Robert Brewington, Chairman of the Robeson County Republican Party announced today that the organizational precinct meetings will be held on February 15, 1985 at 7:30 p.m. at each polling place. He urges each registered Republican to attend and participate in this process.

WEST ROBESON BOOSTER CLUB TO SPONSOR STEAK SUPPER
The West Robeson Athletic Booster Club will sponsor a steak supper on Friday, Feb. 8, 1985 in the school cafeteria from 4 until 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$5.50 single and \$10 per couple. On the same evening West Robeson will host Scotland County in a basketball game. The public is invited to attend.

FILLIN' STATION THANKS POLICE

To the Citizens of Pembroke: We would like to take this opportunity to commend the Pembroke Police Department and the Robeson County Sheriff's Department for an outstanding job on the night of Jan. 19, 1985 when the Fillin' Station was robbed. These men endured temperatures of 10 degree weather from 2 a.m. until 8 a.m. in our behalf. Needless to say, as a business in Pembroke, we appreciate the dedication they showed to us. With the increase of crime, we suggest more support be given to our local police. Also with the limited funds available, we think the department is doing an outstanding job. Let us close with one last thanks to Jerry Woods, investigating officer in charge assisted by Jeff Locklear, Phil Oxendine and the Robeson County Sheriff's Department for their service. The Management and Staff of the Fillin' Station, Pembroke, NC

Mayor Hunt declares Feb. 10-16 Pembroke Jaycette Week



Pembroke Mayor Milton Hunt officially declared Feb. 10-16 as Pembroke Jaycette Week.

Activities for the week include Sunday, Feb. 10--the Jaycettes will attend Berea Baptist Church, and in the afternoon visit Southeastern General Hospital's Pediatrics Ward and Extended Care Unit.

Sylvia Waters, a former Ailey dancer, the group has studied and performed works from the standard Ailey repertoire, as well as original works by choreographers such as Milton Myers, Christine Lawson, Gus Solomon and Dianne McIntyre. In addition, the ensemble has attempted to maintain the historical perspective of dance with the inclusion of such dance classics as "Games" by Donald McKayle and "The Road of the Phoebe Snow" by Talley Beatty.

Among its credits, the Ensemble includes producing five original ballets as its contribution to the very special "Ailey Celebrates Ellington" at the New York State Theater in Lincoln Center.

The Repertory Ensemble was founded by Alvin Ailey in the fall of 1974. Since its inception, it has been very successful in serving its dual function as an arena for performance experience for fourteen very talented and highly trained young dancers as well as being a vehicle by which new audiences throughout the country can be exposed to dance. In an attempt to perform for people who would have little opportunity of enjoying the arts, the company regularly performs for new dance audiences through its community services and children's programs. The Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble continues to develop a wealth of young dancers, choreographers, designers and theater technicians. These artists are given the opportunity to sharpen their techniques when the company performs in major halls from coast to coast.

Tickets for this performance are \$5.50, \$8.50 and \$7.50. For more information or to make reservations call the Performing Arts Center at 521-0778.



Candidates from different sponsoring organizations for Homecoming Queen of PSU are shown above. The student body votes the queen to be crowned during halftime of Saturday's homecoming men's basketball game with Pfeiffer College. Left to right, the coeds above are: front row--Venita Lilly, Fayetteville; Dolores Osborne, Miami, Fla.; Sharon Williams, Salemburg; Kay Thompson, Rowland; Caroline Chang, Dix Hills, NY; Susan Beard, Fayetteville; Antoinette Hill, Fairmont; back row-- Joni Wood, LeGrange; Harriet Horner, Hope Mills; Gail McLean, Hope Mills; Annette Sealey, Lumberton; Hiroko Suga, Japan; and Pandora Sampson, Rowland.

Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble To Perform

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1985 8:00 pm

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER PEMBROKE STATE UNIVERSITY

The Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, one of the components of the American Dance Center (the official school of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater) will perform at the Pembroke State University's Performing Arts Center on February 16, at 8 p.m. as part of "The Season" attractions.

Under the artistic direction of

1885-1985: THE FREEING OF A PROUD PEOPLE; 100 Years Of Indian Education In Robeson

by Lew, Bruce and Garry Barton

INDIANS SUCCESSFUL IN EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

The height of our educational achievement came in 1968 and shortly thereafter when a national study of Indian education conducted by the U.S. Office of Education itself determined that the Lumbee school system was superior to any other Indian schools in the United States. How proud we were to be held up as a national model of Indian educational achievement! Federal Government agencies in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere were quick to recognize our leadership potential and rushed in to employ a number of Lumbees for top or very high governmental positions of awesome responsibility.

Brantley Blue became the first and only U.S. Indian Claims Commissioner who was also an Indian. Tom Oxendine became head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs information department. Helen Maynor Shierbeck became the national head of Indian education. Adolph L. Dial was appointed to the national Indian Policy Committee. Other governmental positions too numerous to mention here were filled.

Opportunity came suddenly and overwhelmingly, but our people were ready for it when it came.

But on the heels of all the success, in 1970, came disaster, too. For the Robeson County Board of Education, with only one Indian member, took over complete control of Indian schools. And it was all done in the name of desegregation. The main population had devised a means of control over the Indian schools through means of "double-voting."

If anyone thought the Indians of Robeson County, North Carolina, were poised to rush madly to break down anybody's segregated school lines, however, they were in for a rude awakening. All the wall-breaking has come from other directions. For we are a proud people.

We wanted only to continue to attend our own traditional schools. And many of us considered it something kin to blasphemy when our children were denied that right.

No other Indian people--and few of any ethnic background--ever treasured a school system as we treasured ours. It represented all that was good about us and in us, and we have not let it go to this present day. We have come too far during the past 100 years to turn back now.

We probably have more teachers, ministers, lawyers and doctors per thousand population than any other ethnic group in America, the main population included. Today, the Robeson County School System is largely under Indian control while a majority of white pupils attend the so-called "city schools."

We shall be dealing more completely with all these matters in forthcoming issues.

To be continued in next week's issue of The Carolina Indian Voice