

The Carolina Indian Voice

Published each Thursday in Pembroke, N.C.

Dedicated to Service

"Building Communicative Bridges
In A Tri-racial Setting"

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The Carolina Indian Voice wants to serve you by printing your news. However, in order to better serve you, the staff of The Carolina Indian Voice must impose a 5 p.m. Tuesday deadline for news that is to appear in the Thursday edition.

Advertisers are asked to please adhere to the same deadline (Tuesday at 5 p.m.).

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ACHIEVEMENTS BY INDIANS OVER PREJUDICES OF PREVIOUS ERAS CITED BY LONNIE REVELS



Lonnie Revels is shown surrounded by Indian Youth at the Sixth Annual Indian Youth Unity Conference held at PEMBROKE-Lonnie Revels, now a Greensboro city councilman and the owner of a successful printing company in that city, told an audience of young Indians from all over North Carolina how he was denied a five-cent soft drink as a five-year-old Indian visiting a drugstore in Lumberton. "I kept asking the waitress for a drink, kept tapping my nickel on the counter, but she acted as though she didn't hear me. So I finally left without my drink," Revels said Wednesday.

As the first speaker at the sixth annual Indian Youth Unity Conference at Pembroke State University, Revels said actions like these exemplified words like segregation, discrimination, prejudice, and humiliation.

"Learn how to deal with these words effectively," he said. "I want to give you a challenge: Be the best that you can."

And he emphasized this point: "There is no greater need for unity among Indian people. The American Indian is at the bottom."

Revels, who is now serving as chairman of the N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs and recently was named "Tar Heel of the Week" by the Raleigh News and Observer, related how by refusing to give up he became the only Indian on a major municipality's city council in America.

"I kept running for office until I won," he said. "Be persistent in whatever you do. Don't give up. The first time I ran for office, I lost by 27 votes. But my comments were like Gen. Douglas MacArthur's when he left the Philippines: 'I shall return.'"

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"Be an optimist. Be positive," Revels urged. "An optimist looks at a bottle that is half filled-and says, 'It's half full.' A pessimist looks at the same bottle-and remarks, 'It's half empty.' In this part of the country, we were told as Indian people that we were just farmers. It used to be that the only writeups we got in the newspaper were when someone was murdered. Any accomplishments by our people were carried on the back page next to the obituary. I had been programmed to think the only things we could

do were with our hands." But Revels was convinced that "God doesn't make any junk."

In challenging the Indian young people for the future,

Revels spoke of new innovations like the Indian Cultural Center purchased by the state for Indians at what used to be Riverside Country Club three miles west of Pembroke.

"Along with the original property, the state purchased 100 acres of additional land to help in developing this Cultural Center. But you know what our biggest problem is

concerning this Cultural Center? The Indians here in Robeson County are saying, 'It won't work.'"

(Note: Some Pembroke people want the property used as

Pembroke State University, a state park.)

Revels added: "Our state is spending millions of dollars in celebrating its 400th anniversary. But next year it says we are going to have the Year of the Indian in our state. We have the leadership of the state supporting it. We should be working more toward supporting that project here."

He told the Indian students "you are our greatest resource," warning them to look after themselves health-wise and accident-wise. "The lifespan of Indians is 10 years less than other people. Our young people get killed in automobiles. And there are drugs. This country has one of the highest fatality rates for Indians."

In conclusion, Revels had the Indian young people repeat after him the words: "If not me, who? If not now, when? Look at me, I'm here. I have pride. I have roots. I'm somebody special."

The Indian young people proudly echoed Revels' words that mean they want to achieve in all aspects of life today which will affect their lives, the lives of their children, and the lives of their people.

In welcoming the Indian young people to the PSU campus, Dr. James B. Chavis, vice chancellor for student affairs at PSU, noted that five of the six Indian youth unity conferences have been held at Pembroke State University.

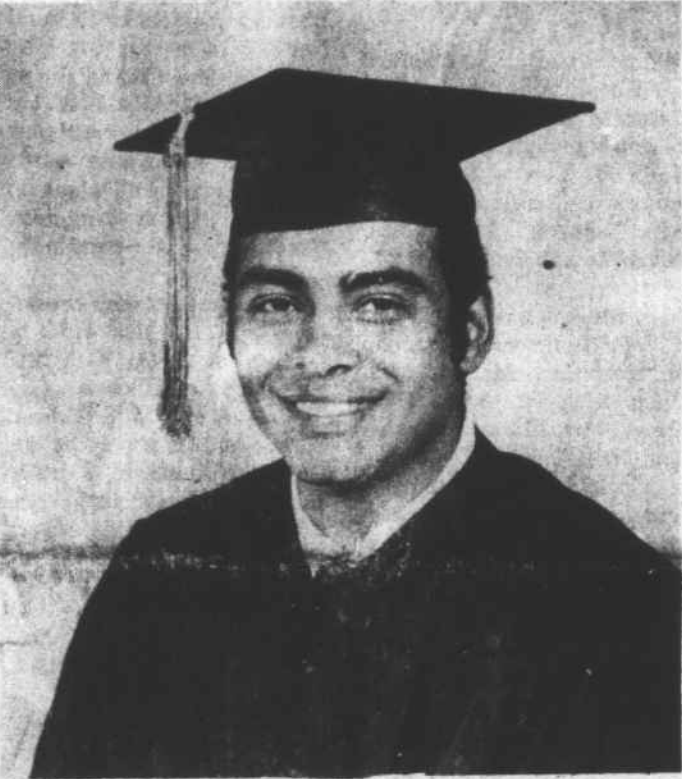
"Many of you have deep roots here," commented Chavis. "It has been 98 years since your forefathers got together to start this school-and this is what has evolved out of their dreams and hard work. We look forward to bringing you bright young men and women to Pembroke."

First Lumbee to Graduate Under Tuition Waiver Grant in Michigan

Charlie Chavis of Detroit, Mich. became the first Lumbee to graduate from Wayne State University in May, 1985. He graduated with a degree in electronic engineering. He was the first Lumbee to graduate under the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver Grant for Lumbees in Michigan which came after a long court battle. Chavis was co-plaintiff in the original suit. Prior to the law suit, Lumbees were not recognized as Indians by the State of Michigan and were denied tuition waivers

which were available to other Indians. Following the successful case, Lumbees are now accorded their legal rights as Indians in the State of Michigan.

Chavis is also a graduate of Pembroke Senior High School and like many Lumbees from Robeson County, he moved to Michigan. He also attended Wayne Community College. He is the son of Ms. Jeanette Chavis of Route 2, Pembroke and the late Willie Stancell Chavis is the grandson of Mrs. Leola Barton.



Charlie Chavis

RANDOLPH UMBERGER'S "STRIKE AT THE WIND!" KICKS OFF ITS TENTH SEASON SATURDAY NIGHT

Red Banks-Randolph UMBERGER'S "Strike at the Wind!" begins its tenth season Saturday night. The outdoor drama is built around the story of the Lumbee Indians of Robeson County. It is a saga called "the most ironic story in American History" by noted Lumbee historian, Lew Barton. It is a story you must see and hear to believe... to understand. More than 50,000 strong today, these proud, industrious, and basically peaceful people have survived the threat of extinction from forced assimilation, the historian's pen, governmental policies, and the evils of segregation. They survived to tell their story in this most unforgettable experience for men, women and children of all ages.

"Strike at the Wind" is the story of their joys, sorrows, hopes and struggles during the Civil War era, and how

they came to grips with their neighbors and friends and foes. The Civil War period threatened the very fabric of American society; and the survival of the Lumbee people is the story of every man, no matter what his color and creed and experiences.

"Strike at the Wind!" opens Saturday, July 6, and runs through September 7 every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. The show begins at 8:30 p.m. nightly at the Lakeside Amphitheatre on the grounds of Riverside Country Club in the Red Banks community, three miles west of Pembroke. Tickets are \$5.50 for adults, \$3.00 for children, \$4.50 for senior citizens, and \$7.00 for reserved seating. For ticket information, call 521-2480 or 5213112.

"Strike at the Wind", the bitter-sweet saga of Henry Berry Lowrie and the Lumbee Indians and their friends and

foes in Robeson County, is performed by a cast of approximately 65 actors and actresses who express this historical event in an amphitheatre setting. It is a humanitarian effort to epitomize what is best in all men. The virtues of love, faith, hope and courage become reality. It is freedom personified, showing how people then and now can rise to the occasion and subdue negative forces that try to destroy the human spirit. It is an American story of international and cross cultural harmony.

"Strike at the Wind!" features music by Willie Lowrie, and is directed by David Oxendine. Carnell Locklear, the irrepressible "Boss Strong" in the show, who also doubles as general manager, exclaims, "I challenge anyone to come out and experience the joy of 'Strike at the Wind!' I know they will like it, and we are looking forward to a great season."

Calendar Of Events Lumbee Homecoming 1985

Sponsored By Connor Homes

Friday, June 28, 1985: Pow-Wow - Riverside Country Club Field at 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. (Admission \$1.00)

Saturday, June 29, 1985: Pow-Wow - Riverside Country Club Field at 1:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. (Admission \$1.00)

Tuesday, July 2, 1985: Kick-Off Dance Presenting Miss Lumbee Contestants - Pembroke Jaycee Clubhouse at 8:30 p.m. (Admission \$3.00)

Wednesday, July 3, 1985: Business & Award Banquet - Pembroke Jaycee Clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. (Admission \$6.50)

Thursday, July 4, 1985: Little Miss Lumbee - Performing Arts Center, Pembroke State University at 7:30 p.m. (Admission \$4.00)

Friday, July 5, 1985: Miss Lumbee Scholarship Pageant - Performing Arts Center, Pembroke State University at 8:00 p.m. (Admission \$5.00)

Friday, July 5, 1985: Ball - Old Foundry Ballroom at 11:00 p.m. (Admission \$12.00 per couple, Breakfast Included)

Saturday, July 6, 1985: Activities in the Park - Pembroke Town Park at 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. 6 Mile Race, 3 Mile Fun Walk, Booths in the Park & Traders, also Country Cooking, (LIVE) Z101 FM Entertainment, Weight Lifting, Arts & Crafts

Saturday, July 6, 1985: Lumbee Homecoming Parade - Downtown Pembroke at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, July 6, 1985: Reception and Art Display - Old Main, Pembroke State University at 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 6, 1985: "Strike At The Wind" - Riverside Country Club at 8:00 p.m. (Admission \$2.00 for Children 12 years and under - Adults \$5.00 - Senior Citizens \$4.00 - Reserved Seats \$6.00)

Sunday, July 7, 1985: Gospel Singing - Performing Arts Center, Pembroke State University at 2:30 p.m. (Admission Free)

REUNION PLANNED

Oxendine and Hunt Reunion Miss Eula and Mary Hunt of Pembroke, daughters of deceased, Solomon (Sol) and Queen Ester (Koon) Hunt Oxendine, of the Black Ankle Community of Fairmont, invite you to a reunion at Berea Baptist Church in Pembroke, Saturday, July 13 at 12 noon. Everyone should bring a covered dish. For directions to the church call Mary Hunt at 521-4684 in Pembroke.

POW WOW SCENE



Derek Lowry, who will also play "The Leader" in this year's production of "Strike at the Wind!" was one of the featured dancers in The Lumbee Homecoming Pow Wow which was held last Friday and Saturday night. More events are scheduled this week, including the "Little Miss Lumbee Pageant" (July 4) tonight, "Miss Lumbee Pageant" Friday night and more. See the calendar of events elsewhere on this page. We will have a full report next week in The Carolina Indian Voice. Look for it!



Harvey Godwin, Jr. returns for another season as "Boss Strong" in the show, "Strike at the Wind!". He played to perfection by the renowned actress Hope Sharp. (J.W. Hunt, photo)



Welcome Lumbees!
Best wishes for
Lumbee Homecoming!
STRIKE at the WIND!