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Love and Gifts Bestowed Upon Retiring Chancellor

By Gene Warren

In what was described as an evening of love for and thanks to "the Chancellor and First Lady of Pembroke State University" for ten years of service to PSU, retiring Chancellor Paul Givens and his wife, Lee, were honored here May 12 with an "Appreciation Dinner" which attracted a turn-away crowd of 345.

The benediction to the evening by Rev. Welton Lowry perhaps summarized best the tributes paid to the Givens when he quoted the scriptures in praying: "What you sow, you reap." Lowry expressed thanks for the many blessings for the Givens family "witnessed tonight, and may God continue to bless him and his lovely wife with good health, and may their best be yet to be."

PSU Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Charles Jenkins, who along with PSU professor Ann Wells presented the Givens with a Memory Book which contained letters of thanks and appreciation from many of their friends and colleagues, said: "To see how you are loved, you simply have to look around this room and see the calibre of people here. We hope you will not forget us, and you can be assured that we will not forget you."

Gifts to the Givens included an electric golf cart with all the extras for him and a check for purchase of an oriental rug for her in furnishing their new home being constructed in Tampa, Fla. The gifts were presented by Dr. Joseph Sandlin, PSU executive in residence who said: "We have felt very, very comfortable in working with you and very, very happy that you've been here." Sandlin traced the progressive steps made by Givens at PSU, including establishing the Chancellor's Scholars Program and beginning the Economic Development Office.

Sandlin, in telling some light stories about what retirement will bring in the way of work around the house, told Dr. Givens: "This golf cart will be at the Temple Terrace Golf and Country Club (at Tampa, Fla.), and the key to it has a PSU seal on it. I was told to give the key to Lee so you could use it only when you have finished your housework."

Sandlin added: "Dr. Givens has been the kind who has let us do our job. I've enjoyed my three years here more than all of the others put together."

Other expressions of thanks to the Givens were expressed by Dr. Raymond Dawson, senior vice president for the UNC General Administration; Dr. Ruth Dial Woods, a member of the UNC Board of Governors; Roland Coulan of Pembroke, a member of the Senior Class at PSU; Ken Freeman, president of the PSU Alumni Association; Dr. Chet Jordan, chairman of the PSU Faculty Senate; and alumna Mary Locklear.

Dr. Dawson said: "It is a great privilege and a great honor to be at this occasion tonight to pay tribute to Lee and to you, Paul, for all that you've done for Pembroke State University--to look at all that has been accomplished here. You have opened doors that might not have been opened. We will always be in your debt for the work you've done here in 10 years--and you will always remain our colleague and friend."

Dr. Woods brought the Givens greetings from Robert L. (Roddy) Jones, chairman of the UNC Board of Governors, and spoke of how PSU "is held in high regard and recognized as a progressive institution" among the 16 constituent institutions in the UNC system. "On this occasion of your retirement, you leave behind a legacy of educational excellence, progressive leadership, quality institutional programs, proud alumni, and faculty and staff committed to continuing institutional growth and progress. We thank you for sharing your life and contributing to this great institution. We wish both of you God speed, good health and many happy days ahead."

Coulan said: "We are here to witness the end of a much-noted success story. The Class of '89 wishes to thank you and wish you farewell."

Freeman, speaking for the 8,000 members of the PSU Alumni Association, reminded everyone that Dr. Givens had been honored with the Alumni Association's "Distinguished Service Award" at the PSU Homecoming in February and then spoke of how enthusiastically Dr. Givens had supported alumni programs. "We now have an alumni director spending most of his time in alumni affairs and a full-time alumni secretary. Our Alumni Chapters Programs have grown not only in this state but outside this state," said Freeman, adding that Dr. Givens has encouraged increasing funds for alumni development. Noting other progressive steps such as the awarding of two annual alumni scholarships of \$1,000 each, Freeman said he is looking for continued progress in the alumni area and concluded: "We wish the best of blessings for you (the Givenses) in the future and a very happy retirement."

Jordan, noting that he joined the PSU faculty the same year that Givens became chancellor in 1979, said that under Givens "the Faculty Senate came into its own and became a decision-making body." Noting such progressive steps at PSU as the Basic Studies Program and an Evaluation System, Jordan read a special resolution from the Faculty Senate praising Dr. Givens and concluded: "Thank you, Dr. Givens, for your support of the Faculty and the Faculty Senate."

Mary Locklear, a member of the PSU class of '33, also appeared on the program and presented an award to Dr. Givens, stating: "You will always be remembered with love and admiration at Pembroke State University by the students, teachers, alumni, community, county, state and nation."

As part of the tributes to the Givenses, two of Mrs. Givens' favorite songs were sung by Pamela Stone, accompanied by Dr. Glenn Utsch. Both are members of the PSU Music Department. The Rodgers and Hammerstein selections were: "Climb Every Mountain" and "You'll Never Walk Alone."

Among the many outstanding people present for the occasion were Sen. David Parnell and Rep. Pete Hasty of the N.C. General Assembly and Dr. Richard R. Eaken.

Continued On Page 5

Sen. Sanford Reintroduces Bill to Grant Lumbees Federal Recognition

Washington, D.C.--U.S. Senator Terry Sanford (D-NC) recently introduced the Lumbee Recognition Act to extend Federal recognition to the Lumbee Indians of North Carolina. Sanford introduced a similar bill last year.

"Over 100 years ago the tribal leaders in southeastern North Carolina asked Congress to formally acknowledge their special heritage as native Americans," Sanford said. "Last year, on the centennial of that first request, Senator Daniel Inouye, the distinguished Chairman of the Select Committee on Indian Affairs, and I introduced legislation fully recognizing the Lumbee Tribe...I felt then, as I do now, that theirs is a special case that makes it necessary to circumvent the usual recognition process."

The bill that Sanford and Inouye (D-HI) introduced was approved by the Select Committee on Indian Affairs but never reached the full Senate.

The Lumbees were recognized by the federal government in 1956, but that legislation prevented them from attaining fully recognized status. Sanford and Inouye's 1988 bill amended the 1956 legislation to allow the Lumbees to achieve full status and, if Congress appropriated the necessary funds, allowed the Lumbees to apply for Bureau of Indian Affairs services.

Sanford's new bill again provides for full recognition but does not allow the Lumbees to apply for federal funds without further Congressional action. "In drafting this legislation, I have kept in mind both budgetary restraints and the immediate needs of other federally recognized tribes," Sanford explained. "The Lumbee Recognition Act' appropriates no new money and provides that the Lumbee Indians will receive Bureau of Indian Affairs services only after Congress has appropriated the necessary funds."

Sanford cited two reasons for circumventing the usual recognition process. "First, due to the backlog of petitions at the BIA, recognition of the Lumbee petition could take up to ten years. Second, the extraordinary administrative burden and cost, estimated at \$150,000, of processing the Lumbee petition can be avoided. I'd like to save the taxpayers those costs."

Sanford went on to say, "This bill, if passed, ensures the cultural integrity of the Lumbee Tribe by allowing them the ability to control their own welfare. I take pride in playing a small role in trying to accord the Lumbees the recognition that has long been their due."

Student Receives Excellence Awards

Greensboro, NC--Pamela Lynn Brooks, a nursing major from Pembroke, NC, is among 23 students at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro to receive Student Excellence Awards at the 27th annual Honors Convocation on campus.



Brooks is the daughter of Paul and Pauline Brooks of Route 2, Box 92, Pembroke. She is a graduate of West Robeson Senior High School in Pembroke. As a nursing major, Brooks last year was selected to attend the 5th International Conference on Cancer Nursing held in London, England. She received one of 100 grants awarded throughout the U.S. to attend the conference. She has attended UNC-G on an Indian health scholarship. She has been an active member of the local, state and national Student Nurse Associations. She

also was elected to serve on the Dean's Student Advisory Council in the School of nursing. She also has served as a University Marshall.

Only juniors and seniors are eligible to receive the Student Excellence Awards. The students represent a select group because they were chosen from more than 3,000 UNC-G juniors and seniors.

The students were nominated by faculty within the departments in which they are majoring. Nominations were then evaluated by the Student Excellence Awards screening committee. Final selections were made by the UNC-G Honors Council.

The awards were established in 1971 to recognize UNC-G juniors and seniors with outstanding academic accomplishments. Recipients of the awards must be judged "superior to other able students" in such qualities as intellectual talent, analytic or critical ability, creativity, originality and initiative, and perseverance in academic pursuits. Nominees for the awards must have overall grade point averages of 3.5 or above out of a possible 4.0.

American Indians want to manage their own assimilation

By KERRY D. BIRD

Like all other U.S. citizens, we American Indians want to control our own lives. We have a rich history, which greatly influenced the development of this country as we know it today. We have many of the same thoughts, dreams and aspirations as any typical American citizen. We need to know we will be afforded the same opportunities.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, a division of the Department of the Interior, is helping American Indians realize their potential. One way is through education.

Of a total budget of \$1.07 billion, \$238 million is spent on education and educational services. By encouraging education, the government is investing in the nation's future. As Indians become more educated and self-sufficient, their dependency will decrease.

Yet not all American Indians are served by the BIA. Only federally-recognized Indians living on or around federally-designated reservations or designated Indian lands receive BIA services. In 1980, 735,000 Indians, or 52 percent of the 1.4 million Indians in the United States, were eligible for BIA funding.

In many cases, even that funding was ineffective. On the Rosebud reservation in

South Dakota, the unemployment rate is 93 percent; there are 25 other reservations across the United States which have unemployment of at least 61 percent.

According to the 1980 census, the median income of Indian families was \$13,680, compared to \$19,920 for the nation as a whole. Fully 23 percent of the total Indian population, or about 400,000 Indians, live below the poverty level.

So the BIA's ineffectiveness has had an impact even on reservations -- which tribal members are leaving in search of better educational or employment opportunity. I do not suggest that all would stay were the bulk of BIA services reaching them. I do suggest many leave from necessity rather than by choice.

North Carolina is home to approximately 65,000 American Indians, the fifth largest Indian population in the United States. Of the six state-recognized tribes making up the bulk of this population, only one tribe received benefits from the BIA: the Cherokees, who constitute about 15 percent of the state's Indian population.

The Lumbee tribe, which accounts for more than 60 percent of the Indians in North Carolina, is seeking federal recognition. But it still would not receive benefits or services unless Congress allocated additional funds.

As I mentioned, state-recognized tribes are not the only Indians who are losing out on BIA services. Indians who have relocated to urban areas also receive no BIA assistance.

Many Indians who move to cities are unprepared for the culture shock of living in an urban setting. Reservations and rural Indian communities are usually small, close-knit groups that are rich in family history. Urban Indian centers are agencies that provide support for American Indians as they struggle to blend culture and tradition with modern values and technology.

The urban Indian center in this area is the Guilford Native American Association. It was established to promote the social and economic self-sufficiency of Indians living in the Greensboro, Winston-Salem and High Point region.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs needs to become actively involved with Indian centers in the larger cities. These are the agencies urban Indians are using. The 1980 census reported that 64 percent of all American Indians lived off the reservations. In order for the BIA to adequately serve the Indian population, it must go where the population is.

Dependency of American Indians on the federal government is a habit of long standing. Like any other habit, it must be overcome gradually and carefully to ensure a smooth transition from dependency to self-sufficiency.

Even then the federal government will remain responsible for providing services to tribes for which it signed treaties. Washington must honor those treaties and uphold its obligations, just as it does with foreign allies.

The emphasis of the BIA in the 1980s has been the same as it was in the 1960s. This does not mean the Bureau of Indian Affairs has failed, but it has been ineffective. Obviously, what needs to be done for the American Indian is not getting done.

As Indians are allowed greater participation in BIA decision-making, things can only get better. American Indians look forward to the day when they have a larger voice in administering the programs, services and agencies that are set up for their benefit.

THE ROUNDTABLE

Kerry Bird, 27, of Greensboro is marketing director for the Guilford Native American Association. A member of both the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe of Sisseton, S.D., and of the Lumbee Tribe of Pembroke, N.C., he graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a degree in political science. In 1986, he won the Indian Youth of the Year award given by the United Tribes of North Carolina. He serves as an adviser to the N.C. Native American Youth Organization and Council on Higher Education.



Illustration commissioned for the Year of the Native American