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"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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GRAHAM FILES FOR CLERK OF COURT



Larry Graham

Larry Graham has filed for Clerk of Superior Court. The

34-year-old Graham is a native of Maxton. He attended the public schools of Robeson County (Maxton City Schools). He attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, NC. Graham's civic and religious activities include serving as a Magistrate since 1985. He has also been a professional photographer since 1974. He has served as a part time private school instructor in mathematics and science, as vice chairman of the Robeson County Board of Health. He is secretary of the Board of Stewards at St. Matthews AME Zion Church Maxton, assistant church treasurer. He is past chairman of the Maxton Precinct (Democratic Party). He was a member of the staff of Purnell Swett High School that implemented the first in-school suspension program.

In making his announcement, Graham stated: "I offer my candidacy for Clerk of Superior Court as an effort to open a line of communication between citizens of Robeson County and the courts. Providing fine tuning in areas of the system that citizens feel uncomfortable with. These areas include but are not limited to over crowdedness of the court dockets with repeated appearances in court; reassurance of the integrity back into the system and fair and equitable treatment of all people."

"As a representative of all persons of this county to provide a system that will treat every citizen with respect, fairness, and dignity. I offer myself as a candidate for the office of Superior Court of Robeson County."

'Football Era' Relived at PSU As Old Gridders of '47-'50 Era Have Reunion

by Gene Warren

The "Football Era" of PSU as a senior college was 1946-50, said football veterans of that era who had their first gridiron reunion ever during PSU's homecoming weekend Feb. 10.

The camaraderie was wonderful as over a dozen players greeted one another and exchanged stories of nostalgic moments.

They talked about the '48 Pembroke State team which went undefeated in winning eight regular season games, then lost as John (Ned) Sampson tells it, to a semi pro team called the Gastonia Volunteers in the "Thanksgiving Bowl" at Gastonia.

Co-chaired by Lindy Martin of Birmingham, Ala., and Jesse Oxendine of Charlotte, the players took turns reflecting verbally on that era and how much playing football during those years meant to them. Martin played end, while Oxendine was a quarterback.

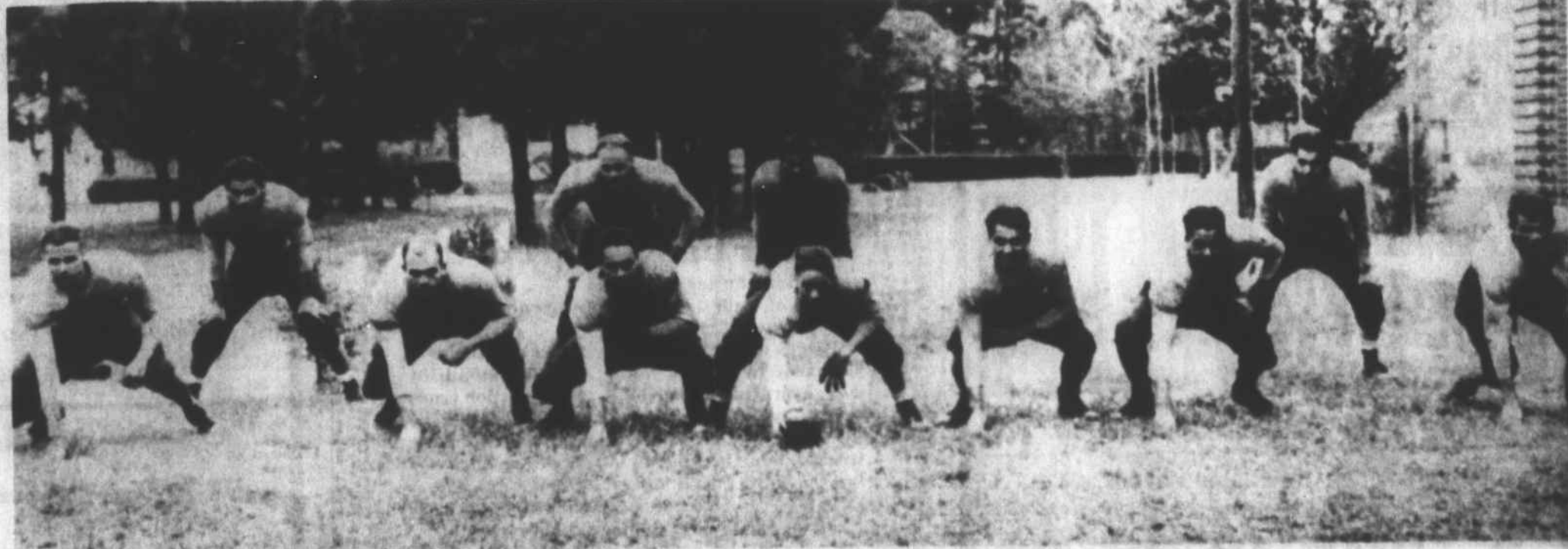
Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine of PSU, who grew up in Pembroke and knew the players but did his own football playing for Catawba College, visited the reunion and enjoyed every bit of it. Later he told the audience at the Alumni Awards Banquet: "It was a high light being with some old football players back from my era. Although I was not a member of their teams, they were my closest buddies." Then with tongue in cheek, he smiled: "I didn't realize until tonight how good they really were. Their exploits have magnified with age."

Of the 7-6 loss at Gastonia, Martin commented: "That was probably one of the better games. Although we lost, it was not without a battle. We were on their three-yard line as the game ended."

Martin emphasized that the most significant thing about the Pembroke State team of that era was that it was the only four-year college team in the nation comprised entirely of Native Americans.

Jesse Oxendine spoke about the closeness of the teams. "A lot of you are my cousins, let's face it," he said. "There were four or five groups of brothers on the teams. We had a lot of camaraderie--just a bunch of good guys."

Earl Hughes Oxendine commented: "In '49, we never lost a game in which I played." He spoke of the challenge of playing with only one eye. "Things have gone real well for me since I graduated," he said, speaking of his children in Athens, Ga., and Frankfurt, Germany.



This was the Pembroke State College Football Team of 1948 which went undefeated in eight regular season games before losing 7-6 to a

Gastonia Volunteers semi pro team. in the "Thanksgiving Bowl" at Gastonia. Left to right, the players are: front row--Henry Ford Lowry,

right end; Earl Cummings, right tackle; Earl Spaulding, right guard; Monroe Lowry, center; Henry W. Smith, left guard; "Ned" Sampson,

left tackle; Robert Oxendine, left end; back row--Jesse Oxendine, quarterback; "Mo" Stricklin, fullback; Tom Oxendine, tailback; and

T.B. Sanderson, wingback. Members of the team and other football players of the 1946-50 "football era" at PSU had a reunion during the PSU homecoming Feb. 10.

15th Annual Indian Unity Conference Planned

The Fifteenth Annual North Carolina Indian Unity Conference will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Greensboro, NC, March 15th-17th.

This year's theme is "A Decade of Indian Unity in North Carolina: Together we make a Difference." The conference, sponsored by United Tribes of North Carolina, a non-profit coalition of the State's tribes and Indian service organizations, will include guest speakers, workshops, general assemblies, an Indian artist contest, a pow-wow, dance and awards banquet.

Issues to be discussed include

Indian education, housing, health, employment and training, youth advocacy, political action, senior citizens rights and economic development. The conference provides a forum for Indians of North Carolina to express and address their concerns as well as share Indian history, culture and contributions.

Advance registration for the three day event is \$45 per person and includes workshop materials, banquet ticket and a breakfast assembly on the 17th. For more information contact your local Indian service organization.

Lumbee Indian Business Directory to be Updated

Presently Lumbee Regional Development Association's Economic Development Office is updating a directory of Lumbee Indian Businesses. The objective of the directory

is to facilitate the use of Indian owned and operated businesses. Copies of this publication will be mailed not only on the local level but

also nationally. This will lead greater economic growth in the community.

In order to accomplish the task, LRDA is asking for your assistance. If you own or operate a business or know of a Lumbee owned or operated business, please contact Bobby Griffin at 521-0354 or 521-0864 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

HATCHER RECEIVES 18 YEARS AFTER GUILTY PLEA

Eddie Hatcher pleaded guilty to 14 counts of second degree kidnapping on Wednesday in Robeson County Superior Court. He was represented by Barry Nakeff and Robeson County's Public Defender Angus Thomp-

son. Hatcher pleaded guilty as part of a plea arrangement with the District Attorney's office in Robeson County.

After his guilty plea, Judge Coy Brewer Jr. sentenced Hatcher to 18 years in prison. The judge

Saddletree Plans Voter Registration

The Saddletree Voter Registration Project will sponsor a registration drive at the saddletree United Community Building (formerly Jaycee Building) on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. A free chicken bog will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend. Those persons who have been purged are especially encouraged to attend and register to vote....Any person who will be eighteen years old by the November general election may register and vote in the May Primary. All high school students who will be 18 years old by November are urged to come out and register..Voters will be registered at this event from any precinct. Registration is not confined to the Saddletree community.

..... gave Hatcher credit for nearly one year that he has spent in Central Prison, Raleigh awaiting trial.

Hatcher and Timothy Jacobs were charged in February 1, 1988 with federal hostage taking. Hatcher was acquitted of those charges. The district attorney for Robeson County, then had Hatcher indicted on state charges of kidnapping.

Timothy Jacobs, co-defendant in the federal charges, pleaded guilty in May to the same 14 counts of second degree kidnapping and was sentenced to six years in prison. He is being considered for probation and has been offered work release in Charlotte.



Taking part in Pembroke State's first football reunion Feb. 10 as part of the PSU homecoming festivities were the above. These played during the 1946-50 era when PSU field a team which played junior colleges, senior colleges and semi pro teams. Many of

these players were in the military, graduating later. Left to right, they re: kneeling--Lindy Martin, Vincent Lowry, James Dial, Jesse Oxendine, Leslie Locklear; standing--Julius Bryant, Marvin Lowry, Earl Hughes Oxendine, John [Ned] Sampson,

William [Mo] Stricklin, Delton Ray Locklear, Tom Oxendine and Herbert Lloyd. Martin now resides in Birmingham, Ala., Jesse Oxendine in Charlotte and Tom Oxendine and Arlington, Va. The remainder are from Pembroke.