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Rose Marie Lowry, First Indian Elected President Of NCAE



Rose Marie Lowry

Rose Marie Lowry, principal of Union Elementary School, has been elected president of the 46,000-member North Carolina Association of Educators. She is the first Indian and the first administrator (in 15 years) to be elected to the prestigious position. The election will consist of a two year term beginning July 1, 1990 she will become president-elect of NCAE. She will resume the presidency July 1, 1991 and serve in that capacity for one year. She will be allowed a two year leave of absence from the Public Schools of Robeson County.

Attending schools in her native Robeson County, Lowry earned her B.S. in Elementary Education at PSU. She has graduate degrees from Appalachian State University, the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and Pembroke State University, as well as East Carolina University.

Greenville, NC and she is a doctoral candidate at Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC.

Lowry has been employed by public school system since 1975. She taught fifth grade at Pembroke Elementary for five years and served as Director of the Health Career Awareness Project for the county schools for four years; she has served as Principal of Union Elementary School since 1984.

Her organizational affiliations include membership in the National Education Association; North Carolina Association of Educators; Robeson County NCAE; Robeson County Political Action Committee of Educators; Charter Member of Robeson County Historical Society; Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity of PSU; Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Club; National Education Association Women's Caucus; PSU Alumni Association; the American Indian/Alaskan Native Caucus of the National Education Association; Robeson County Young Democrats; and the Robeson County Democratic Women. She has served as treasurer of the Robeson County Association of Educators; Vice President and president of the same organization. She has served as chairperson of the Robeson County Political Action Committee of Educators. She has been External Vice President and President of the Pembroke Jayettes; Chairperson of the North Carolina Task Force on American Indian Educators; and many other educational, civic and religious organizations.

She has been honored and recognized for her contributions to education on many occasions. She was recognized as Outstanding Young Educator by the Pembroke Jayees and the Faculty and Staff of Pembroke Elementary. She was honored as Teacher of the Year by the Concerned Parents Association, received the Outstanding Young Women of America Award, as well as one of the five Outstanding Young Women in North Carolina; the Pembroke Business and Women's Young Careerist; District IV Young Careerist Business and Professional Women; Robeson County Principal of the Year; and Region IV Principal of the Year.

FIRST COUSINS WORK HARD AND RECEIVE ACADEMIC HONORS

Chadwick Loy (Chad) Lowry, son of Jimmie R. Lowry and Mrs. Phyllis Lowry of Tryon has been chosen one of fifteen recipients of the prestigious B.N. Duke Leadership Award. He is a senior at Tryon High School.

Lowry was at Duke University in February interviewing for the award. Seventy-nine finalists were chosen from a pool of over 1,000 candidates. Fifteen winners were chosen from among the seventy-nine finalists.

The finalists participated in a three-day program that included scholarship interviews and special programs with distinguished members of the Duke Community: University President Keith H. Brodie, Trustee Emeritus Mark Duke Bidde Trent Semans, professors Norman Christensen, Albert Eldridge and Patricia Wright and head basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski. The keynote speaker at the Friday night dinner was Judy Woodruff, Duke Alumna and chief Washington correspondent for the McNeill/Lehrer News Hour.

Lowry was the only Indian (Lumbee) to be awarded the scholarship. The four-year scholarship, worth more than \$40,000, is awarded annually to students from the Carolinas. The program was begun with the support of the Duke Endowment and is named for Benjamin Newton Duke, brother of University benefactor James B. Duke.

The university awards about 10 Benjamin N. Duke scholarships annually to students from North and South Carolina who exhibit high academic performance and demonstrate leadership ability and community involvement. It covers 75 percent of tuition and provides opportunities for participation in campus programs designed to develop leadership potential.

During his four years at Tryon High School, Chad has served on the Student Council, serving as president during his senior year; he has been president of the freshman class, sophomore class and junior class. He has been a member of the Debate Team; Key Club; Beta Club; JV Baseball Team; and served as editor of the school newspaper, TIGER RAG.

He is a member of the Tryon Youth Center and has served on the program

and activities committees. He is youth representative to Tryon United Methodist Church Administrative Board and served as chairman of the prom committee.

Chad's awards include the Physical Education Award, as well as the awards for Geometry, Tying I, Computer I, French I, Algebra II, Forensics, Computer Teacher, French II, Chemistry, U.S. History, Physics, Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, World Geography and French III.

Chad is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Bracy Locklear of Pembroke and Mrs. Myrtle Lowry of Rowland the late Rev. Harvey Lowry. He has also been accepted to Harvard University.

Nanci Page Locklear, daughter of Christopher Locklear and Dr. Cheryl R. Locklear of Pembroke, has been selected as a Morehead Scholar.

Nanci was one of two students to become a Morehead Scholar. She is a senior at Purnell Swett High School. The scholarship, valued at \$40,000, provides an all-expenses paid undergraduate education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Selection of the scholars followed a screening process that began last fall and ended in Chapel Hill. The competition involved students from 23 states and the District of Columbia.

Recipients were chosen for merit and achievement, not financial need, officials said. Other criteria used included leadership, service, character, academic standing, and motivation.

Nanci's academic honors include: Being on the "A" Honor Roll, the Superintendent's Honor Roll, the highest average in these subjects: Advanced Math, Chemistry, U.S. History, French I, French II, Teaching Fellows finalist. Athletic honors include most improved in softball, basketball and tennis; cheer leader; softball; basketball; tennis; and the North Carolina High School Athletic Association scholarship winner.

She is a volunteer lifeguard, swim instructor, public dance perform and campaign assistant.

Nanci is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bracy B. Locklear of Pembroke and Mrs. Flora N. Ransom of Pembroke and the late Marvin Ransom.



Chad Lowry



Nanci Page Locklear

Applications For Membership For RCHRUC Accepted

Robeson County Human Relations & Unity Commission Accepting Applications For Membership
The Robeson County Human Relations and Unity Commission is accepting applications to fill current and future membership vacancies. Interested persons are urged to apply within the next 30 days. If interested, please contact the Human Relations Commission office for more details on 871-3155 or you are invited to go by the Human Relations Office at 109 Elizabethtown Road, Lumberton, North Carolina 28359.

JAMES THOMAS TELLS PSU GRADUATES TO NEVER, EVER GIVE UP

by Gene Warren

For James A. Thomas, a native of Pembroke who is now co-managing partner of the nation's No. 1 commercial developer in Los Angeles, receiving an honorary doctor of laws and also being the speaker at PSU's commencement Saturday brought forth deep reflections of the past.

He shared this time of emotion with the 384 undergraduates and 82 graduate students who received their degrees and an overflow throng in the 1,700-capacity Performing Arts Center.

The rain outside, which prompted PSU's first rainy day schedule at commencement in at least 22 years, made the setting even more poignant as Thomas spoke of the theme of his talk and the memories it invoked.

Listening just as intently as everyone else was M. Carr Gibson of Lumberton, chairman of the board of Canal Industries, Inc., who earlier received an honorary doctor of humane letters. Gibson, who had been described during the presentation of his doctorate as "a silent benefactor of PSU...one who has given so much to so many," showed appreciation of Thomas' words as did the huge audience.

Thomas used a quotation from a speech once given by Winston Churchill at a graduation speech as the basis for his remarks. It was, said Thomas, these words: "Never, never, never, never, ever, ever, ever, ever give up."

In sharing his life story, Thomas, who attended both graded school and high school in Pembroke, told how his grandparents had been custodians at what had been the Indian Normal School and that his own parents (Ophelia and Earl A. Thomas) graduated from that school in the early 1930's. "My brother and I played on the campus, I played basketball in the (old) gym, roller skated all over the campus and used the library. This University is very deep in my life," said Thomas.

He described the Pembroke community "as a supportive community" and said "in my formative years, it shaped and molded me."

Thomas said what started at Pembroke "has been tested and forged throughout my adult life to date. It gave me something to fall back on when things get tough--and there were many times when things did get tough."

He said the first time was "getting through law school and the second was getting established as a lawyer." (Note: Thomas earned his law degree magna cum laude at Cleveland State University Law School.)

"after getting married near the end of my senior year in college (at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, O.), wife and I worked a year to save money for law school. While she continued to work full-time at night, I was admitted to Case Western Reserve University where I did well and was appointed to the Law Review at the end of my first year. At this point, however, my law school career was disrupted by a number of things, including the arrival of our second child.

"Determined to finish law school, I got a full time job and entered night law school. Many times I felt like giving up." He said he walked five blocks, often in the face of the wind and snow coming off Lake Erie, from his office at work to the law school. Lake Erie, from his office at work to the law school. "I felt like giving up, but Sally and I were able to hold on."

The second time things proved tough or Thomas came when he graduated from law school and found "little or no demand for night law school attorneys." It was pointed out by Thomas that "the best jobs went to Harvard and Yale graduates." He said "out of my class of about 100 only two were able to go into the private practice of law, and thank goodness, I was one of these two."

From that point on, Thomas' career moved forward. "By 1970, I was a partner in a prominent Los Angeles law firm. By 1976, I had formed my own law firm with two other attorneys. And by 1983, this law firm had grown to one of over 20 attorneys.

"By 1976, I had also formed a development firm with (Robert) Maguire, one of my clients. By 1976, we had developed a 100,000 square foot commercial center with a 500 boat slip marina. By 1983, we had developed a 54 story office building in downtown Los Angeles and had a 44 story office building under development.

"From 1976-83, I had two careers: the practice of law and real estate development. In 1983 I ceased the practice of law after 20 years. Since then, I have concentrated on development, and for the last several years Maguire Thomas Partners has been the largest commercial developer in the United States and probably the world. Recently, we completed the tallest building on the West Coast, which is the 73 story Library Tower building in the heart of Los Angeles. (Note: It is also the tallest building west of Chicago, reports Fortune Magazine).

Thomas said his point in sharing these personal experiences with the PSU graduates "is to illustrate that never, never, ever, ever giving up has worked for me, and I recommend it to you."

He then added for emphasis: "I believe the old adage that there is no failure except in no longer trying."

Thomas was presented his honorary doctorate by Marion Bass, vice chairperson of the PSU Board of Trustees, who described Thomas "as a man of many talents: attorney, tax expert, developer and humanitarian" and praised him as "one who has achieved so very much."

Thomas' wife and family were asked to stand by PSU Chancellor Joseph Oxendine following a standing ovation for James A. Thomas. A similar standing ovation was accorded M. Carr Gibson, and his family was also recognized. Gibson was presented his honorary doctorate by the Rev. Julian Ransom, a member of the PSU Board of Trustees.



Shown at PSU's commencement Saturday are (left to right) President C.D. Spangler, Jr., of the UNC System, James A. Thomas of Santa Monica, Calif. [who was the speaker and received an honorary doctor of laws], M. Carr Gibson of Lumberton [who received an honorary doctor of humane letters] and PSU Chancellor Joseph Oxendine.

Hoke County After School Program Accepting Applications

Registration for elementary student enrollment in the Hoke County School After School Care Program for the 1990-91 school year will be during the month of May. Parents may pick up registration packets at any of the four Hoke County Elementary Schools: McLaughlin School, Seurlock School, South Hoke School and West Hoke School. Directions for completing and returning the

registration materials are included in the packet. The After School Care Program provides supervised care and directed activities for students in grades K-5 every school day until 6 p.m.

For additional information contact Truett Gibson, School Care Coordinator at Turlington Middle School, 116 W. Prospect Ave., Raeford, NC 28376 or 919- 875-4973.

Project Graduation 1990 "A NATURAL BLAST"

Project Graduation 1990- "A Natural Blast" (All night alcohol and drug free party for high school seniors) will be held June 8, 1990 from 10 p.m. until 4 a.m. on the Pembroke State University Campus. The event is being sponsored by the Robeson County Sheriff's Department, the Community Service Work Program and the Crime Education and Prevention Program.

Grand prizes will be awarded. They include a 1985 Nissan Sentra and a \$2,500.00 Savings Bond donated by Charles and Kathy Atkinson.

There will be lots of food, fun and prizes. For further information contact: Darlene Ransom, Public Schools of Robeson County, Alcohol and Drug Defense Coordinator, (919) 738-4841.

Lumbee River Legal Services To Hold Public Meeting

Lumbee River Legal Services will be holding a meeting at the Baptist Student Center, across from the Performing Arts Center in Pembroke, on Tuesday, May 22 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The meeting is

being held in order to get the community's input as to the type of cases the office should represent. All interested and concerned citizens of Robeson and Scotland Counties are urged to attend.

"THE CURSE & THE CROWN" TO BE PRESENTED

By special request a repeat of "The Curse and The Crown" will be presented at the Saddletree Church of God on Sunday night, May 20, at 7 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend.