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# The Carolina Indian Voice

Pembroke, NC

Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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## Employment inequities questioned



Clifton Sampson, Jr. is shown preparing to speak at the hearing relative to tax exempt bonds for Southeastern General Hospital in Raleigh May 3.

Indian Solidarity, the Native American organization which was organized to address Indian issues presented a resolution May 3 at a Public Hearing relative to tax-exempt bonds for Southeastern General Hospital to update equipment.

The organization's resolution was read at the public hearing by Clifton Sampson, Jr., chairman. He was accompanied by John R. Brayboy and Sam Kerns, members of the organization.

The resolution spoke to the employment statistics at Southeastern General. There are 1,151 persons employed there (11-14-88 figures), 675 or 59 percent of them are white; 201 or 17.5 percent are Indian; and 268 or 23 percent are black. Out of the 38 department heads, 37 are white and one is Black. 83 percent of the nurses, technicians and other specialists are white (433); 42 or 8 percent are Indian; and 49 or 9 percent are Black. There are 199 persons employed as office/ clerical staff--112 or 56 percent white, 51 or 26 percent Indian; and 36 or 18 percent Black.

Of the 422 services workers-130 or 31 percent are white; 106 or 25.6 percent are Indian; and 183 or 43 percent are Black.

The resolution stated that the statistics "are not an acceptable indication of Southeastern General Hospital's commitment to providing equal employment opportunities for all people of our county.....the above figures seem to show discrimination in hiring practices at Southeastern General Hospital."

The resolution asked that no tax exempt bonds be issued at Southeastern General Hospital until "an acceptable affirmative action plan be developed that will demonstrate fair representation of Native Americans in positions of authority...and that the present 12-member board has three additional Native American members without expanding the present 12 member board."

There has been one meeting between a committee of Indian Solidarity and Don Hiscott, president, where discussion was held on resolving the issue of employment at Southeastern General Hospital. No action was taken at this meeting.

Sampson said that he was pleased with the initial meeting with the president of Southeastern General and did expect to see some action taken to resolve the inequities in the employment situation at the hospital.

## PSU graduates 5 sets of twins

by Gene Warren

After the 411 undergraduates and 55 graduate students received their degrees May 11 in PSU's commencement exercises, Chancellor Joseph Oxendine, in his final words to the graduates, reflected on some of the inspiring stories in this graduating class.

"Among you, there are 466 exciting stories to be told and many inspiring ones, but I will refer to only a few," the chancellor said.

Among the stories he told were ones about five sets of twins in the graduating class. "Until refuted by hard evidence, I will assume that PSU holds the Guinness Book of World Records for the greatest number of twin per capita of graduates," Oxendine said.

In reference to the twins, the chancellor said:

"First, there are Melanie and Millicent Strickland of Fairmont. One of these young ladies was 'Miss Lumbree' and 'Miss PSU Native American'--and the other was runner-up in this pageant. As I observed the Strickland twins coming across the stage, I am not certain how the judges could tell the difference. They have both served as Sunday school teachers and been student leaders on this campus, both in and outside the classroom.

"Secondly, there are Eric and Derrick Chavis, along with a third brother, Kent, making three from the same family graduating today. Though the Chavis twins do not exhibit the physical attractiveness of the Strickland girls, in my view, they certainly exhibit many other redeeming features. For example, both have been honor students, with one chosen to be in 'Who's Who' while the other has been a recipient of the Max Weinstein Scholarship in history and is graduating magna cum laude.

"And thirdly, there are Lawana and Jawana Cooper (one is now a Hardin) in pre-law and art education with equally interesting and distinguished accomplishments.

"And fourthly, there are Amelia and Amira Locklear is business management.

"And fifthly, there are Alexander and Stephen Gaines, whose first names do not rhyme, but I am told by Coach Mike Schaeffer that their performances as members of the soccer team was a thing of beauty. In fact, both have been four-year starters on our soccer team with Alexander being our career-leading soccer. Furthermore, each has been district javelin and discus throwing champions."

The chancellor also cited in his remarks Brad Allen, noting him as "the individual who led the parade across

the stage because his name happens to be first in the alphabet among the baccalaureate degree recipients." However, noted the chancellor, "Brad, a native of Lumberton, is also a leader in his class in another way. During his three years at PSU, he has attained a cumulative grade point average of 4.0 as a history major and is consequently graduating first in his class."

The chancellor also saluted Mrs. Helen SKeens of Lumberton, who he said was "graduating on her birthday-- her 66th birthday. She began her academic work at PSU in 1988 after retiring from 28 years as a civil service worker, serving with military assignments in Germany, Korea and other places around the world and all about the country. Mrs. SKeens expects to begin law school in the fall semester with the aspirations of providing legal assistance to economically, legally and socially disadvantaged persons in this region. We congratulate Mrs. SKeens and wish her a most happy birthday."

Dr. Oxendine also told the story of Damon Green of Fayetteville, one of PSU's basketball All-Americans this year. "Sitting in the audience today," said the chancellor is Mr. Green's father, Sgt. Major John Green, who served in the Persian Gulf for six months during the (Iraq) crisis. Sgt. Major Green, a proud parent who sacrificed the opportunity to see his son play basketball during his son's last season, promised Damon that he would clear up those difficulties in the Persian Gulf in time to return for the graduation exercises.

"At this time," said the Chancellor, "I will ask Sgt. Major Green to stand and ask that you join me in applauding him for his sense of priorities and his service to his country."

"Now I ask that any other members of the audience who served in the Persian Gulf please stand and receive our expression of thanks."

As Chancellor Oxendine concluded his remarks, he made one final request, which was this: "Each of you (graduates) has individuals in the audience who have provided you love and support during your time here--perhaps parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters and children--persons important to you. Please stand, face your loved ones in the audience and express your thanks to those loved ones. The faculty and administration will join you."

## Pembroke Kiwanis Report by Ken Johnson

Operation Specialist Darryl Teets was the speaker at the Tuesday night meeting held at the Town and Country Restaurant. He was presented by his father, Ed Teets, program chairman for the evening.

Darryl is stationed aboard the Guam now at the Norfolk Naval Station. He has been all over the world, including the Persian Gulf War in his nine years of service and plans to serve out his twenty years before retiring at the age of 38 years.

His duties were those of traffic control aboard the Guam as Helicopter Director of its fifty-three helicopters. They also ferried the 3500 marines for on shore exercises.

It took 82 days to ship from Norfolk to the Persian Gulf last August as they were the first of a part of a six fleet task force. Their duties were to stop merchant ships from going through the blockaid. They also aided in the transporting of supplies, escorting merchant ships. Their helicopters made a 150 sorties a day. There was a total of

127 ships in the Gulf. They stayed out at the 12 mile limit off of Kuwait. 127 citizens were evacuated from Samolia by the Guam. The Iraqi army was pretty well defeated, the POWSD were happy just to get a free meal. The Iraqi communications and supply lines were completely cut as the Army and Air Force and Marines with the Navy left them no escape. Kuwait was liberated but Darryl felt them to be terribly obnoxious with the wealthy going back to their old ways. Iraq wanted a port to the sea and of course they failed and the poor will go back to their almost slave ways. Iraq wanted Israel to get into the conflict so all of the other Arab countries would join Iraq in its fight against Israel. The Guam had a compliment of 627 men and no women as the Navy did not want women in combat. However, auxiliary ships had many women aboard.

Presiding-Clay Maynor; Invocation-Dorsey Lowry; Song Leader-Ray Lowry; Program- Ed Teets; Reporter-Ken Johnson.

## Piney Grove School News



Two very special ladies were honored at Piney Grove School during Secretarys Week. Mrs. Cathy McMillan and Mrs. Cathy Revels were deserving of their corsage

presented by Principal Grady Locklear and Assistant Principal Debbie R. Britt followed with a social shared by the faculty and staff.

## employee wins Golden Rule Award

Lucinda Locklear, office manager of Southeastern General Hospital's personnel department, has won the Golden Rule award for March. This award is presented monthly to that employee who best demonstrates pride in the corporation and a caring attitude to guests and fellow employees.

Mrs. Locklear, a native of Bladenboro, graduated from Bladenboro High School. She has worked at BGH for

As a Golden Rule winner, Mrs. Locklear received a plaque, a personal parking space for the month, \$50 in cash, and a chance in the drawing for a 4-day vacation trip this fall.

past 12 years. She, and her husband, Joe, and sons, Nicky and Blake, live in Lumberton.

CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE



Left to right: President C.D. Spangler, Jr. of the UNC system, Rev. Walton Lowry, Sen. Terry Sanford and Chancellor Joseph Oxendine chat prior to commencement May 11. Lowry and Sanford were later presented honorary doctorates.

## "The PeaceMaker Talks" An Oral History of the Tuscarora Indians of North Carolina

The Peace Maker Talks, an oral history of the Tuscarora Indians of North Carolina will be held Thursday, May 23 at 10 a.m. in the Native American Resource Center of Pembroke State University. The event will be hosted by Robert A. Locklear, Tuscarora artist.

Presenting the Peace Makers will be Ray Littleturtle, Lumbee Traditionalist; Arnold Richardson, Tuscarora Saponi Traditionalist; Harry Thompson, Bertie County Historian of Windsor; Dr. Stanley Knick, Director of the Native American Resource Center; Chief Young Bear of who is Chief of the Tuscarora Tribe; Cecil Gilbert Hunt, Chairman of the Tuscarora Tribe; Horace Locklear, former Lumbee legislator; Lucille Dawson, Narragansett

Director of the Eastern Region Administration for Native Americans, Washington, DC; and Elisha Locklear, Tribal Historian of the Tuscarora Tribe of North Carolina.

Also presenting a special performance of the Tuscarora language by the cast of SACHEM docu-drama now in production by the Youth 2000 Program of the Tuscarora Tribe of North Carolina, Inc.

The Peace Maker Talks is a presentation of the Tuscarora Tribe of North Carolina, Inc. and produced as an Administration for Native Americans Program activity.

The Peace Maker Talks is also a Native American cultural awareness activity recommended for teachers and students at junior, senior and post secondary levels and Native Americans every where.

SAY YOU READ IT IN THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

To begin residency at area Health Education Center



Tabula Locklear Lowry, originally from Pembroke, was one of 84 students graduating from the East Carolina

University School of Medicine on Saturday, May 11. Her parents are Abner and Dorothy Locklear of Pembroke. She is married to Charles T. Lowry. Dr. Lowry will begin a residency in family medicine this summer at the Duke University/ Fayetteville Area Health Education Center in Fayetteville, NC.