

PEMBROKE STATE UNIVERSITY



By
GENE WARREN
Director of
Public Information

HOW DID PEMBROKE STATE UNIVERSITY BEGIN? OLD SCHOOL CATALOG PROVIDES DETAILED ACCOUNT

James Howard Oxendine of Mint Hill, N.C., just east of Charlotte, recently provided Pembroke State University a copy of the Cherokee Indian Normal School catalog of 1935-36 in which there is a detailed account of how the school (now Pembroke State University) began.

Oxendine, a graduate of the Indian Normal School class of '36, says the historical sketch in the front of the catalog clearly defines how the school was started on one acre of property costing \$8 near New Hope Church 1 1/2 miles northwest of PSU.

That property was purchased for that amount from Rev. William Jacobs, according to the catalog.

The catalog says that "in 1887, under the influence of the honorable Hamilton MacMillan (of Red Springs), representative in the (state) legislature from Robeson County, a law was passed providing for the establishment of a Normal School for the Indians of Robeson County. The law stipulated that only those above 15 years of age might attend and then only if they signed a contract to teach (upon graduation) for at least one year (in the Indian public schools). The law appropriated \$500 for the state treasury for maintenance only (of the school) and carried a further provision that if a building were not provided...the legislature of 1889 should repeal the act."

In other words, the Indian people were made responsible for providing land and a building. The state's only responsibility was the \$500 appropriation for maintaining that building once it became a reality.

According to the catalog, Rev. W.L. Moore, in whose honor Moore Hall at PSU is named, took the initiative in calling a meeting to implement action needed to provide a building.

"Only four men responded" to Moore's call, according to the catalog. "Finally, the (state) legislature appointed W.L. Moore, Preston Locklear, James Oxendine, who was

a former county commissioner, and James Dial, Sr., as trustees to carry out the provisions of the act. It gave them authority to elect three other trustees, thus bringing the trustee body up to seven. J.J. Oxendine, Isaac Braboy and Ollen Oxendine were elected," said the catalog.

The catalog continued: "With opposition on every hand, with money scarce, and with only a few really interested in education, a subscription was raised among both whites and Indians to purchase a site. One acre of land across the road opposite New Hope Church was bought from Rev. William Jacobs for \$8, upon which was erected a two-story building which would have cost around \$1,000 had not a large amount of materials and labor been given gratis.

As the late D.F. Lowry of Pembroke wrote in 1972: "The people took their broad axes and went into the forest as Noah did in building the ark. These old patriachs sweated it out. They built our first building." The D.F. Lowry Center at PSU is named in honor of this man who became the first to receive a diploma from the school in 1905.

The catalog says W.L. Moore, who had been a teacher in the public schools of Robeson County for several years, "not only have \$200 in cash toward the erection of the (first) building, but he also quit teaching for a year and gave his services in the interest of the school in order that the project might be put over within the two years required by the legislative act." The catalog notes that Moore "was elected the first principal and teacher" of the school.

"He (Moore) began work in the fall of 1887 with an enrollment of 15 students. He kept the school together during the year and, thus fulfilling the provision of the law, he drew from the state the first money provided for the education of the Indians of Robeson County. The legislature of 1889 raised the appropriation to \$1,000 and granted the same sum for many years afterward," according to the catalog.

Among other historical information the catalog points out is that the school was moved from the New Hope Church area to Pembroke in 1909. The state legislature appropriated \$3,000 for a new building at this present location.

The catalog then tells about the \$75,000 allocated for the construction of the first brick building on campus: Old Main, which still stands emblematic of PSU. As stated by the catalog, "The school found a friend in the legislature in the person of Judge I.R. Varner of Lumberton, who will be remembered with the honorable Hamilton MacMillan as the friends of Indian education. In 1921, the legislature appropriated \$75,000 under the terms of a bill sponsored by Judge Varner for the erection of a new and up-to-date building (Old Main). Very few people have been known to rejoice as these did when they were able to occupy it for their commencement exercises in the spring of 1923."

A very valuable document is this catalog from the 1935-36 academic year of the Cherokee Indian Normal School, which became Pembroke State University, a proud institution of the University of North Carolina.

Locklear twins receive academic recognition



Carmela Locklear



J.D. Locklear

Carmela Locklear, daughter of Margelet Jones and Jerry Locklear of Raleigh, NC, has been inducted into

the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, the National High School Spanish Honor Society at Saint Mary's College, where she is an upcoming 12th grader.

Carmela has also been named a P.C. Junior Fellow in recognition of superior academic merit by Presbyterian College of Clinton, S.C. She is one of two students to receive this recognition.

Carmela has been attending Saint Mary's College for the last two years. She received a scholarship to attend Saint Mary's College, an all-girl private school, based on her academic achievements. The coming school year will be her third year receiving a scholarship.

Carmela maintains a 4.1 GPA for the 1990-91 year. Her goals are to continue her education at UNC-Chapel Hill or Duke University. Her long-term goal is working in medicine.

J.D. Locklear, son of Margelet Jones and Jerry Locklear of Raleigh, NC has been nominated for honorary award recognition and to have his biography published in the appropriate volume of Who's Who Among American High School Students due to his fine academic achievements.

As a Who's Who student, J.D. may apply for a \$1,000 scholarship from the \$75,000 to be awarded this year.

J.D. is to be commended, since only 5 percent of all high school students receive this award each year.

J.D. is an upcoming 12th grader at Garner Senior High School. He enjoys golfing and his goals are to continue to do well in high school and continue his education.

Carmela and J.D. are the grandchildren of Mr. Wiley Jones and the late Mrs. Beulah Jones of Pembroke and Mr. Carson Locklear and the late Mrs. Susie Locklear of Pembroke.

The twins' mother, Margelet Jones, says that "Carmela and J.D. are her success."

Mattress Sale
In Progress
**Pembroke
Mattress**
Union Chapel Road
521-3135

**LET'S TALK
MATTRESS
DEALS**

**SAVE
30% AND
MORE**

**NOW BUY A BIGGER
MATTRESS AT OUR
LOWEST PRICES!**

Bedding by Bemco
We talk back.
**PEMBROKE
FURNITURE CO.**
Complete Home Furnishing Center
1614 Street - Pembroke, N.C.

'TIS WISE TO ADVERTISE

Wide Selection of
VINYL
\$2.99 yd
Expert Installation &
Financing Available

SOUTHERN INTERIORS
Union Chapel Road
Pembroke
521-8331

Charsie's Boutique
Designer Lingerie, Name Brand Dresses,
Tops - Shorts - Fashion Jewelry
Cross Stitched Indian Portraits

PETITE, MISSY & LARGE SIZES
LAYAWAY

Tues. 9:30-5:30
Wed. 9:30-1:00
Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 9:30-6:00

214 VANCE ST. PEMBROKE

**Southeastern General Hospital
Has Opened 69,519
Medical Information Centers**

**Our Health Hotline Turns Your Telephone Into A
Medical Information
Resource
24-Hours A Day**

1-800-432-5121

Sometimes knowing where to turn with a medical concern can be quite a dilemma. Perhaps you're new to the area and want to find a family physician...or you have a health problem that requires a specialist, but you don't know of one...it could be that you need information on substance abuse treatment...or Alzheimer's...or prenatal care.

These types of situations are the reasons why Southeastern General Hospital developed the HEALTH HOTLINE. Now, healthcare information is as close as your telephone. Toll-Free—24-hours a day—7 days a week. Our helpful staff will not only supply you with the best immediate information when you call—they'll also follow up your inquiry by mailing any additional information available on the subject. So when the need arises, you've got our number...Southeastern General Hospital's HEALTH HOTLINE...it's another way we go out of our way for you.

WE'VE GONE OUT OF OUR WAY, SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO!
300 West 27th Street, Lumberton, NC 28359, (919) 671-5000

**SOUTHEASTERN
GENERAL HOSPITAL**

**If You Think
ATMs Should Be Free,
Check With UCB.**

EasyAsUCB **UNITED CAROLINA BANK**

How often do you use an automated teller machine? If you're like most Americans, you're enjoying the convenience of ATMs more than ever. What you're probably not enjoying is having to pay extra for it every time your checking balance falls below the required minimum. Most banks currently charge for each ATM transaction. Some as much as 30¢. That can really add up.

But United Carolina Bank doesn't think you should have to pay for convenience. That's why of the 10 largest banks in North Carolina, UCB is the only bank with no ATM charges. None. It doesn't matter what type of checking account our Customers have or what their balance is. From basic checking to Diamond Banking™ UCB Customers use ucb24 machines absolutely free.

Free use of our ATMs. Another way we make banking easy.

Like most banks, UCB normally charges its customers a fee for use of ATMs outside the ucb24 network.
©1991 United Carolina Bank

Please stop by any UCB office or call 738-6201.