

Only in Robeson



A long-time friend invited me to spend last weekend as his guest at one of those five-star hotels. My friend works for the hotel so he arranged for me to be his guest. I don't know anything about what five-star means but I know the difference between a hotel and a motel. At a hotel the ice machine is not next to the laundry room. As I drove my pick up into the parking lot of this seven story hotel I could tell that the hotel was hosting a large foreign delegation, because I did not see a Ford or Chevrolet in the whole parking lot. I parked my pickup under one of those large shade trees and got my suit case from the truck bed. I was so glad I borrowed Slim's sister's pink suitcase because you just don't carry your clothes in a grocery bag to a five-star hotel. I had my new cowboy boots and plaid shirt in my hands as I opened the big double glass doors. I had tucked my long hair under by baseball cap so I would not stand out from the other guests.

As soon as I entered the waiting room a young man standing behind the counter said "Good afternoon, Mr. Frybread." I had never seen that young man before in my life. I walked over to his desk to speak a word and before I could say anything the young man handed me a piece of cardboard with little holes punched all over it and said that my room number was 720. Then this young man said, "Have a pleasant stay, Mr. Frybread." What could I say? I knew I was on the seventh floor. When the elevator reached the seventh floor I got out and found my room. I knew that piece of cardboard had something to do with opening the door. So I began to reason. I put the cardboard in a slot in the door and some little lights started flashing and then the door opened. I had that part licked. That room was big enough to live in! Before I could look it all over, the telephone began to ring. As I answered the telephone it was my friend and he wanted me to come down stairs for lunch. Downstairs I met my friend and again I saw that fellow that knew me. It was killing me because I could not remember ever meeting that young man before today. We ate lunch. That lunch was pretty. I don't know who they had in that kitchen fixing that food, but it was pretty.

Even the rice was pretty. My good friend knows I work hard hanging sheetrock so he wanted me to rest and have a good time all weekend. He had arranged for me to play golf, tennis, swim, use the gym or just relax and watch movies from my room. I can't play golf. I'm too slow for tennis. I swim a lot in

the river and I get all the exercise I need as a rock-star. So I went to my room (I love those door keys). I turned up the air conditioner, undressed and went to that big bathroom for a shower. Then I discovered what made this hotel so special. They put a full bar of soap in the shower.

Reflections

by Alta Nye Oxendine

FIFTEEN YEARS

In July of 1976, I asked Connee Brayboy about doing a variety column of my own "reflections" in the *Carolina Indian Voice*. Thanks to the staff for allowing me to share thoughts, feelings, stories and personal research for the past fifteen years. And for letting me experiment with various ways of doing this. Through the years I've enjoyed the friendship of "Miss Ada" Locklear, her grandchildren, and their families.

Mother's home on Sunday and again on Monday, talking with her, my brother and his wife from Denver, and two cousins from Washington state. Even though there was sorrow, shared by all, there must have been a special closeness this year.

Than you for your prayers for Penny's family. Let's continue to remember all who have gone through the "valley of the shadow of death" and every other type of trial.

Our new Support Group met informally Thursday night at First United Methodist Church. We invite you to join us in these meetings.

FAMILY REUNION

Last week I mentioned that my cousin Penny, the youngest of seven brothers and sisters, had slipped out of this world on Sunday night, July 28. This was only a few days before the annual Redfield-Page family reunion.

The reunion was held this past week-end with relatives traveling to Montana from as far away as California. Some, I'm sure came early for the funeral.

On Saturday I talked with Penny's oldest sister. I called



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Classes Begin September 3, 1991
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The Coach's Corner

By Ken Johnson

TENNIS: THE U.S. OPEN

Can Pete Sampras repeat as winner? Can Gabriela Sabatini also repeat at this year's winner? This remains to be seen as the U.S. Open begins next week August 26th through September 8 in New York.

Sampras comes out as last week's winner of the U.S. Hard Court Tournament in Indianapolis over Boris Becker. Becker succumbed to his bad temper, showing lack of concentration, yelling repeatedly thus "losing his head" so to speak. Sampras stayed as cool as a "cucumber" thus winning and "keeping his head." The "learning law of effect" sure applied in that match. The madder Becker got the more it encouraged Sampras. And he went on to win. So I pick Sampras to win. However, he will get still competition from Michael Stich, Wimbledon winner, Jim Courier, the French Open winner, Stephen Edberg, Ivan Lendl, Andre Agassi can also give a good account of themselves.

On the women's side, Sabatini will have her hands full with Steffi Graf, the Wimbledon winner, Jennifer Capriati and Monica Seles. Martina Navratilova, if she controls her net rushing to an "all-court game" and doesn't rush up to the net with "non-forging shots" thus easily getting passed. She has a good chance to win. The winners in singles get \$400,000, the doubles winners get to split \$163,000. The U.S. Open is one of the four majors and we will wait and see who wins. Maybe Sampras and Sabatini can repeat. If they do, they no doubt will be as great as any past champs.

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North Carolina Indian Cultural Center

1991 Calendar of Events

- August 24 - GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL with performances by local and national groups.
- September 19-21 - STATEWIDE INDIAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION featuring an old-fashioned dance competition and pow-wow with dancers and singers from tribes along the Eastern Seaboard as well as many arts and crafts and food vendors.
- September - October (Tentative) - CELEBRATION OF INDIAN HERITAGE at the Robeson County Museum, Lumberton, N.C.
- October 19-20 - OLD-TIME HARVEST CELEBRATION of the rural, agrarian lifestyles of the region in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Activities will include exhibits and demonstration of farm equipment, tools, and skills of that era, such as making lye soap, cooking in large kettles, woodworking, working in a blacksmith shop, and processing tobacco for the market. There will be games from that era, such as a corn-shucking and woodcutting contests.
- Month of November - SITE EVENTS TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH TO BE ANNOUNCED
- November 22-23 - WILD GAME FESTIVAL will highlight primitive weapons used by Native Americans and foods prepared from wild life and native plants. Activities will include educational programs for students, demonstration of hunting tools and techniques, demonstration of preparing foods, and storytelling. An archery demonstration and contest will be held in conjunction with the festival.
- December 13 - A NATURE'S CHRISTMAS will be held as an Inter-Tribal and local community event. A Living/Singing Christmas Tree, a Living Nativity scene, and a special program of Christmas stories and carols will be presented along with Indian storytelling and arts and crafts sales. All items for sale as well as the special tribal tree decorations will be made of natural materials.

For more information on these events and on use of the amenities of the N.C. Indian Cultural Center for individual or group purposes, write or call the:

N.C. Indian Cultural Center
P.O. Box 2410
Pembroke, N.C. 28372

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