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Board of Education endorses NAPAC redistricting plan

The Board of Education of the Public Schools of Robeson County voted to support a re-districting plan that was presented by the Native American Political Action Committee. The board split on racial lines on the vote. Voting for the proposal was: Dr. Dalton Brooks, Tommy D. Swett, Aileen Holmes, Susan Hunt, Angus Thompson, Rufus Graham, Berlester Campbell, and Major David Green. Voting against were: John Barker, Gilbert Carroll, Pete Ivey, Bernie Coleman, Mike Smith, and Ray Lowry. Lowry who serves on the Budget, Finance and Operations Committee had recommended a plan prepared by that committee.

A substitute motion was offered by Dr. Brooks to endorse the NAPAC plan. The substitute motion carried.

A public hearing is planned for Monday at 7 p.m. at the O.P. Owens Auditorium on the proposed plan. The board has said they will adopt a plan at the September 30 meeting. The board has until October 1 to approve a plan for re-districting. This is mandated by a bill approved by the General Assembly to eliminate appointments to the board. The board will decrease under the new law from 15 members to 11, 8 in districts and 3 at large.

Dr. Dalton Brooks in introducing the NAPAC plan stated that it was the fairest and most equitable plan they had looked at. It calls for two Black districts, three Indian districts and three white districts. The plan provides a greater opportunity for the proposed Indian districts to be represented by Indians.

The NAPAC proposal supports: District 1-23.99% white; 56.23% Black and 19.58% Indian. District 2-24.88% white; 57.08% Black; and 17.74% Indian. District 3-15.38% white; 11.62% Black; and 72.56% Indian. District 4-9.26% white; 21.19% Black; and 69.28% Indian. District 5-10.46% white; 6.91% Black and 82.26% Indian. District 6-54.67% white; 32.10% Black; and 12.60% Indian. District 7-74.51% white; 12.62% Black; and 12.42% Indian. District 8-74.83% white; 5.92% Black; and 19.31% Indian.

Cliff Sampson, chairman of NAPAC stated that the plan was the one that was representative of all three races. "The NAPAC plan is geographically right. It is right in accordance with the 1990 census population...In other words, it is morally, legally and statistically right."

Ursula Sampson Freeman listed among most inspiring teachers in Newsweek magazine

In the September 16 issue of Newsweek Magazine, on pages 4 and 5 are listed 60 of the most inspiring teachers in America.

Among them is Ursula Sampson Freeman, a native of Pembroke who graduated in '75 from Pembroke State University with a B.S. in elementary education (K-3). Mrs. Freeman, 37, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. (Ned) Sampson of Pembroke and the wife of Weldon Freeman. All of Mrs. Freeman's 17 years of teaching have been at Cary, NC, Elementary School where she teaches the third grade.

Mrs. Freeman has received a Teacher Tribute Award from the Student Loan Marketing Association (Sallie Mae), which is the nation's single largest source of education loan funds. The award program is administered by the American Association of School Administrators.

This award is being presented to Mrs. Freeman because of the influence she had on Miss Sharon Gilliam, a social studies, mathematics and reading teacher at Woodlawn Middle School in Mebane. Miss Gilliam was one of 100 teachers nationwide who were chosen to receive the 1990-91 Sallie Mae First-Year Teacher Award. Each of these recipients was asked to name the teacher who most influenced his or her decision to pursue a career in education. Miss Gilliam chose Mrs. Freeman.

"When I think of excellence in teachers, she (Mrs. Freeman) was someone who always stuck in my mind," said Miss Gilliam. "She made it seem like such a fun thing to do. She just loved her job. She spent a lot of time with me. I would stay after school and help her. I loved what she did."

When Mrs. Freeman was informed of the honor paid her by Miss Gilliam, she responded: "If I don't ever get anything else, this has made my year and my teaching career—that one child thought that much of me."

When Principal Barbara Chapman announced the news at Cary Elementary School, "you could hear all the students and teachers clapping and cheering," Dr.

Chapman said. "I can't think of anyone that all of us would be more delighted for."

The school staff and PTA sent Mrs. Freeman flowers. "Children bloom in her class," Dr. Chapman said. "I've never known a child, regardless of what his or her strengths or needs were, who didn't make a huge academic gain and a social gain in Ursula Freeman's class." She described Mrs. Freeman as one who loves her students, but who also demands much from them.

"Those children know Ursula Freeman cares about them, but expects the best—exemplary behavior and academic performance," said Dr. Chapman. "She gets it."

Mrs. Freeman says her decision to enter teaching was largely influenced by her parents. Her father, Ned, was a high school social studies teacher and coach in the Robeson County school system. He is now retired. Her mother, Eva, is PSU nurse supervisor.

"I knew from an early age I wanted to be a teacher," Mrs. Freeman said. "We children used to sit down around the kitchen table and do our homework with both of our parents sitting there."

Mrs. Freeman added, "We were brought up in a positive environment. My father has a saying: 'If you work hard, good things will happen.' He still tells me that."

Her father's philosophy is reflected in her classroom. Her class motto is: "You Can Do It," that is prominently displayed in her room.

At Cary Elementary's open house this year, Mrs. Freeman had to divide her time between her old students saying hello and her new students. A former student once showed up with his six-month-old daughter in his arms, wanting to know if Mrs. Freeman would be able to teach the baby when she reached the third grade.

"It makes you feel good," Mrs. Freeman concluded. [NOTE: This story has excerpts from an article in the Cary News by Lynn Williams].



URSULA SAMPSON FREEMAN
...in Newsweek Magazine



EMC ANNUAL MEETING OCT. 15

Pembroke State University will be the site of the 1991 Annual Meeting of Members of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation. Members will gather to hear yearly reports and elect members to their Board of Directors on October 15, with registration scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. at Givens Performing Arts Center, and the business meeting commencing at 7 p.m.

Eight candidates will be vying for four seats on the Board. At a meeting of the cooperative's Nominating Committee, seven candidates, including four incumbents, were nominated. One candidate has been nominated by petition for a director seat.

The candidates in each race are: District 1: James H. Dial, incumbent, of Route 1 Box 291, Maxton, NC and Ward Clark, Jr. of Route 4 Box 185, Maxton, NC. District No. 1 contains the townships of Maxton, Alfordville, Thompson, Union and Rowland.

District 5: Ronald Hammonds, incumbent, of Route 8 Box 289, Lumberton, NC. District 5 contains the townships of Lumber Bridge, Parkton, St. Pauls, East and West Howellsville and Saddletree.

District 6: John G. Elebee, incumbent, of 323 Oakdale Gin Road, Raeford, NC and Renate Dahlin, Route 2 Box 172 D-1, Raeford, NC. District 6 contains all of Hoke County east of N.C. 211.

At Large: Lucy L. Cummings, incumbent, of Route 1 Box 252A, Pembroke, NC and Gus Bullard, Route 2 Box 215, Maxton, NC. Director-at-large candidates may live anywhere on the system.

The following named members has been nominated by petition over the signatures of 15 or more members as candidate for director.

District 5: Carol J. Chavis, Route 10 Box 490, Lumberton, NC.

Along with the presentation of reports and voting for board members, the meeting will offer entertainment by the McNeill Singers and the McNeill Family gospel group. Door prizes will also be awarded. To be eligible to win door prizes, members must register to vote and be present at the drawing.

Tuscarora cultural survival school to begin

by Mike Dunn

The Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation announces the beginning of the Tuscarora Cultural Survival School. The school is designed to meet the cultural needs of the Tuscarora Indians. It will enable them to survive in a state that has used genocide and still uses genocide on a nation of people—the Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation—a state that even today denies the existence of Tuscarora people.

The school will be held on the last Saturday in each month from 11 a.m. until. The school will have classes in dancing and singing (traditional Iroquois), language (Tuscarora), a lunch break, and an endless number of cultural craft and activity classes. These cultural craft and activity classes will include classes on herbs and Indian medicine, Iroquois corn husk doll making, Tuscarora blow-gun making, Iroquois beadwork, Iroquois corn soup

and ghost bread, Tuscarora Fine straw doll making, leatherwork, bone work, Iroquois pottery making, studying the "Great Law of Peace," studying the traditional clan system and how it works, and learning the Longhouse Religion. This will be taught in the Tuscarora Longhouse, the only one of its kind in use today in the State of North Carolina.

The school is being funded entirely through the self-help program sponsored by the Nation itself and not by any state or federal agency or organization. enable the Nation to use self-determination in teaching and in the use of monies, and not be puppets of the state and federal governments.

The first class will begin September 28 at 11 a.m. The survival school is located on the Sovereign Territory of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

SCENES FROM LUMBEE POW WOW & CULTURAL FESTIVAL

The Lumbee Cheraw Old Style Dance Festival was held the week end at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center. There was something for everyone. Dancers were on hand. Competition dancing was held, including fancy and traditional. Queens and princesses were on hand for the excitement.

The event was sponsored by Lumbee Regional Development Association and was part of the North Carolina Indian Heritage Month celebrations. James Harlin, Executive Director of the Agency, stated that the

pow wow and Cultural Festival was a great success. "We would like to thank everyone who participated. And a special thanks to Ray Littleturtle who served as Master of Ceremonies and all the dancers and traders who participated. A special thanks to the thousands of people

who attended the event. We are grateful to Hardee's in Pembroke for providing ice for the event... We are looking forward to next year's event and anticipating a bigger and better celebration of the Indian contributions to the state of North Carolina and the nation."



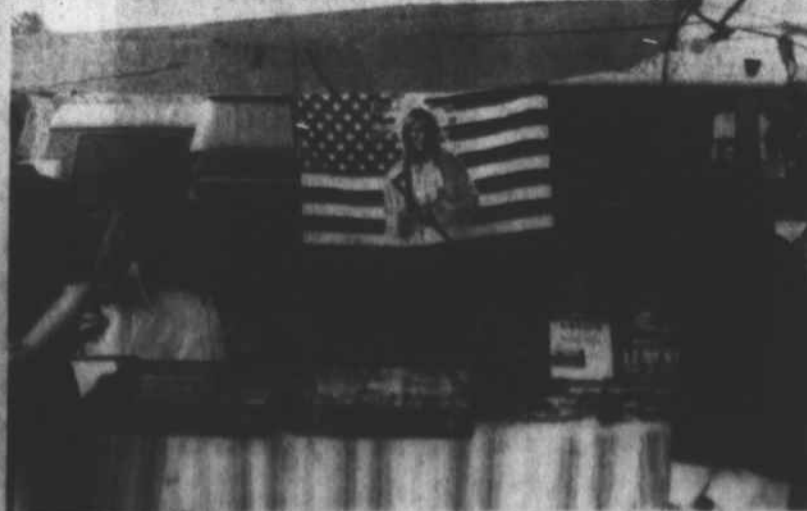
People met old friends and made new ones at the pow wow. Shown left to right: Sam Carter (Coharie) of Pembroke; A. Bruce Jones, Executive Director of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs (Lumbee); and Tom Carter of Clinton, Chief of the Coharies.



Shown left to right are: Spotted Turtle (Pete Clark) (Lumbee-Cheraw) and H.B. Surles of Clinton, (Coharie) traditional dancer.



One of the many traders set up at the Pow Wow was Lumbee Arts and Crafts owner, Jane C. Ozendine, center. Pat Richardson (Halina-Saponi) is shown right and Ozendine's daughter, Hope Sheppard is shown left.



Indian traders were on hunt. Wanda Locklear of Lumberton is shown left. She is owner and operator of Comanche Pottery in Lumberton.



Eddie Carter, Medicine Man, of Indian Trail is shown.

See More Pow Wow Scenes
Page 5