

READERS' FORUM

A note sadness and regret

Dear Editor,
I, Walter G. "Bo" Jones would like to share my regrets at the way Kevin's visitation and funeral were conducted.

Kevin was a loving person who cared for everyone he knew. He would have been saddened if he knew that some of his family and friends were not allowed to be a part of the mourning process. Kevin lived, laughed, cried, and blessed us all by just being himself.

The sad reality is that I, Kevin's father, had to seek legal advice because I was forbidden to see my son's

body. When I was legally advised that I had the right to see my son I followed the requests that were made of me. I arrived at the specified time, wanting only to say good-bye to Kevin. My time with him was restricted to approximately six minutes, that is too short a time to say Good-bye. I was denied the right to see my son laid to rest because I wanted to act in a way that would have made Kevin proud of me.

My way of honoring Kevin's memory was to stay with my family, the other half of Kevin's family, and grieve privately.

Once again, I regret that many of those who loved Kevin could not be a part of the last farewell to him. Our solace is that he knew we all loved him and he would have respected the decision to have his last hour on this earth be a peaceful one.
Walter "Bo" Jones
Pembroke, N.C.

The Coach's Corner

BY KEN JOHNSON

THE NBA PLAYOFFS

How the tides ebb and flow. Example- Cleveland 101, Boston 76; Boston 104, Cleveland 98; then Boston 110, Cleveland 107; Cleveland 114, Boston 112 in overtime; Cleveland 114, Boston 98; Boston 122, Cleveland 91; then finally Cleveland 122 and Boston running out of steam at 91. Age being a factor, so Cleveland winning the series 4-3. They now play the Bulls, a winner over New York also 4-3, a tide ebber flowing series. It surely is a tough life for all the players but so many of them are multi millionaires. Cleveland is at Chicago Tuesday and Thursday nights so Chicago may come out with a two game margin but Cleveland being the underdog, may surprise. The home game being an real advantage though for the Bulls. Utah beat Seattle 4-1 as did Portland over Phoenix 4-1. The tide just didn't flow for Seattle or Phoenix. Portland scrubbed Utah 113-88, Utah looked bad. Tonight Cleveland is at Chicago 8 p.m.; Utah at Portland, 10:30 p.m. It looks like easy series for both Portland and Chicago, possibly winning 4-0. But the tides usually ebb and flow, so again upsets are in order, maybe. It sure gives us good television time except the late Portland-Utah game at 10:30 p.m. But the games are so good you may not get sleepy.

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Betty Adams

Pembroke

Community Briefs

Sensational Summer Styleds will be presented Tuesday, June 16 at the Carolina Civic Center, Lumberton, at 7 p.m. This fashion show is being sponsored by the Fashion Bar with proceeds going to the Southeastern Family Violence Center. Tickets are available by calling Emma Locklear at 521-4464, Sherry McIlwain at 369-2938 or the Southeastern Family Violence Center at 277-7660.

DOLLAR-WISE

Refinancing Can Create Opportunity to Invest

(NU) - Homeowners who have refinanced their mortgages at lower interest rates may have created for themselves a golden opportunity to become investors.

"People who have cut their mortgage payments are wise to consider the reduction as an opportunity to begin regular investing," says C. Richard Pogue, executive vice president of the Investment Company Institute, the national association of the mutual fund industry.

"Mutual funds are perhaps the easiest way for individuals to invest for long-term goals," Pogue says. "Most funds offer automatic reinvestment of dividends, and many funds will make arrangements for automatic monthly investing. Some funds even waive or reduce initial minimum investment requirements for investors who use automatic plans to accumulate shares."

Information on investing in mutual funds can be obtained from public libraries, the mutual funds themselves, or from brokerage firms, financial planners, insurance agents or banks that distribute mutual funds. The 1992 Directory of Mutual Funds, available from the Investment Company Institute for \$5, lists addresses and telephone numbers of more than 3,400 mutual funds. Each fund is classified by its investment objective.

To receive a copy, send a check or money order to: Directory, Investment Company Institute, P.O. Box 66140, Dept. NU, Washington, DC 20035-6140.

Ranting and Raving

If Quayle's a typical father, Murphy Brown was right

by Garry Lewis Barton
In the season finale, Murphy Brown, decided to have a baby instead of an abortion. This created a furor nationwide because the fictional tv anchorwoman, played by Candice Bergen, does not have a fictional husband.

And it prompted Vice President Dan Quayle to emerge from President Bush's shadow and virtual obscurity to finally take a stand on an issue.

The vice president said Brown's decision to have a baby before she had a husband was "mocking the importance of fathers."

On the other hand, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater praised the show and Brown's decision to have the baby instead of an abortion.

But Quayle stuck to his guns, disagreeing with Fitzwater's observations. "That is not correct," he said. "Probably the only reason

they chose to have a child rather than an abortion was because they knew the rating would go higher having the child."

Well, at least we have some idea as to what the low key Quayle has been doing with his time during his nearly completed one term in office—evidently watching far too much television.

I dare say it would behoove the much-ridiculed vice president to worry about his own ratings.

During many real-life dramas that happened during his tenure, Quayle remained docile, refusing to take a stand unless it was behind the Bush. During the Persian Gulf War he was so quiet I almost forgot we had a vice president.

It boggles my mind. The numbers of real-life illegitimate babies being born every day in our country are staggering. Yet, it seems to have taken a comedy about a fictional one being born to

wake Quayle from his 4-year coma.

Concerning all the real life-threatening problems facing this country, such as unemployment, hunger, housing, health care, and so on, Quayle remained relatively quiet. Yet, he wasted his time—and ours— fretting needlessly about the possible harm to the country from the plot of a fictional sitcom.

Perhaps someone should consider using Vice President Quayle's shenanigans as the plot of a sitcom or a soap opera. Maybe we could call it "The Young and the Ridiculous."

The producers of Murphy Brown achieved their objective: getting as many people as possible to tune in and watch their show. 38% of the viewing public helped Murphy Brown through her imaginary labor pains.

No doubt, the country would be a lot better off if Vice President Quayle had anywhere near that kind

of success reaching his goals and objectives.

Could it be a case of jealousy? Could Vice President Quayle be jealous because the nation appears to have finally found someone who makes them laugh more than he does?

Indeed, Murphy Brown is fictional. But Vice President Quayle is real. The sad truth is that both are jokes, but only one seems to know it.

We'll talk again folk. Meanwhile, I hope others follow Murphy Brown's example. As I see it, her decision didn't glorify unwed mothers as much as it did pro-life values. If Vice President Quayle is a typical father, perhaps children would be better off without one.

Y'all tune in next November. If the rest of the voting public is as fed up with him as I am, perhaps we'll see Vice President Dan Quayle's season finale then.

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Along The Robeson Trail

By Dr. Stan Knick, Director PSU Native American Resource Center

In the past few segments, we have seen that Native American communities have some special health problems. This week we turn to another health problem that seems to affect Native American communities more commonly than the general U.S. population.

Otitis media is middle-ear infection, and it is one of the most common health problems among Indian children. The "middle-ear" is a space (or air cavity) within the temporal bone, between the ear drum and "inner-ear." The middle-ear houses the tiny bones of the ear (incus, malleus, and stapes), and is lined with a mucous membrane that can become infected.

Several studies have shown that otitis media is much more frequent in American Indians than in the rest of the population. According to Sievers and Fisher (1981; "Diseases of North American Indians"), "new cases of middle-ear infections exceed all other notifiable diseases within the Indian Health Service."

In a study in the Lumbee community, for example, 46% of children (in a sample of more than 2,000 children) had experienced some kind of ear infection. The most commonly reported ear infection in that sample was middle-ear infection (Knick, 1986; Growing Up Down Home; Health and Growth in the Lumbee

Nation).

But why do American Indian children have more problems with middle-ear infections than other children do? Several theories have been presented, mostly having to do with poor socio-economic conditions and other environmental factors. However, Spivey and Hirschhorn have shown that Apache children born on the reservation, and then adopted out to middle class non-Indian families at a very early age, still had more problems with middle-ear infections than the non-Indian children in the same households (1977; "A migrant study of Apache children"). Other studies among various Indian communities have supported this conclusion—environmental factors are not enough to explain why Indian children are more affected than non-Indian children. So what is causing all these Indian children to have middle-ear infections?

The "culprit" may be the Eustachian tube (pronounced: yoo-stay-shun). The Eustachian tube is a canal that runs between the middle-ear and the throat, and which helps to equalize air pressure on both sides of the eardrum. A study done by Beery and co-workers found that Eustachian tubes of Apache children had lower resistance to the passage of fluids (and thus, of infections) than do the Eustachian tubes of white children

(1980; "Eustachian tube function in an American Indian population"). Klein has also asserted that American Indians, whites, and African-Americans have significantly different lengths, widths and angles of Eustachian tubes, and that these anatomical differences result in a greater likelihood of middle-ear infections among Indians (1979; "Epidemiology of otitis media").

Thus it seems differences in Eustachian tubes may be the real reason, or a least part of the reason, why so many Indian children have middle-ear problems. For further information, visit the Native American Resource Center in Old Main Building, on the campus of Pembroke State University.



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Take-it-easy weight loss

Going all-out with exercise while dieting may not be worth the effort, suggests a new study from the University of Western Australia.

The study followed 60 sedentary, overweight men, ages 20 to 50, for 16 weeks. While both ate a low-fat diet, some did light exercise, and some really sweated with vigorous exercise. Both groups had almost the same amount of weight loss and lowering of their blood pressure. So researchers suggest that it's not necessary to 'knock yourself out' to lose weight, as light exercise with a low-fat diet does just as well.

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Tipping Fee Robeson County Landfill

Effective July 1, 1992 the tipping fee at the Robeson County Landfill will increase to \$22.50 per ton. All vehicles must weigh in and weigh out. There will be no flat rates as previous.

All Refuse	\$22.50 per ton
Asbestos	50.00 per ton
Contaminated Soils	50.00 per ton

Disposal Cost for tires will remain the same.

Auto Tires (13" thru 17" rim dia.)	.75 each
Truck Tires (17" thru 22.5" rim dia.)	\$1.50 each

Off road equipment and farm tractor rear tires will not be accepted.

No mixed load will be accepted as of July 1, 1992. Yard waste is prohibited from the landfill effective January 1, 1993, by mandates of Senate Bill 111.

Effective July 1, 1992 if a load is mixed, the entire load will be treated as refuse and therefore subjected to the maximum tipping fee for the entire load.