

Along The Robeson Trail

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

Nearly everyone has heard of the mythical Bigfoot, or Sasquatch as he is sometimes called. But how many people know that this legendary giant creature of the wild comes to us from traditional cultures? In fact, traditional cultures around the world, from Africa to Asia to Europe to the Americas, have described such a creature since ancient times.

The word Sasquatch probably comes from the Salishan Indian word *sesqac*. Among some Salishan-speaking people of the Northwest, *sesqac* is a big hairy creature who causes unexpected things to happen

and sometimes steals people. The Yurok call him *omah*. The Tsimshian call him *dzoonokwa*. Some people think that the Algonquin's windigo is also closely related to Sasquatch.

More often than not, Sasquatch in North America is described as a northern phenomenon, especially in the Pacific Northwest, the Great Lakes region, and Northern Canada. But there are also southern accounts of the story. Here is one version of a legend that comes from the Chickasaw Nation, about Lofa:

One time some Chickasaw men were out hunting. These were men

of the Wildcat Clan so they were very brave and good hunters. The way they hunted was to divide up and search all over an area of the forest, being careful to stay just close enough to each other so that they could communicate by shouting.

One of the men somehow got off track, and went too far away from the others to reach them by shouting, so he decided to take a break for a while. While resting he heard something big coming through the forest. It was Lofa, who was big and hairy and smelled terrible. Lofa tried to chase the hunter away by threatening him, but the Wildcat man was too proud to let Lofa know that he was frightened. So Lofa seized the man, and they wrestled. But Lofa's smell was so bad that the man became weak, and Lofa finally tied the man to a tree with grapevines.

For some reason Lofa left the man unattended all night, and the other Wildcat hunters came searching for their kinsman and released him. At first the man could not tell them what had happened, and they thought perhaps he had seen a ghost. After a while he regained his voice, and told them about his encounter with Lofa. From then on, the man would never go hunting without someone else by his side.

There are several logical explanations for the countless reports of Sasquatch-like creatures, but no explanation causes people who believe such things exist to change their minds. These "big" people are like "little" people (i.e. leprechauns, etc.) either you see them or you don't. For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in Old Main Building, on the campus of Pembroke State University.

New Reader helps bridge educational gap

by Connee Brayboy

1992 has been designated by the President of the United States as the Year of the Native American. This designation is ironic in many ways. For the Native American it seems to be too little too late. And in some instances, it could be deemed as an afterthought. Whatever the reaction or the reason for it, the American celebration of the erroneous discovery of America by Columbus has resulted in a heightened awareness of the Native American.

As we examine issues that affect the lives of Native American, much has been written about the negligence of the recorders of history to accurately report the historic contributions of the Native American. The record of contributions as well as the recording of where Columbus actually was, and more importantly where the "Indians" were while he was struggling down in the Bahamas has been falsely preserved in the history books. This misleading historical documentation has resulted in the stereotypical "heathens" (Indians) and much misconception about the real significance, importance of the Native American population. The effect has been that many people do not know that the Native American population is alive and well and has survived successfully for over 500 years.

In any event, the heightening of awareness and interest has resulted in a few attempts by both Indians and non-Indians to correct the history books, and to record some of the facts as they were and not as non on participants wished they were.

Recently we came upon a copy of *Along the Trail* by Dr. Stanley Knick, curator of the Pembroke State University's Native American Resource Center. The spiral-bound reader is intended to be used for supplemental teaching of Social Studies in the public school system. After reading the booklet in its entirety, it is a welcome addition to the far too little that has been factually written about Native Americans. The reader includes easy reading and easily understood writing on the prehistory, history, culture and contemporary issues of present-day Native Americans. It includes a glossary of terms used to describe the environment and time frame of the writings. While the writing is on the elementary level, the reader could easily be adapted to the high school social studies curriculum. The need for additional historical documentation on Native American has been demonstrated time and time again and *Along the trail* helps provide some needed information.

Along the Trail is a small step toward addressing one of the issues that have come to the attention of Native and non-Native Americans. It is called the sharing of knowledge and knowledge should always lead to an appreciation and respect for life styles that are unknown to us. Many misconceptions about Native Americans, their culture and religion has been brought about because of a lack of knowledge. This reader will help to bridge that gap.

Along the Trail may be purchased at the Native American Resource Center on the campus of Pembroke State University.

Reflections by Alta Nye Oxendine

NINETY-FIVE AND A HALF

Only one of my grandparents was still living when I was born. In the summer of 1934, when I was nearly 7, Mother and I rode to California with two of her brothers to visit their mother in Sacramento. Grandma Redfield died three years later at the

age of 70, only a few days away from her July 22nd birthday.

This year, on July 23rd, Mother reached the 95 and 1/2 year mark. Our family are all thankful that her health is still basically very good and that she is able to get around better than many in their 70s and 80s.

Engagement Announced

Mr. & Mrs. William N. Haraway of Davidsonville, Maryland have announced the engagement of her daughter, Kecia Lynn Ross, to Dennis Owen Kane, son of Eugene I. Kane and the late Loretta Jane Kane of Potomac, Maryland. Miss Ross, a graduate of the University of Delaware, is Director of Employee Benefits for Benicor Associates in Calverton, Maryland. She is also the daughter of Edwin G. Ross of Rocky Mount, N.C., and the granddaughter of Mrs. T.B. Brayboy of Pembroke, and Mrs. Lester G. Ross of Charlotte. Mr. Kane, a graduate of Towson State University, is Project Manager for the Leapley Company in Washington, D.C. The couple will marry in early October in Kensington, Maryland.



The Coach's Corner

BY KEN JOHNSON

The Pennant Race
Oakland's trading Jose Canseco with the final pennant race coming up is just not "cricket." After ten years and their 6 1/2 game lead over Minnesota you would think they would have more appreciation for a real All-Star. The impact can boomerang and cause Oakland to lose their 6 1/2 game lead in the Western Division. We'll wait and see. The four new players are good but the adjustment will weaken Oakland.

Toronto is 1 1/2 games over Baltimore but they have a great one in Winfield. So they may hold their lead but still have to lay Baltimore in the playoffs. So it's still a toss up for the Eastern Division.

A new birth

Ms. Vivian Locklear announces the of her granddaughter born to her daughter, Maria K. Locklear. Alexis Vivian was born August 7, 1992. She weighed six pounds, thirteen ounces. She has two brothers, Jason, age 10, and Corey, age 8. Ms. Vivian Locklear is very proud of her name sake.

Mitchell family reunion

The Mitchell family reunion will be held on Saturday, September 26 at the old fair grounds in the West Building from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Each family is asked to bring a covered dish and beverage. Questions may be directed to Shelby Dial at 919-521-422-3010 or Dovie Freeman at 738-8767.

Pembroke Kiwanis Report

Program Chairman Mark Locklear presented Mr. Phil Sessoms, Head Counselor for the Robeson County Juvenile Restitution program. The weekly meeting was held at the Town and Country Restaurant on Tuesday evening. The Robeson Restitution is a project of District Court 16-B Juvenile Services Division. It is a rehabilitative court, designed to set young offenders back on the right track. Juvenile offenders, ages 10 to 16 are ordered to make restitution in the form of community service or monetary restitution to their victims. Money earnings go directly to the Clerk of Court. Through Robeson Restitution juveniles learn valuable lessons about accountability, responsibility, cooperation and work ethics.

"How you can help?" By letting them know of any service projects the program can use. For making amends, the youth are available for yard work, highway clean up and many other ethical jobs.

Phil Sessoms has been a police officer for 15 years and is terrifically dedicated to this rehabilitation work. Grady Hunt reported on the Safe Hunting Clinic held last week at the Cultural Center. It was great.

Mitch Lowry presented the plaque "In memory of Kiwanians who were faithful to the last." The names of departed members will be inscribed on it.

Presiding-Mitch Lowry; Invocation-Albert Hunt; Singing-Ed Teets; Program-Mark Locklear; Reporter-Ken Johnson.



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Sun damage and cancer

When soaking up the sun to acquire a stylish tan this summer, consider this deadly fashion statement: Skin cancers kill 8,800 people in the U.S. each year. And many cancers start with sun-damaged skin.

The more you know about the disease, however, the better your chance of catching it at an easily treated stage. Call the American Cancer Society at 800-227-2345, or the National Cancer Institute at 800-422-6237 for more information about skin cancer.

We carry a full line of sun screen and other products to protect and condition your skin. It's our business to help you maintain the best of health!

Ask Your
Friendly Family Pharmacist
We Take the Time to Answer Your Questions

Your Pharmacy

POSITION VACANCY

Secretarial Vacancy: Secretary to the Focused Industrial Training Program.
Education: An Associate Degree in Administrative Office Technology or the equivalent at the Associate Degree Level.

Job Requirements:

- Excellent typing skills
- Have significant microcomputer experience to include a basic knowledge of IBM DOS or MSDOS
- Proficiency in word processing using WordPerfect 5.0 or a later edition.
- Willingness to learn and utilize LOTUS 123 and DBASE IV if not already knowledgeable in those software packages.
- Computer Skills in desk-top publishing.
- Personal Characteristics:**
 - Be a highly motivated task oriented person.
 - Be willing to accept significant responsibility.
 - Have good interpersonal skills.
 - Neat in appearance.
 - Have the ability to work within deadlines.

Duties:

- Responsible to the Coordinator of Focused Industrial Training.
- Responsible for but not limited to the following tasks:
 - Assisting in the preparation of Schedules
 - Reviewing twenty percent reports
 - Preparing budgets and assisting with part-time contracts
 - Maintain files, preparing reports, taking minutes, ordering office supplies
 - Other tasks as directed.

Salary:

Based on the Robeson Community College salary scale and commensurate with experience.

Application Deadline: September 11, 1992

Employment Date: October 1, 1992

Robeson Community College is an Equal Opportunity

Employer (see Plan on file)