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Indian Voice

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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 Robeson County

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One of the community persons attending the National Issues Forum recently held at PSU is shown above receiving her packet of information from Ann Wells. Madie R. Locklear is representative of the local organizations that participated. She is employed by Four County Community Services and is the only woman serving on the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation.



Shown during the National Issues Forum held recently at PSU are: Dr. Bob Reising, standing, and Jim Ebert, seated to the left.



Community Persons and members of the Community showed great enthusiasm and support for the Second National Public Issues Forum held recently at PSU. Shown left to right: Glenn Burnette, Director of Alumni Affairs; Tommy D. Swett, Director of Special Programs; and Bobby Ayers, PSU photographer.

NIGA Chair Praises House Supporters Of Indian Gaming

The Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association today applauded 29 members of Congress who have written their colleagues to urge "continued federal protection of the right of American Indian tribes to conduct gaming operations on their tribal lands."

The "Dear Colleague" letter, sent July 23, was signed by a bipartisan group of House members led by Rep. James L. Oberstar (D-Minn.). It notes that, "Indian gaming constitutes less than two percent of the total amount wagered nationwide; yet it has become the target of increasing attacks by those who wish to preserve existing gambling monopolies." Those opponents, the letter adds, want legislative changes to the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) which "would totally undercut the authority of the tribes, and deprive them of one of the few successful economic development programs" they now have.

NIGA Chairman Rick Hill said, "This strong showing of Congressional support reflects the growing recognition that tribally sponsored gaming creates hundreds of thousands of jobs for Indians and non-Indians alike, spurs real economic development and provides funding for essential services on chronically impoverished reservations."

Hill noted that Oberstar and six other signers are from Minnesota, which has entered into gaming compacts with the tribes and "become a model of cooperation between state and tribal governments from which everybody benefits." Reflecting a growing national trend, tribal casinos in Minnesota have created nearly 10,000 jobs—three fourths held by non-Indians—have saved the state about \$7 million in

welfare payments and generated more than \$1.5 billion in goods and services.

Signers of the letter include RE: George Miller (D-Calif.), Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee and Rep. Bill Richardson (D-New Mex.), who chairs its subcommittee on Native American Affairs, now in the process of holding hearings on Indian gaming.

The other members are: Neil Bercromb (D-Haw.); Barbara Rose Collings (D-Mich.); Peter Deutsch (D-Fla.); Glenn English (D-Okla.); Bob Filner (D-Cal.); Alcee Hastings (D-Fla.); Matthew Martinez (D-Cal.); Solomon Ortiz (D-Tex.); Colin Peterson (D-Minn.); Toby Roth (R-Wis.); Jose Serrano (D-NY); Mike Synar (D-Okla.); Esteban Torres (D-Cal.); Dave Camp (R-Mich.); Peter Defazio (D-Ore.); Jennifer Dunn (R-Wash.); Eni Faleomavaega (D-Amer. Samoa); Elizabeth Furse (D-Ore.); Tim Johnson (D-S. Dak.); David Minge (D-Minn.); Timothy Penny (D-Minn.); Jim Ramstad (R-Minn.); Martin Sabo (D-Mich.); Bart Stupak (D-Mich.); Charles Taylor (R-N. Car.); Bruce Vento (D-Minn.).

NIGA, established in 1985, is a non-profit organization of more than 120 tribes in 32 states that now have gaming operations or are seeking to establish them.

On The Pow Wow Circuit



The follow list of upcoming Pow Wows was provided by John Blackfeather of Hillsborough, NC. It is not intended to be a complete list. Anyone having information about upcoming pow wows not listed is encouraged to sent them to: P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke, NC 28372 or fax to 919-521-1975.

August 13-14- Eno-Occaneechi Pow Wow, Mebane, NC. (919) 563-4640 or 563-3091.

Here's How A Public Policy Institute Works

How does a National Issues Forum (NIF) Summer Public Policy Institute, such as the one held recently at Pembroke State University, work?

The basic ground rules, as pointed out by the co-sponsoring Charles F. Kettering Foundation of Dayton, O., and PSU are: (1) Everyone participates; (2) it's not a debate; (3) no one dominates; (4) focus on the issues and the choices; (consider pros and cons of all choices; and (6) listen to one another.

At PSU, with a Summer Public Policy Institute flag flying with a PSU logo from the flagpole in front of the Chavis Center and Public Policy T-shirts given to all participants, the 235 people present for the activities attacked the issues in four concurrent sessions.

They were told in each instance that their views would be tabulated and shared with policy makers around the nation. This was no chat operation with nothing realistic coming from it.

Leading the session on "Criminal Violence" were Michael Score of the University of Kentucky as moderator and Dr. Mary Alice Cates of Delta State University of Cleveland, Miss., as the recorder who wrote the views expressed on large chart sheets that were displayed around the room.

Score told the audience, "I'm not allowed to steer you toward any one of the choices we are discussing. We are to look at the advantages and disadvantages (pros and cons) of each choice. You will leave this institute stimulated over the choices expressed and the thought process."

Score pointed to some glaring statistics about the soaring crime

rate while moderating this session. "Since 1950, there has been a 450 percent increase in violent crime per capita," he said. "More than 24,000 murders took place in the U.S. in 1991. Twenty percent of all Americans have been victims of violent crime. There is a burglary every 10 seconds. One fourth of our citizens have installed home security systems.

About one in five Americans possesses a weapon—and some of you might have a weapon in your pocket or pocketbook."

The audience was asked to list verbally what they consider violent crimes. The replies included: murder, rape, assault, robbery, child abuse, arson, family violence, drive-by violence, violence in public schools by bullies, etc.

Other questions and answers followed such as: Has violent crime impacted you? What causes violent crime? Then the ultimate question: We all know something should be done, but the question is what?

Some more statistics were noted by Score during this session. "Half of all arrest charges are dismissed—because of lack of evidence, because of witnesses not showing up in court, and because of inconsistent testimony. Through such things as plea bargaining, only 25 percent of those convicted of violent crimes are sent to prison. Those committing murder spend about 6 1/2 years behind bars. Those committing robbery average 28 months in prison."

The institute participants were asked what would they give up to provide deterrents against crime—such as pay more taxes for help in

that direction. One person said it costs as much to send someone to prison for four years as to send to student to a college or university for four years. "Prisoners should be put to work so they can pay for their upkeep", was one suggestion.

A suggestion in the latter part of the session on "Criminal Violence" was to "reach" youngsters headed in the crime direction "very, very early—and to nurture their human value." Another person added that a high priority should be given to early years programs. "An emphasis should be placed on cultivating the spiritual dimensions of these potential criminals at an early age" was also a suggestion. "Cultivating these persons' pride and their cultural image are very important" was another comment.

In leading this session, Score urged everyone to express his or her opinion. "If anyone hasn't had a chance to say what's on his or her mind, let's do it now," encouraged Score.

At one point when the suggestions were coming very rapidly, Score smiled and said, "We're on a roll."

This enthusiastic input was characteristic of each of the four concurrent sessions. It is what the Public Policy Institute is all about. Topics of other sessions which received the same energetic responses included: "America's Role in the World: New Risks, New Realities," "The \$4 Trillion Debt: Tough Choices about Soaring Federal Deficits," and "Growing up at Risk."

October 1 Is Deadline For State Funded Youth Grants

Youth groups seeking funds for community projects are invited to apply for mini-grants offered by the state. A total of \$6,500 per year is available to North Carolina organizations composed of young people, ages 13 to 18, who want to implement programs to benefit their peers. The mini-grants are administered by the N.C. Youth Advisory Council and average \$500 each.

Oct. 1 is the applications deadline. Completed applications must be received in the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office by 5 p.m. on this date to be eligible.

Examples of projects that have received funding include after school tutorial programs, recreational equipment, an alcohol-free graduation celebration, purchase of orchestral music and newsletter publication. Requests for cost of food, entertainment, travel and salaries will not qualify for funding.

Applications will be screened by the State Youth Council Board of Directors when it meets Nov. 12-14. Applications will also be reviewed by the Youth Advisory Council before grants are awarded.

"We need to encourage our young people to become involved in projects that will benefit their local communities," said Administration Secretary Katie Dorsett. "The mini-grant process allows them this opportunity." For applications or information, contact the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office, 121 W. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27603-1334 or phone (919) 733-9296.

The Youth Advisory Council functions under the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office in the N.C. Department of Administration.

Top 10 Singles

1. The Proclaimers "I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)" (Chrysalis/ERG) Last Week: No. 2
2. Jodeci "Lately," (Up-town/MCA) No. 3
3. Tony! Toni! Tone! "If I Had No Loot," (Wing/Mercury) No. 5
4. Tina Turner "I Don't Wanna Fight," (Virgin) No. 4
5. Janet Jackson "If," (Virgin) No. 16
6. Soul Asylum "Runaway Train," (Columbia) No. 7
7. Onyx "Slam," (JMJ/RAL/Chaos) No. 1
8. SWV "Right Here (Human Nature)/Downtown," (RCA) No. 11
9. Jon Secada "I'm Free," (SBK/ERG) No. 12

The "Rose-Mobile" Office To Be In Robeson

The "Rose-Mobile", the office of Congressman Charlie Rose that has been touring the 7th congressional district for twenty years, will be at two Robeson County locations Wednesday, August 11. A representative of Rose's office will be available for conference at the following post offices: Marietta 9:00 am.-11:00 a.m. and Proctorville 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

If you have a problem with a federal agency or questions or opinions about federal legislation you are invited to visit the mobile office.

Additional stops in Robeson county are tentatively scheduled for later in August and in September.