

Native Intelligence

BY JACK D. FORBES

NAFTA and Native Americans
Native Americans need to take a good, hard look at the proposed free-trade zone to be established under NAFTA (the North American Free Trade Agreement). This agreement will gradually remove most or all trade barriers between the USA, Canada and Mexico. If implemented it is highly likely that Chile and much of Central America will soon be added to the free trade zone.

Since all of the above countries have large indigenous populations one would expect that indigenous issues would be addressed by NAFTA, but such is not the case.

The agreement specifically includes state, provincial and local governments but fails to recognize tribal governments or reservations. The unique legal status of indigenous tribes is ignored.

NAFTA also presents a grave danger to Native land rights, especially in Mexico. Most Native Americans in Mexico do not have specific reservations but instead live on traditional communal lands recognized for centuries by Spanish and Mexican law and most recently by the "ejido" system. The protections of the ejido have now been removed by the government of President Salinas, thus making it possible for indigenous lands to be purchased by outsiders. Under NAFTA investors from the U.S. with wads of dollars will be able to buy up the best lands, the sources of water, and river valleys. Many Native people, unused to financial wheeling and dealing, are likely to be cheated of their ancient land rights. As a result, millions could become economic refugees in the cities and in the U.S. and Canada.

Recent information received indicates that Maya people in the state of Chiapas are already being forced off of traditional lands by non-Native speculators seeking to grab potentially valuable areas in anticipation of

NAFTA's approval. We can expect a great deal more of this, since NAFTA includes no protection for indigenous lands in Mexico.

It is not clear if NAFTA will pose an immediate threat to "trust" or reserve lands in the U.S. or Canada, but certainly the lands of Alaska native corporations may be affected. Since "trust" and reserve lands are not specifically mentioned in NAFTA we must be very cautious. Certainly all lands occupied by Native people without a specific agreement with the government will be affected (such as all Bureau of Land Management lands or "Crown Lands" in Canada) and all privately held Indian land will be affected. NAFTA will probably adversely affect the right of a tribe to regulate the sale of privately held lands within reservation boundaries if such regulation attempts to keep Canadian or Mexican investors out.

NAFTA also completely ignores the existence of Native groups straddling the borders, such as the Mohawks, Salish-Kootenai, Colville-Okanagan, Abenakis, Cocopas, Kamias, O'odham, Kickapoos, etc. A major agreement of this sort should have recognized Native groups split apart by the U.S. Mexican and U.S. Canadian borders and included provisions for free movement, unification and indigenous local control over governmental processes.

NAFTA is expected to have a devastating impact upon all U.S. workers who are working in minimum wage jobs or in sectors vulnerable to Mexican low wage competition, such as manufacturing, trucking, agriculture and heavy industry. Native Americans seem especially vulnerable because most are employed in such areas. Industries which have located on or near reservations are especially likely candidates for moving to Mexico where labor can be obtained for 80 cents an hour with no benefits provided.

Legislation protecting "Indian" arts and crafts may also be wiped out,

since NAFTA will prevent discrimination against Canada's and Mexico's Native craftspersons. Mexican Indians outnumber U.S. Indians at least four to one and many are weavers, potters and artisans.

Tribal governments and Native organizations should contact their senators and representatives in Congress to request detailed information on the above issues or to register their opposition to the proposal.

(Professor Jack D. Forbes, Powhatan-Delaware, is the author of Columbus and Other Cannibals, Africans and Native Americans and other books).

Kiwanis Report

by Ken Johnson

The monthly business meeting was held at the Town and Country Restaurant with President Larry Chavis presiding.

Miss Tracy Locklear, Business Manager of the Purnell Swett High School Year Book was awarded the amount of \$50.00 for the Kiwanis ad.

Last week Scout Master Francis Pinchbeck of Troop 27 and Scouts Steve Lowry and Natoma Locklear presented the Scout Charter to the Club.

Coach Michael Oxendine of the Little League Champs and Coach Bruce Hunt presented their winner's plaque to the Club. Elliot Lowry appeared in the new uniform bought by the club. Elliot played in the outfield. Coach Oxendine described the very good season with 20 players and real good support from parents. The 11 and 12 year olds did a fine job.

Buddy Bell conducted a Prostrate Cancer survey. Questions included the location of the prostrate gland, symptoms of cancer, the risk increases with age, the most common method of detecting the disease, etc. Albert Hunt made the treasurer report with 2,500 in the account. Invocation, Garth Locklear; Song leader, Vardell Swett; Reporter, Ken Johnson.

Cameron Reports

CAN IT BE TRUE?

According to USA Today, the launching pad in Atlanta ranks 23rd out of 28 Major League home parks in total home runs this season.

Perhaps Atlanta's firing squad of pitchers are to blame for low numbers from the opposition.

Because Jusitce and McGriff are holding their own. And Pendleton is using August to play catchup.

Despite sweeping the Giants at the stick last week, I see Atlanta forced to win 2-of-3 at the pad this week just to make the NFL West a real race.

Summer's at an end, and so are your chances for buying Carolina Panthers NFL tickets. This week is the cut off. Buy now, or you won't have a right to whine later.

No matter how many times Jacksonville re-enters the franchise sweepstakes, don't hold your breath for a third NFL team in Florida. Burt has a better chance of dating Loni again.

One thing the NFL has to do is shorten the exhibition season. Four weeks of JV scrimmage is intolerable. Give them two games in the pre-season and add two to the regular season. I'd much rather watch a game that counts for something more than another tidy profit for the home team.

I gotta say it—Class AAA baseball has been great this summer.

Watching the Knights and the other International League Players make their mark then get promoted to the big show just brings the Major Leagues a little closer to home.

Even better for Charlotte fan, the Knights are good enough for a pennant chase. C'mon playoff's.

As our good buddy Dave Leneman says, Burt Reynolds—a former Florida State Linebacker has lost the Orange Juice and Quaker State commercials, but he can always pick up work with the Hair Club for Men. Paul Cameron Comments WBTW, NewsChannel 3.

Pembroke State Faculty Complete Computational Boot Camp

Three faculty members from Pembroke State University are returning to their classes this fall with computational experience that will influence the way they teach science and math to their students.

PSU's Dr. John Reissner, Dr. Wuufang Jang and Dr. Joe Goldston participated with faculty from eight other Carolina campuses in the Undergraduate Faculty Enhancement (UFE) Program at MCNC this summer.

Called by some faculty participants a "computational boot camp" because of its intensity, the program was packed with lectures, labs and hands-on experience in using high performance, high speed computers to work on complex math and science problems as well as classes shared over an audio/video network linking participants at MCNC and UNC-Charlotte.

PSU's Dr. Reissner called the UFE program tough but "exhilarating". "Of course it is difficult," he says. "You're looking for solutions to problems that haven't been solved yet."

Using mathematical models, he explained, "You get inside a problem. Then in terms of the computations you make, it gives you insight into the workings of the system. It's not just a bunch of equations. It's a very precise way of describing how a system works."

And that translates into a better approach for teaching students, Reissner says. "My value as a teacher is limited by the value of my personal experience confronting what I don't know yet. This is giving me a marvelous experience."

From the UFE program at MCNC, Dr. Reissner and the other participating faculty gain not only their own experience in making mathematical

models of science programs and doing experiments on the models. They also take back to their campuses the teaching modules they worked on together during the summer.

The goal of the UFE program is to give faculty and students at undergraduate colleges and universities a broader appreciation of how computers can be used to tackle math and science problems.

"The best way to teach college students how to use high performance computers and networking for math and science is to educate their teachers first," explains program manager Curt Edge. "This knowledge is vital to students at college and in the work they do when they leave campus to take jobs in industry."

NC A&T State's Ajit Kulkar, an associate professor in mechanical engineering, who also participated in the UFE program agrees. "All students should get some exposure to real-life computing in order to compete in the business world," he says.

The UFE program at MCNC is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation. Participating in this summer's program with faculty from Pembroke State were faculty from NC A & T State, UNC-Charlotte, Elizabeth City State, Johnson C. Smith University, Furman, Wingate College, Winthrop and Wake Technology Community College.

BACKGROUND: MCNC is a private, non-profit corporation headquartered in Research Triangle Park. With its partners in state, government, industry and academia, MCNC offers shared resources for education, research and technology development in information and electronic technologies.

For additional information, contact Eileen Sarro, (919) 248-1827

The Coach's Corner

by Dr. Ken Johnson

"Whose Business is It?"
It's really the tax payers business. The New PSU's Administration Building. The Bond Issue comes up to the voters on Nov. 11th. There is one option to go along with 5.7 million dollar proposition. It calls for removal of the softball field, the tennis courts, the baseball diamond and the soccer field. Where to put the replacements?

Dr. Oxendine was very good in calling me to show the future plans. These need to be published by the college and I am sure every one will be behind Dr. Oxendine 100%. So He has worked hard on them and they are great.

Dr. Joe please get Gene Warren on the publications of these plans. They should be the "Business of the tax payers." Sincerely, K.J.

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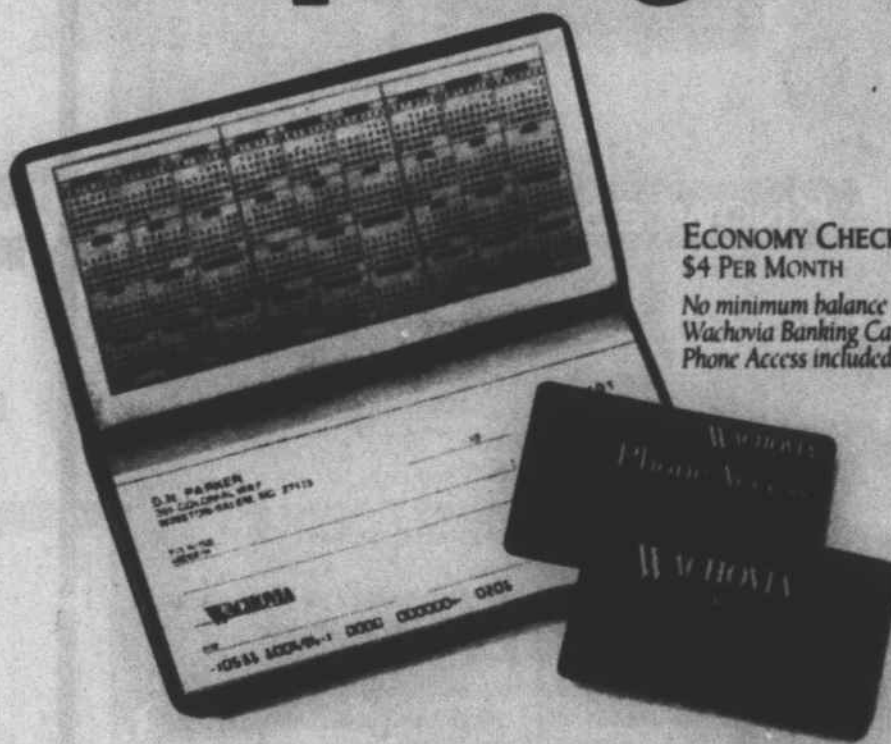
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