

# ALONG THE ROBESON TRAIL

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

One of the most common popular images of the American Indian is that of a warrior on a horse. In paintings and sculpture, in movies and books, on television and in parades, we see this familiar image again and again. Go to any shopping mall in the United States and ask a hundred people: "How did Indians long ago travel from place to place?" Many of them will say: "They rode horses."

Even some modern Native American people seem to believe it. This is another example of how recent history can become a replacement for ancient history, when all people know is their recent history (see the column printed six weeks ago, entitled "A Tale of Two Histories" for another example of this phenomenon). This is also another reason why it is so important to investigate carefully all sources of information.

There were no modern horses (*Equus caballus*) in North America before the coming of Europeans (there had been an ancient species of horse in America, but it had become extinct around the end of the Pleistocene geological epoch, 10-12,000 years earlier). Native people traveled around very nicely on their feet or in their boats (various styles of canoes and kayaks). As far as we can tell now, for more than 4,000 generations they had never seen or heard of a horse.

But Native people were quick to recognize the horse for what it was — a source of power as well as a means of

transportation. There are a few stories of Indian people who believed that the first Spaniards they saw on horseback were all one creature (man and horse combined), but these are mostly accounts related by the Spaniards themselves. I tend to think that these are rather fanciful notions which originated with the Spaniards, and thus to lump such stories together with the numerous writings by European colonialists which have it that the Indians thought the first Europeans were gods. I think the Indians were smarter than that.

This is not to say that Indians were unimpressed by these newcomers with metal armor and swords, muskets and horses. But it didn't take the Indians long to figure out that anybody could wield a sword, fire a musket and ride a horse. And horses did change things for Indian people.

The first horses were introduced in the Southeast no later than 1526. Ayllón had eighty horses with him when he set up his short-lived colony at the mouth of a great river in South Carolina (probably the Pee Dee or Santee). Narvaez had horses with him at Tampa Bay two years later (some of Narvaez' horses were killed so the colonists could make horse-hide boats to escape the Indians). All the other colonial efforts afterward brought horses with them. From the 1670s until 1715, Cherokeetrading parties were traveling back and forth between the

Virginia colony and their Eastern Siowan kinsmen the Catawba, bringing horses (among other trade goods). By the time of the first permanent white settlements here along the Robeson Trail, horses would already have been very familiar animals.

The introduction of horses in the West produced what we now recognize as the external elements of Plains Indian culture — highly mobile tribes and nations living in tipis and following buffalo herds. By 1640 the southern Apache had horses, and soon they had so many that they were able to trade them to other Indian nations. Even though most Europeans tried to keep horses away from the Indians (because horses were a military advantage), by 1750 the Lakota, Mandan, Cheyenne, Kiowa, Comanche and many other nations were fully mounted. Nations which got horses first sometimes made life hard for other Indians who were still walking (as in the case of the Pawnee foot soldiers who were repeatedly over-run by Osage, Comanche and Cheyenne horse soldiers).

The introduction of horses into Native America had both good and bad consequences. It gave us, among other things, one of our most abiding images of American Indians. For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in Old Main Building, on the campus of Pembroke State University.

## The Coach's Corner

There are three groups concerned with the baseball strike. The players with their \$1,200,000 base salary; the management with teams not being able to compete. IE, cellar dwellers. Milwaukee, San Diego. And the long suffering fans. The fans have set August 11th to boycott the games the day before the players strike. The players just won't get the message of loyalty to the fans. They won't listen to Richard Ravitch, management representative who says, "Give us a figure, you will be making \$2,250,000 basic salary in 4-5 years. The players are afraid of losing their gains but striking will wipe out all of their gains of about \$6,000 a day per player. Ravitch says they should not strike."

"Group dynamics" is powerful but the groups can be wrong. Example wars where everybody loses. When two opposing groups fight regression occurs, sure one wins but the price in this case will be too much. If the sport is put first both sides will consider the sport over their own interests. This is the "selective ethic" the love of the game. As opposed to the "situation ethic" which puts you own selfish interest first. Labor strikes have only been settled when both put their mutual interest first. They are depending on each other for their livelihood. The third ethic is the "slave ethic" and in this case the players are the so called "slave drivers"

## Cameron's Comment

By Paul Cameron

Larry's back looks better. Much better. Alonzo's calf isn't hurting anyone, either. So with a little of lady luck's smile — and none of miss fortune's frown — the Hornets might be picked 2nd or 3rd in the NBA's Eastern Conference pre-season. Even without Horace or Danny. In fact, the greatest part of LJ and Zo playing with the Dream Team II is the year round conditioning. It ought to be a plus for Larry who usually spends training camps wheezing like a real Grandamma.

Glad to hear John Kruk's latest visit to the doctor wasn't serious. Kruk, the Philadelphia Phillies slugger who had a cancerous testicle removed earlier this year. Found a pair of lumps on his torso. He immediately took himself out of a game in Florida and got himself checked. Come to find out, Kruk was suffering from nothing more than a chest bruise and a pulled muscle. Did you hear about the World League of American Football, back for another run? Two years ago, the World League folded due to dismal

attendance. This time, the WFLA won't play in the USA. The NFL-backed league will kick off in April 1995 with six European teams. I can't wait for the grudge match between Frankfurt and Dusseldorf. Watch Paul Cameron Weeknights at 5:00, 5:30, 6:00 and 11:00 on WBTW NewsChannel 3.



## Pediatric Pointers

By JOSEPH T. BELL, MD

This past week I had the pleasure of attending and speaking at our annual Association of American Indian Physician Conference. This year's conference was in Portland, Oregon. I had never been to the Northwest before; it is truly one of the most beautiful places I have ever visited! We saw elk and eagles living in the wilds, large Redwood trees up to 20 feet in diameter, and salmon swimming up the Columbia River. It truly was spectacular!

During the conference I had the honor of speaking on fetal alcohol syndrome, and I thought it would be good to devote my article this week to that subject. Remember that fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) is a birth defect caused by maternal use of alcohol during pregnancy. It is now thought to effect one in every 500 to 700 births, but is more commonly seen in the Native American population. The rate of FAS in Native Americans is 6 times that of African-Americans and 30 times that of Caucasians!

The 3 characteristics that help make the diagnosis are: 1. Failure to thrive for inability to put on weight well. 2. Distorted facial features, such as small eye slits, thin upper lip, low set ears and flat facial profile, and 3. Central nervous system disorders, from symptoms as mild as hyperactivity or impulsiveness, to as severe as mental retardation. Matter of fact, FAS is now thought to be one of the leading causes of mental retardation in the U.S.

The question always comes up — what is a safe amount of alcohol to drink during pregnancy? While drinking at least 2 ounces of alcohol

greatly increases the risk of FAS, we do know that there have been kids born with FAS when the mom drank less than that amount. We also know that it doesn't necessarily take drinking every day; women who have had binge drinking only once a month during pregnancy have had kids born with FAS. And we know that the longer and more a woman drinks during pregnancy the more severe the symptoms of FAS can be. The rule is don't drink during pregnancy.

With all this in mind, it's easy to see that the key to stopping FAS is prevention; we need to educate our young people about the dangers of drinking, not just during pregnancy, but anytime. If we could prevent women from drinking during pregnancy we would never see another case of FAS! We must become aware of the symptoms of FAS in our children so that a correct diagnosis and treatment can be made.

And us guys are not off the hook, either! While we know that a man drinking at conception does not cause FAS, we do know that a man drinking at home will more likely lead to the women drinking, even during the pregnancy.

I am happy to say that there are efforts to look at FAS in the Robeson County area in the works now. As health providers we must become advocates for our children by helping stop FAS in future generations.

If anyone wants to know more about Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, write to me at P.O. Box 3010, Pembroke, NC or call (910) 521-2816. Well, that's all for today.

Continue to support the Lumbee Bill, and we'll talk next time!

## Your Bible And You

By Daniel Davis



One of the most wonderful texts in all of your Bible is found in John 3:16. "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

How it must have touched the hearts of the first disciples! For "whosoever" meant fisherman as well as rabbi, tax gatherers as well as priests, little people up in Galilee as well as the lords of the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem. It took in the lame, the blind, the crippled, the leper. It left out nobody who wished to be included. When on the day of Pentecost Peter saw around him a crowd of "strangers from every nation under heaven" the same lovely word came rushing into his mind. Eagerly he cried aloud, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21).

Almost the last message from Jesus

in your Bible is a reminder of the same gracious, unlimited invitation. "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches... And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:16, 17).

Some words may be bigger and some deeper, but none is broader than "whosoever." It makes God's plan for man's salvation a very personal matter. It declares that every individual on the face of the earth is included. Nobody is left out. Not a single man or woman. Not the smallest boy nor the tiniest girl. Most definitely if take in you. Whatever you are, wherever you live, whoever you may be, God's offer of salvation is for you. It doesn't matter how big a sinner you may have been. God welcomes you just the same.



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**District #18**

(Back Swamp and part of Lumberton Precint # 3)

**Lumbee-Cheraw Tribal Council**  
**Saturday, August 27, 1994**  
**6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.**

"Committed to the enrichment of ALL our Native American family"



**Vote For**  
**Rhonda Locklear**  
**District #7**  
**Lumbee Tribal Council**  
**Saturday, August 27, 1994**  
**6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.**

"Committed to making a positive impact in the lives of our people"

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**WILKINS**

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**Burnt Swamp-District #7**  
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- \*Wife Kathy K. Wilkins
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Don't ever give up

I heard a good old saying today: "The man who falls down gets up a lot quicker than the man who lies down." This common sense reminder applies to anyone in any situation. Think about it...

If life knocks you around, don't lie down in defeat. Get right back up. Don't ever give up. If you fall into bad health, look up. Take whatever action you can to improve your situation. Don't ever give up.

Just so you'll remember this great truth, we've got a hilarious picture for you to take home entitled, what else... "Don't ever give up." Pick one up, FREE at our Rx Counter. Good health to you!

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