

## In the Armed Forces

Michael L. Oxendine

Fort Greedy, Big Delta, Alaska - Army Staff Sgt. Tony R. Deese participated here in a joint training exercise dubbed "Northern Edge '94". It included more than 14,600 airmen, soldiers, sailors, Marines and guardsmen operating as a joint task force which reacted to a simulated border dispute between two fictional countries.

The eight day exercise focused on peace enforcement and evacuation of American and foreign citizens. It was the first field exercise to use the Joint Readiness Training Center's scenario for peace enforcement operations, including patrolling a United Nations designated no-fly zone and providing support for humanitarian relief.

Deese, a section chief, is the son of Archie S. Deese Jr. and Myrna L. Deese, both of Pembroke.

The Sergeant is a 1980 graduate of Pembroke Senior High School, and a 1984 graduate of Pembroke State University.

Michael T. Blue

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Michael T. Blue, son of Catherine G. Blue of 910 Glen St., Laurinburg, NC was recently selected as Sailor of the Quarter with Personnel Support Detachment, Virginia Beach, Va.

Blue was chosen as the top performer from among all the Sailors assigned to the command and was cited for outstanding professional accomplishment, proficiency, leadership, initiative and military bearing.

He joined the Navy in July 1982.

Ronald V. Sanderson

Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. - Army Pvt. Ronald V. Sanderson has completed basic training here.

During the training, students received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

Sanderson is the son of Michael V. and Thayne M. Sanderson of Pembroke, NC.

He is a 1992 graduate of Purnell Swett High School, Pembroke.

Navy Airman Michael L. Oxendine, son of Jevina J. and Earl Oxendine II of Rt. 6, Lumberton, NC., recently returned from a six-month Mediterranean Sea deployment aboard the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga, homeported in Mayport, Fla.

Oxendine's ship, the Navy's oldest active duty carrier, and it's embarked air wing operated in support of U.N. and NATO operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Additionally, USS Saratoga participated in a host of operations and exercises with other U.S. services and allies in the Adriatic Sea.

In mid-March, USS Saratoga sailed from the Adriatic to the Eastern Mediterranean for a series of exercises over land and sea with U.S. allies in that part of the world. Oxendine also participated in Dynamic Impact, a NATO exercise which included ships from 12 nations.

During the deployment, Oxendine visited Trieste and Naples, Italy and Palma De Mallorca and Valencia, Spain. In each port Saratoga sailors volunteered their off duty time to help others, including spending a day with Bosnian refugees at a camp in Slovenia.

With a far greater emphasis on joint and combined operations, the Navy and Marine Corps provide unique capabilities of indispensable value in meeting future challenges, from the sea.

The 1990 graduate of South Robeson High School of Rowland, NC, joined the Navy in August 1990.

Robert L. Scott

Navy Airman Robert L. Scott, son of Robert L. and Helen J. Scott of 121 Wilkerson Drive, Lumberton, NC, recently received a Letter of Appreciation.

Scott was cited for superior performance of duty while assigned with Sea Control Squadron 29, Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego.

He consistently performed his demanding duties in an exemplary and highly professional manner.

He joined the Navy in August 1992.

## Ol' Wiz Wisdom from the Country

Dear Miss Connee:

Politics is the art of getting along with others, Miss Connee. Now, some of our people can do that, and some can't. I reckon it's the same among other races. But, our people generally take to a man or woman who takes to them. We'll overlook a multitude of things, if treated fairly decent. That's just the way we are, Miss Connee, and I doubt we'll be changing any time soon.

Now, this puts me to wondering about some of our folk that hold positions. We got judges, representatives, county commissioners, school board members, and pretty soon we will have us a tribal chairman, a tribal council, and a sheriff. All these people have got their faults, and they got some good points. Ain't none of them perfect, Miss Connee. But, no one asks them to be perfect, we just expect them to treat people the way they would want to be treated, and to do the best they can with what they got for the betterment of all.

Ol' Wiz is been thinking here of some other folks and some lessons our tribal government might learn from them. The first lesson is this: If you are going to represent people in the right way, don't hand them taters and expect them to support you when they're needing jobs, schooling, and help with doctor bills. Course, there ain't nothing wrong with passing out taters to people. As soon as a truck comes in, Ol' Wiz is sending for his taters, Miss Connee. But, the point here is our people want opportunity, not handouts, Miss Connee. With opportunity, we can make it on our own. With handouts, we will never know anything but hunger, need, and despair. Now, there's some more lessons to be learnt, but Ol' Wiz will save them for another day. Miss Connee.

Now, the boys at the store are talking about dues. They've been looking over that list of candidates, wanting to know where these people have been when we needed them before. Well, that's a good question, Miss Connee. There's some warriors on that list of candidates, and there's some folks Ol' Wiz ain't never heard tell of. But, warriors don't live forever, so it's always a good idea to have some new blood coming in. Miss Connee. The only question Ol' Wiz wants to know is who put some of these folks up to running.

Well, Ol' Wiz has heard that LRDA has hired a lawyer in Fayetteville to read my little letters to you, Miss Connee. Now, I believe our Indian lawyers can read as good as any White lawyer, Miss Connee. And, I think them being Indian makes it easier for them to understand Ol' Wiz's way of talking, unless they have gotten above their raisings. It sure is a pity that an Indian organization don't carry its business to Indian people. Miss Connee, particularly if its Indian money being spent.

But, the way I understand it, this lawyer is getting paid to read Ol' Wiz's letters, Miss Connee. Well, I was planning to take a spell here from all this writing, but if the LRDA has hired them a lawyer to read Ol' Wiz, I believe I'm obligated to keep on writing, Miss Connee. The way I see it, this lawyer might as well earn his pay. Miss Connee, even though it might be some of this "Indian" money he gets paid with. Looks to me like they would pay Ol' Wiz something for his letter writing, if they're paying a lawyer to read me. Miss Connee.

Now, I hope this here lawyer reading Ol' Wiz understands the way Indians talk, Miss Connee, as much as he understands the law. Now, you take what Mr. A. Bruce Jones said

about hosses at one of them LRDA board meetings. If you remember what was said, Mr. Jones said the Hosses were out of the corral and weren't wanting to go back in. Now, a White man, not knowing any better, would probably think Mr. Jones had a pasture of hosses and some of them had gotten out, and he couldn't git them back in. But, that ain't what Mr. Jones was talking about, Miss Connee.

Take this other statement that someone said Mr. Dobbs Oxendine, Jr. made. The way I understand it, Mr. Oxendine wanted to know why LRDA couldn't just change its name to the Lumbee Tribe. Now, that's probably a good question if you're a lawyer and you ain't an Indian. But if

you're an Indian, with a little or a whole lot of education, it sort of rubs you the wrong way. Reckon White people understand these things, Miss Connee? I'm afraid they don't, which is why Ol' Wiz writes letters to Indians, and not not White people. Miss Connee.

Never mind all that, though. Miss Connee, them LRDA boys is went and hired them some White lawyers to "monitor" these letters. Now, Miss Connee, again I publicly ask them LRDA boys to give us an accounting. How much of our tax money is been spent a fighting against the Indian people? Ol' Wiz, as a taxpayers, wants to know.

## Educational Notes



Under the direction of cheerleading coach, Rosa Pearson, and Wendy Barton, Cheerleading Camp was held at Purnell Swett High School to train ninth, JV, and varsity cheerleaders. Thirty participants participated in the: Spirit Clinic from Durham, NC under the supervision of Shannon Tod from Raleigh who graduated NC State, Latasha Smith from Fayetteville who attends East Carolina and LaToya Jones of Southern Pines who attends Chapel Hill. Through the clinic, the cheerleaders were taught new cheers, responsibility, good sportsmanship and working together.

**Elect JAMES A. HUNT August 27, 1994 TRIBAL CHAIRMAN**

10 yrs. experience in Banking and Finance  
2 yrs. experience in Personnel  
5 yrs. dealing with members of Congress  
21 yrs. as a Baptist Minister

"A New Beginning for the Twenty-First Century"



Greetings:

To all the good citizens living in the Lumbee Tribal Council District 12, which covers all or parts of the following communities: Elrod, Purvis, Union, Evans Crossroads, Back Swamp, West Pembroke, Red Banks, Rayhnam, Brudde's Cabinet Shop area, Hopewell and Harper's Ferry. I now come asking for your vote and support to become your voice on the Lumbee Tribal Council Board. As your representative I will work very hard to prove to you that you made the right choice when you chose me to speak and represent you and your interest.

Working together and allowing God to make our decisions for us we can be a great asset to all of the good Indian people of our tribe. I will always have your concerns at heart and to the best of my ability convey them to the other board members or where ever needed. Working together we will move forward in achieving the needs of our great people, making our tribe known and respected by all the people. Thank you for your support and confidence in making me your representative.

\*Charter member Prospect Fire Department

Treasurer-Twenty-three years

Chairman of the Board

\*Boy Scout Leader-Five years

\*Boys Club Counselor-Five Years

\*Member of Bear Swamp Baptist Church

Director-Outreach

Chairman of Nominating Committee

Church Council Member

Taught Sunday School in the Youth Department

Involved with the youth at Church

Active in visiting and assisting the sick and elderly

\*Married, one daughter, age 17 years.

**DELTON DEAN OXENDINE**

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