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# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS



Rev. Elias Rogers

## New Book, "A Life of Discrimination" Released

A banquet and autograph party was held on Friday, January 20 at 7 p.m. at Mt. Elim Baptist church. Friends and well wishers gathered to honor the Rev. Elias Rogers and to buy autographed copies of his new book "A Life of Discrimination." The event was sponsored by the Hoke County Native American Club. "A Life of Discrimination" is the life story of Rev. Rogers. It recounts his struggle to become the first Native American to serve on a rural cooperative board of directors in the nation. Rev. Rogers was elected to the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation's Board of Directors and after legal action was finally seated by a federal judge. The books give a detailed account of that historical event. Other interesting chapters include the arrest and acquittal of Rev. Rogers in the famed BIA case. Native Ameri-

cans gathered in Washington, D.C. and took over the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Rogers was one of the persons arrested in as a result of that incident. The book includes stories of discrimination from the birth of Rogers until 1994. Serving as Mistress of Ceremonies was Della Maynor, Hoke County's Register of Deeds. Entertainment was by Russell Walker of Fayetteville. Richard Locklear of the Hoke County Native American Club presented a "Warrior Award" to Rev. Rogers on behalf of the club. Bruce Barton gave the keynote speech and testimonials were heard from the audience. Among those speaking in honor of Rev. Rogers were Madie R. Locklear and James A. Hunt, both members of the LREMC Board of Directors; and Barry Nakell, attorney for Rev. Rogers in EMC litigation.



Shown are Richard Locklear of the Hoke County Native American Club, presenting the "Warrior Award" to Rev. Elias Rogers.



Bruce Barton

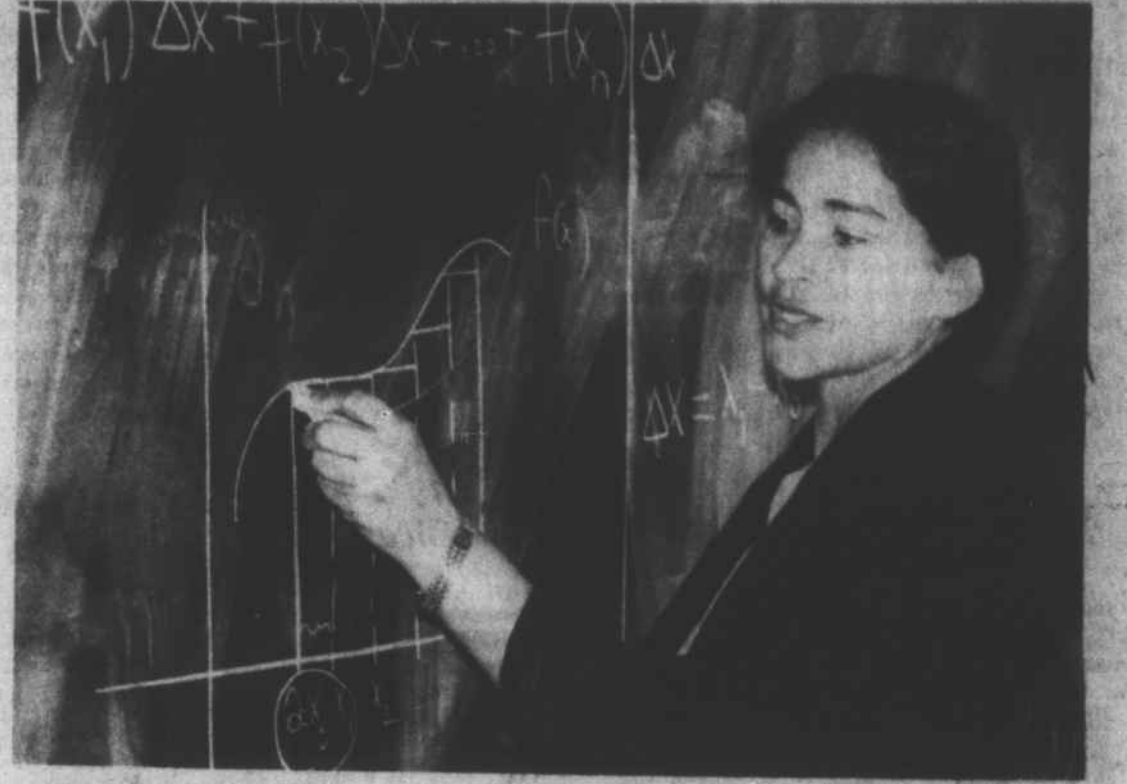


Klynt Deese

## C & R Pawn Shop, Pembroke, houses Klynt Deese Sales

Many of us take so many things for granted. Like getting up in the mornings, getting to work, all those simple things we do to begin the day, we take them for granted. For Klynt Deese of Pembroke, these are not simple functions. It takes a great deal of effort for him personally just to prepare for the day. Deese suffers from paralysis on his left side and is constantly struggling with headaches. While these medical problems could be discouraging for some people, Deese remains very optimistic and does not dwell overly much on his physical condition. If you ask, he will tell you his story. When he was twelve years old (he is now 45) in 1962, his sixth grade class was traveling to White Lake. The teacher carried his students to White Lake at the end of the school year to enjoy the beginning of sum-

mer vacation. Unfortunately, on this trip, the car and a mule and wagon collided. There was a plow on the wagon and the impact resulted in the tip of the plow going into the right side of Deese's head. He remained in a coma for two months and underwent several operations. Deese now walks with great difficulty because of paralysis and nerve damage. Residing alone on Ruth Dial Street in Pembroke, Deese has been busy operating a small business out of the C & R Pawn Shop in Pembroke. Deese sells tapes, custom made, tape players, C.D. players and C.D.'s, radios, tape players, and other electronic equipment. The Pawn Shop is located just across the railroad track on West Third Street. Deese encourages his friends to visit him there. The hours are 10 til 5 every weekday except Wednesday.



**CALCULUS MADE EASY**-Dr. Freda Porter-Locklear, a post-doctoral fellow in the UNC-CH math department, explains the concept of finding sums to her beginning calculus class. Porter-Locklear, a Lumbee Indian, will be featured in a PBS-TV documentary, "Breakthrough: People of Color in American Science," scheduled to air next fall.

## Dr. Freda Porter-Locklear serves as role model for minorities seeking science careers

Chapel Hill-Dr. Freda Porter-Locklear enjoys being a role model for young people, especially young minorities and women interested in science careers.

people nationwide as part of a six-part PBS-TV documentary series. The Lumbee Indian and postdoctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is one of 15 people being profiled in "Breakthrough: People of Color in American Science." Blackside Inc., a Boston-based film and television production company, surveyed people for the documentary. Porter-Locklear was first contacted for the series at a national conference of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society in 1991. Marc Perry, associate producer at Blackside, said he and colleagues looked deliberately to find the right people for the program. They spent about four days with Porter-Locklear before finally deciding to include her in the series. "We did two months of research looking for very compelling individuals of color doing really cutting-edge work in math and computer science," he said. "Breakthrough's" aim is to highlight people of color who are doing research in various fields of science. Porter-Locklear said the show also tried to capture some personal aspects of its subjects. "They did some cultural scenes," she said. "I've been involved with the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, which sponsors a pow wow during Lumbee Homecoming (in Pembroke). They filmed that during the Fourth of July celebration. Not only has Porter-Locklear been involved with the society, she founded the chapter at Pembroke State University, where she graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor of science in applied mathematics degree in 1978. She received a master's degree in applied mathematics from N.C. State in 1981 and a doctoral degree in applied mathematics from Duke in 1991. Perry said one of "Breakthrough's"

strong motivational forces was inspire young minorities to enter science fields. He said the focus was two fold. "to show people that youth can do it and could serve as role models. "to illustrate the fascinating nature of scientific research through the work of these individuals. "Dr. Porter-Locklear's segment of the program started filming in May and finished in October. Besides the Lumbee homecoming, scenes were also shot of her interaction with the community. "They did a scene of me at Pembroke Hardware, which my husband's family owns, one Saturday," Porter-Locklear said. "Many people in the community go to the hardware store on Saturday." The crew also filmed her voting on the Lumbee constitution. "It was really pretty," she said. "The young man had to sign a release form saying it was okay to use him in the program." For her postdoctoral work, Porter-Locklear is researching the problem of the process of natural biodegradation of contaminants, specifically jet fuel. Her topic is intrinsic bioremediation, which she describes as a "risk management tool that relies on natural biological processes to contain the spread of contamination from jet fuel spills." "I've been interested in the problem for four years," Porter-Locklear said. "When I heard I was getting a post-doc, I picked it up again. It has to do with water quality, and I'm very interested in water quality." So far, Porter-Locklear's research has involved analyzing a mathematical model and looking for a suitable numerical algorithm that finds an approximate solution to the model. To do this, she has been studying the equation that describes the transport of jet fuel and the equation that describes the flow of water. A computer program is necessary to solve the problem, Porter-Locklear said, and the process cannot be completed overnight. "One of the scenes we filmed dealt

with my father coming by for a visit at my home," she said. "In the scene I said, 'It's great you came by for a visit. I needed a break from this problem.'" Perry said the work Porter-Locklear community, which was another reason the producers of "Breakthrough" were so interested in telling her story. "Her story is closely linked to her community," Perry said. "It's about her love for her work and research, her love for her community and her love for her family. She believes bioremediation is important to the Native American community, and she has a strong desire to give back to her community. "The Native American experience is a very unique one. It plays itself out in an individual's life. Dr. Porter-Locklear's situation really speaks to that." As for her actual research, Perry said Porter-Locklear's work is cutting-edge. "We had to do some research ourselves to understand what she was doing," he said. "We got in touch with some people from M.I.T. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). There are maybe five other people in the entire country who do what she does." In between her high-tech work, Porter-Locklear also teaches a beginning calculus class at UNC-CH, which she thoroughly enjoys. "I definitely enjoy teaching," she said. "I'm very sympathetic to young people. College students have so many struggles that I feel it is very important to have an understanding professor. I have found that a caring individual can transcend cultural differences." Through all her many activities, Porter-Locklear strives to be a good role model. "There are so few American Indian faculty role models that Indian education is severely affected. It is my hope that through mentoring and providing a good support infrastructure, more minority and women graduates in science, engineering and mathematics will be produced." by Michelle Lambeth UNC-CH News Service

## PSU's Cummings Selected as Political Leadership Fellow

Raymond Cummings, Director of Student Activities at Pembroke State University, has been selected as a recipient of "The North Carolina Institute of Political Leadership (IOPL) fellows program. The Institute is a bipartisan, non-profit, research and educational institution formed to improve the overall quality of political and governmental leadership in North Carolina at the state and local levels. On November 10, 1994 in Raleigh the board met and selected 20 Fellows from across North Carolina for its Spring, 1995 Leadership Program. The purpose of the institute is to draw out those North Carolina citizens who have the potential to be the state's future political leaders. The goals of the program are to find these potential leaders and to bring them together into a forum to:

Education and train them in current policy issues and modern campaign technology; examine with them the ethical consequences involved in negative campaigns and situations which arise when holding public office; foster communications and the exchange of ideas in a politically, culturally, and philosophically diverse climate; socialize them into a group of political leaders with whom they will interact throughout their entire careers; facilitate direct access to and interaction with current political leaders; and follow their careers as political and governmental leaders. The Board of Directors identifies, interviews, and selects men and women with leadership potential and appoints them as Fellows in the Institute's Leadership Program. The IOPL Fellows Program is leader-

ship training in practical politics. Over ten alternate weekends, Fellows participate in a series of 50 seminars and hands-on training activities. Five of the weekends are in Research Triangle Park; four are in Wilmington; and one is in Greensboro. The sessions are divided into three general categories: personal style and communication; governing and public policy issues; campaigning. The guest lecturer in the Fellows program would make up a "Who's Who list of National and State level political leaders." Ten Alumni now serve in the North Carolina General Assembly. More than 50 other graduates hold local elected office... county commissioner, mayor, city council



Raymond Cummings,

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## Pow Wow Planned at School of Science and Math, Durham, on February 25th

The Native American Club, Akwe:kon, at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics will be hosting their fourth annual pow wow on Saturday, February 25, 1995. There will be singing and dancing, as well as displays of Indian arts and crafts. Grand entry for dancers will be 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The building, the Physical Educational Center, will open at 9:00 a.m. Two outstanding Native American young people will be head dancers. Sallie Jacobs from Greensboro will be Head Lady Dancer and Alex Ross from Pembroke will be Head Man Dancer. Eddie Benton Banai from the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in northern Wisconsin will be

the Master of Ceremonies. The School of Science and Math is a residential school for eleventh and twelfth grade students from throughout North Carolina who show particular talent and potential in the areas of science and math. One of the major purposes for the pow wow is to make the school better known in North Carolina's Indian communities. The goal is to attract more Indian students to apply to the school. Once Native American students enroll in the School of Science and Math they will find a supportive atmosphere as well as other Indian students interested in the advancement of Indian people and their culture.