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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS



Prospect All Stars are shown above. Top-bottom left to right are coaches: Dwayne Jones, Charles Bullard and Blaine Jones; Dustin Eubanks; Edmund Locklear; David Emanuel, Kyle Locklear and Ben Dial; Andre Bullard; Thorne Locklear; Brandon Locklear; Yarnell Locklear; Sean Locklear; Cameron Clark; Bryan Chavis; and Luke More.

Prospect All Stars Win District Championship

The Prospect Dixie Youth, 9 and 10 year olds. All Star Baseball team, managed by Mr. Dwayne Jones is on the road, not again but for the first time. They will travel to Troy, NC on Saturday to participate in the 1997 Dixie Youth State Tournament. It was on to an easy road to get onto, but with team effort and each one doing his part, this Prospect team has made history. Prospect will face Kanapolis for its first game on Saturday at 2:00 P.M.

To get onto this road to the State Championship, Prospect faced the Pembroke 9 and 10 year old All Stars for the Sub District Championship at Pembroke. After winning that game, Prospect had to play a best of three game series against Elizabethtown All Stars at Red Springs for the District Championship. In the first game against Elizabethtown on Monday night, pitchers Edmund Locklear, Sean Locklear and David Emanuel III led Prospect to a 17-5 victory with Brandon Locklear batting 3 for 3. One of the best defensive plays came at the bottom of the 5th inning when Kyle Locklear at short stop, Yarnell Locklear at first base and David

Emanuel III at third base turned a 6-3-5 double play to give the prospect All Stars the boast they needed to win the first of the three game series.

With this win, Prospect came to the second game on Tuesday night with momentum. However, in the first-inning Elizabethtown scored 8 runs and led the ball game until the top of the 3rd inning when Cameron Clark playing second base made the best plays of his life to turn his ball team around, giving them the "Want-to-win" drive that was needed to win the second game. Pitchers Thorne Locklear, Sean Locklear and David Emanuel III got the 9-12 victory and Prospect 9 & 10 year old All Stars are District Champions.

"This is Prospect's first year in the Dixie Youth Baseball League. They have played well and are excited about their road trip," said Coach Jones.

The Prospect All Star Team (ages 9-10) is sponsored by the Diet Clinic with locations in Lumberton, Fayetteville and Raleigh, owned by Dr. Ferris Locklear, a supporter of Youth Sports and father of team member Yarnell Locklear.



Pictured from left to right: Rep. Ron Nallon, Gov. Jim Hunt, Miss Gerren Maynor, Miss Natalie Brayboy, Miss Wendy Hurrell.

SOS Students Attend Blue Ribbon Awards Ceremony in Raleigh

The Support our Students program at Pembroke middle recently sent a delegation to the SOS Blue Ribbon Awards in Raleigh. During this event, one outstanding student, volunteer, and business sponsor are recognized from each county for exemplary performance.

Miss Gerren Maynor, a seventh grader at PMS was selected as Outstanding Student, miss Natalie Brayboy, a student at UNCP, was honored as Exceptional Volunteer, and Bo's Supermarket was recognized as Out-

standing Business Sponsor from the Robeson County SOS Program.

The SOS programs throughout the state are an initiative by Governor Hunt to keep middle school students active and involved in both school and their community. Communities in Schools of Robeson County is the parent agency of the local program which is housed at Pembroke middle School and serves students at the school in grades 6-8. If you would like more information on the SOS Program, please call 521-0071.

PSHS Football Physicals July 29

Physical exams for football and other sports at Purnell Swett High School will be given at the school

July 29 and 30 at 6 p.m. The cost is \$10. Interested players are urged to attend and get their physical exams for Swett High Sports.



Purnell Swett High School Senior Eric Freeman is shown signing with Pitt Community College to play baseball. Shown left to right are: Athletic Director Royce McNeill, Principal Wesley Revels, Coach Jerome Hunt and Pitt Community College Coach Monte Little. Seated are Gerald Ransom, Eric Freeman and Jeanette Freeman.

HUD has unobligated funds

by John "Tall Bird" Marshall
As most people know, HUD is under the gun by many politicians. There are those whose endeavor is to eradicate HUD and with the following news, there is no wonder.

Recently, HUD's Public and Indian Housing Affairs has been blasted for the recent discovery of their sitting on top of \$5.6 billion dollars in Section 8 funds, while Housing Authorities across the nation knew nothing of the available funds so desperately needed for repairs and modernization.

In addition, some \$2.3 billion dollars appropriated to Public Housing Authorities (HAs) through the Comprehensive Grant Program's budget through 1995 remains unobligated. Furthermore, the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs in investigating allegations of fraud and other wrong doings in the Indian Housing Program. Such publicized news of procrastination and poor management unjustly instills negative overtones upon all PHAs, IHAs and Federal Agencies.

However, conversely, there are Housing Authorities and Federal agencies that do, in fact, implement their programs and obligate their funding as they should within the designated time frames. As a result of the aforementioned unobligated funds, HUD has mandated that all Comprehensive Grant Project Funds approved in FY 1995 and prior years be obligated no later than June 30th, 2008. Furthermore, rather than a three year period to implement a fiscal year Comprehensive Grant Program (beginning with FY 1997) HUD is now only allowing 18 months to implement, obligate, expend, and close-out that budget year. This will be very difficult for many Housing Authorities.

To adjust to the new time frames, Authorities may consider additional training for existing staff, hire additional staff, or contract services with a consultant or an architectural/engineering firm.

You may ask, how does this affect an individual or family living in public housing? It means contact your

local Housing Authority. Ascertain as to whether they have a Resident Council. If not, form one from residents living in Public Housing, elect officers, and hold monthly meetings to address your concerns and/or needs. Invite the Authority's Department Heads to attend and provide input.

Inquire about current grants received by the Authority and their implementation status. As residents, you may form a "Partnership Process" with your local Housing officials. Become involved and knowledgeable to the grants your Authority has received. Your voice and cooperation can help shape the future activities, repairs, and modernization needs in your own communities. You have a voice in the planning of repairs and modernization activities.

In regards for the "\$4.7 million dollars proposed for Lumbee Housing by HUD," this is great news! However, it is just that - a proposal.

In my youth, I can still remember my grandmother telling many years ago, "don't count your chickens until all your eggs are hatched." In saying

that, we must guard ourselves against false hopes. The \$4.7 million dollars sounds great, but remember the stigma over shadowing Public Housing mentioned earlier above and to Congress' efforts to balance the National Debt through the elimination of many funded programs, as well as the reduction of grant amounts already having been approved. I truly do hope the Lumbee will receive a large portion of this proposed \$4.6 million dollars, as decent, affordable, low income housing is so desperately needed in our surrounded communities.

You can make a difference in regards to the end result of this \$4.7 million dollar proposal. Call, write, or forward petitions to your local representatives and Congressional representatives and support for the approval of the HUD proposed funding for our Lumbee people. You do and will make a difference, our representatives must hear your voices in order for our communities to be efficiently represented and be successful in receiving these proposed funds.

Business

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Turtlet power: Creating dolls and dreams in Stormville

by Teresa M. Jennings

Jacqueline and Larry Brewer recently moved to the area from Wappingers Falls, NY. Both are originally from the south and their home exudes the charm and hospitality of the region. Jacqueline's large collection of Native American dolls greets you at the door of their Stormville home.

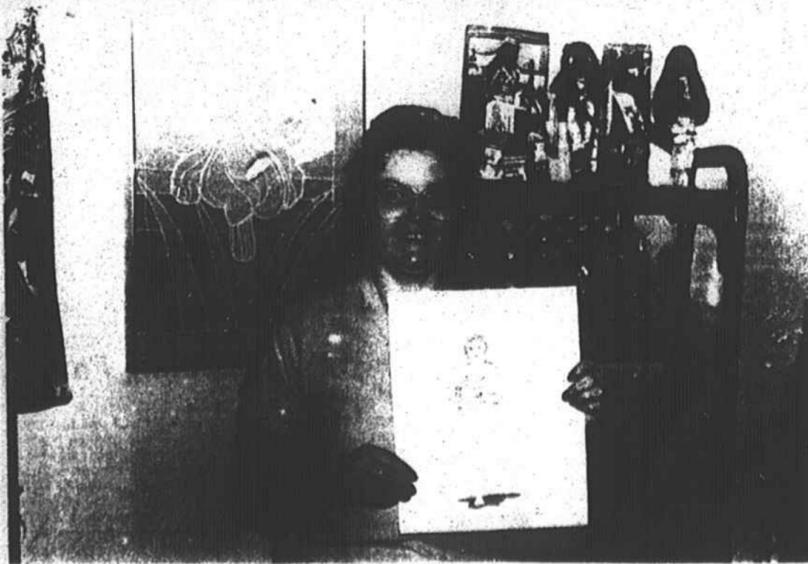
The interest in dolls made it easy to see where the idea for the Turtlet originated. According to Jacqueline it began as a brain storm in an airport in El Paso, Texas, while returning to their Carlsbad, New Mexico home in 1990.

At the time, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles were near the height of their popularity. The Brewers said the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles were designed to target boys, and Jacqueline thought a similar product for girls would be just as popular.

The Brewers placed an ad in an area newspaper to locate an artist who could transform the ideas in Jacqueline's head to a believable figure on paper. The artist that responded to the ad was a local art teacher and the results were drawings of beautiful dolls with shells instead of clothes and "skull caps" instead of hair. The artist brought the charcoal and pastel drawings to school for her students to review. The Turtlet artwork received positive reviews from both male and female students.

The Brewers let the idea lay until March 1996 when they took it to the South Carolina-based company National Inventive Services, Inc. (NISI) who gave them the backing they needed. Since the Brewers had never attempted to market a product before they went with NISI. Among the products that NISI is responsible for backing are the Chip Clips, a common household item. When the Brewers met with NISI, they were told they had a marketable idea. The Brewers were told by a NISI employee that this product was, "the most unique doll she had ever seen."

With a backer in hand, they began the



A TURTLET IS BORN: Jacqueline Brewer holds the design for the Turtlet action figure her and her husband, Larry, created. (Photo by Teresa M. Jennings.)

Brewers said. The design for the prototype shows a slender, graceful doll with a slight resemblance to Barbie. Each of the dolls has a shell covering her torso, from which their necks, arms, and legs protrude. The drawings give the illusion of an almost elegant fantasy creature, reminiscent of a flapper from the 1920s. The shells and the accessories vary with the culture of the Turtlet. The variations on the doll include Native American and Asian, as well as zodiac signs. The drawing of the

doll that has been used as the marketing model is a zodiac doll complete with a scorpion on her shell.

The look of the final product is up to the manufacturer, Brewer said. The Brewers said they are excited about the upcoming production and have ideas for expanding the line to include clothing and movies in the future. The Brewers' dreams are large and their expectations are realistic.

As Larry Brewer said, "Looking back we can say, 'they were a part of that'."

Local Poet Recently Published

Hal H. Locklear of Maxton, NC reached the semi finals in a National Poetry Contest sponsored by the Poetry Guild and his poem was selected to be published. The Poetry Guild chooses poems for publication that exhibit considerable merit and offers a Grand Prize of \$1,000 per poetry contest. His poem, entitled "The Life I've Lived" has been published in the Poetry Guild's latest anthology entitled "By the Light of the Moon". It is on page 122.

Locklear prefers writing poems from inspiration about life's experiences and he has enjoyed writing poetry for over 20 years. His hobbies include walking, visiting the sick and he is an avid sweepstakes participant.

The contest Locklear entered is open to both published and non-published poets. The Poetry Guild offers contests on a regular basis. Susan Butler, Spokesperson for the Poetry Guild said, "There will be over \$20,000 awarded annually to the poems judged the best."

Poets inspired to write and enter for the cash grand prize are invited to send an original poem, written any style, and on any subject. There are no fees to enter and authors retain all rights to their work. Poets may submit their entry to the Poetry Guild, 2840 Broadway #135, New York, New York 10025.

Native American Youth Day Camp

The North Carolina Indian Cultural Center will be conducting a Day Camp on August 4 through August 8 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily. The cost of the camp is \$5.00 for the week.

All Native American Youth ages 12-15 are encouraged to come out and learn more about themselves and their culture.

Activities will include cultural awareness programs, life skills and personal development classes; cultural arts and crafts; and recreation (lacrosse, swimming, etc.).

Workshops conducted by Community role models, mentors, and tribal elders.

For more information call 521-2433.

Cong. McIntyre's Mobile Office to Visit Robeson

The mobile office of 7th district Rep. Mike McIntyre will be in Robeson County Tuesday, July 29th, and will be located at the Fairmont town hall from 10:00 am - 12:00.

A member of Rep. McIntyre's staff will be available to assist people who have problems with federal matters such as veterans affairs, social security, internal revenue, disability etc. Comments on pending legislation are also welcome.

The mobile office is a service to people of the 7th district and makes numerous stops in Robeson County during the year.

SOS Summer Camp Planned at Pembroke Middle

The Robeson County SOS program is offering a one-week summer camp at Pembroke Middle School July 28- August 1 from 9 am until 1 pm. Students who will be in grades 6, 7, and 8 are eligible to attend.

Registration will begin at 8:00 am on Monday, July 28, in the school cafeteria. Campers will participate in the following activities: computer, writing, arts and crafts, and recreation.

Breakfast and lunch are served under the summer feeding program. A \$5 registration fee is required.

The SOS program is sponsored by Robeson County Communities in Schools. The number to call for more information is 521-0071.