

# Editorial and Opinion Page

## Along the Robeson Trail

by Dr. Stanley Knick  
Director, UNCP Native American Resource Center

As part of the on-going series on Lumbee context, for the past four weeks, we have been discussing the prehistoric context of the Lumbee. We saw that prehistoric Lumbee context can be understood in four major divisions, the first three called "Paleo-Indian," "Archaic" and "Woodland." We learned that the development of agriculture (beginning around 2000 B.C.) changed the lives of Native people forever, and that this invention was accompanied by the inception of ceramics.

Although to modern sensibilities the earliest Woodland ceramic vessels might appear crude, they must have seemed truly remarkable to the people who first made and used them. The vessels had symmetry, which physically expressed the important symbolic value of balance and order in the universe. They were made by human (most likely female) hands, and thus could be invested with personalized touches — subtle differences of temper, paste, form and surface treatment. Surely in every Woodland village each potter's work was known from the others, and family traditions of ceramic techniques developed and were maintained.

The earliest Woodland pottery had a rather plain surface and thick walls. As the generations passed different surface treatments were invented, including cord marked, fabric marked, checkstamped, punctate, incised and other types. In later Woodland times, burnishing and paddle stamping came into vogue. Over the centuries, ceramic vessels typically came to have thinner walls, probably reflective of improved techniques of manufacture.

All of this pottery was made with a coiling method, building up the walls of vessels by coiling narrow strips of processed clay around on top of each other until the desired form was produced. The coils were then smoothed over and fastened to each other using tools such as shell scrapers. Once air dried, vessels were heated in semi-subterranean fire pits to make them hard and durable.

Woodland ceramic production evolved various types of surface treatments and generally finer vessels into the early colonial period. What may have begun as a purely functional invention became a means of artistic expression as well.

A third major invention at the beginning of the Woodland period was the bow-and-arrow. Until this time, Native men hunted mainly with spears (sometimes using atlatls). They also used blow guns, darts and lances, as well as various snares and other traps.

Thousands of stemmed-and-pointed stone tools (collectively called projectile points) have been found in fields here in eastern North Carolina. Most of them exhibit some form of the basic "Christmas tree" outline (there are a few exceptions), with a narrow stem at the base which broadens out to "shoulders" and then gradually narrows to a point. These are almost entirely spearheads. It is only with the coming of the Woodland period that we begin to see true arrowheads.

These true arrowheads are usually triangular in shape and have no stem (there are a few exceptions). They are also usually relatively small, commonly no more than an inch to an inch-and-a-quarter in total length

(some Archaic spearheads may be two to four inches long). Arrowheads are also generally quite thin when seen in profile. The true arrowhead is a small, thin, lightweight stone tool as would be necessary to function well on the end of a narrow and lightweight arrow shaft. Native men continued to use spears, blowguns and other items as hunting tools and weapons, but the highly accurate bow-and-arrow apparently became the preferred method for most Woodland hunting.

Along with the shift to Woodland technology (agriculture, ceramics and bow-and-arrow) came the move into settled, year-round villages. Now that farm crops produced a steady source of staple food, it was no longer necessary for Native people in the Woodlands to move from place to place.

With this change of lifestyle came increased population. Typical group size grew from the 50-75 people seen in Archaic times to villages of 100-300 people (some were probably even larger). Increased population and the more sedentary lifestyle made it possible for these Woodland ancestors of the Lumbee to develop a complicated culture and social organization, with clans and other social structures within and among villages.

In the next segment, we will discuss other elements of Woodland culture, as we continue to examine the prehistoric context of the Lumbee. For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in historic Old Main Building, on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

## Annie Locklear, Supervisor of Residence Hall at UNCP Retires After 18 Years Service



"Ma" Locklear counsels UNCP student Natoshia Revels. Photo taken by Stephanie Ann Eaton

The mother of 200 girls will be leaving her home after 18 years, but she is not abandoning them.

Annie Locklear will retire after 18 years of service as the supervisor of North Residence Hall at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke. She was responsible for the safety and happiness of the 200 women living in the residence hall every year.

"I felt that the girls were 'my girls,'" Locklear said. "They would come to talk to me and ask my advice."

To UNCP, she has always been known simply as "Ma Locklear." Locklear recalls a time when a florist came to the residence hall to bring her flowers on her birthday. "None of the residents knew who Annie Locklear was. They came to me and asked if I knew where she

lived. I had to laugh. They just simply knew me as Ma."

Locklear has many food memories of her job as supervisor.

"I can't pin it down to one memory," Locklear said. "The job has been very rewarding, fulfilling and definitely not boring. You are very confined, but you don't feel confined because there are so many around you."

Locklear believes her main goal was to make her charges feel at home.

"I wanted to be friends with everyone of them."

Dr. Joseph Oxendine, chancellor of UNCP, feels Locklear has left a tremendous impact on the University.

"Annie Locklear is the kind of person who lends a positive personality, and character to this cam-

pus," Oxendine said. "She will be sorely missed."

Locklear says that she is going to miss UNCP.

"I am going to miss all the fine people on campus. It is not something you walk away from without mixed feelings."

Locklear has some advice for Tony Lofton, the woman who will be replacing her in the apartment suite in North Hall.

"No two days are the same. Don't be surprised at the knock on the door, and what you are going to face. You have to be flexible, and you have to be very sensitive."

Locklear is planning to remain active in her retirement years. She plans to move to Jacksonville, N.C., so she can live closer to her two daughters.

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Locklear plans to volunteer work within her church, visit another daughter who lives in Miami Beach, Fla., travel, and visit her friends she has left behind in Pembroke.

"I will have to reprogram my life. It will take a lot of adjustment to move from a home with 200 girls to living alone."

Locklear is a caring woman who touched thousands of girls lives and played a vital role on the UNCP campus. Locklear will be one mother that UNCP students will never forget.

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## McIntyre to host Washington Issues Seminar on Business and Commerce

Washington, D.C. — Seventh District Congressman Mike McIntyre announced today that approximately 75 Chamber of Commerce members and key business officials from southeastern North Carolina will attend his 1997 "Washington Issues Seminar on Business and Commerce" on September 8-9 in the nation's capital.

Congressman McIntyre said, "I am very pleased that so many Seventh District business leaders have decided to take time out of their busy schedule to attend this important seminar. Congress and the Administration are often debating important issues which affect the business community. Therefore, it is important that federal officials have their knowledge and guidance before making decisions. This

seminar will allow North Carolina business officials the opportunity to listen and question key federal officials. I am looking forward to their input."

Scheduled speakers at the event include Attorney General Janet Reno, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner, Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, and Senator John McCain.

McIntyre is co-hosting the event with his North Carolina congressional colleagues Congressman Bill Hefner and Bob Etheridge. Total attendance at the event is expected to be approximately 200. Anyone who is interested in attending may call Congressman McIntyre's office in Washington at 202-225-2731. There is no charge for the seminar.

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## ...Down on the Farm



Shown above are the grandchildren of Mr. James and Tessie Blue of Rayhnam. They are shown milking the cow down on the farm. The cow recently gave birth to a baby calf and later on she adopted a baby buffalo. The baby buffalo is about three months old and she was born blind. The cow was giving four and a half gallons of milk a day, after the calf was born. Now that she is feeding the baby buffalo, she is only giving two gallons a day. The grandchildren live with the Blues and help with the chores every day, including the milking. The children are Kelia Renae Blue and Jamie Utah.

## Life Underwriters Elect New Officers



**Buddy Howell**  
Lumberton, NC, --Buddy Howell of Lumberton was elected president of the Robeson County Association of Life Underwriters for a one year term. Buddy Howell is an agent of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company in Lumberton.

He has been an active member of the association since 1984, having served as National Committeeman and Chairman of the Life Underwriters Political Action Committee.

Other officers elected by the Robeson County Association of Life Underwriters are: President-Elect, Tony Parnell of United Insurance Company, Vice President, Jerry L. Stephens of Integon Life Insur-

ance Company, Secretary/Treasurer, Patricia W. Cain of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, National and State Committeeman, Joel T. Holland of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, and Association Staff, Wilton Wilkerson.

The Robeson County Association of Life Underwriters, founded in 1959, has 61 members. It is one of the 1,000 state and local associations that are affiliated with the National Association of Life Underwriters (NALU). NALU, founded in 1890, represents 135,000 sales professionals in life and health insurance and other related financial services.

"Today's marketplace of financial products is becoming increasingly complex," explained Buddy Howell. "We as life underwriters are committed to serving the needs of consumers and helping them to provide for their financial security. My goal is to further strengthen that commitment," he added.

The mission of the Robeson County Association of Life Underwriters is to enhance the professional skills and ethical conduct of those providing life and health insurance and closely related financial products and services which foster greater financial independence for the public.



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