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Marion E. James, Miss Lumbee 1997-98 Farwell Address

Vanity, all is vanity, and this too shall pass, our ancestors knew this to be so, and that is why they cling to things that would never pass away. Such as honor, respect for elders, love of family and reverence of the Great Creator. Epta tewa newa seen creator I love you. I thank him for my grandmother, Rev. Mary Jacobs, who taught me from childhood to seek those things above and to always be strong and gracious. To my Aunt Wynetta, I remember your good humor and the strength you displayed even in the face of death. It is to you and my grandmother I dedicate my reign as Miss Lumbee. Secondly, I thank my family who has always encouraged and supported me, especially my mother, Linda Jacobs James. To my friends old and new, I don't have to name you, you know who you are. I thank you for your smiles, support and encouragement. To my special sis Charley, from a distance I have watched you grow. I am so proud of who you have become. No matter how far our journeys take us, we'll never be apart I am forever your big sis. I love you! Lost to my sunshine Christine, your smile knows how to light up a room of my heart. The time we've shared together has been small, but there wasn't a single time I didn't think of you. Little lady, I love you and you will forever be my sis.

As a Native American, I feel that the most important thing for our youth is education and cultural retention within education. We need to have our youth connected with tribal elders

in mentor program so we can learn from them. We also need modern education so we have the power to go into the other world and succeed so that we have the power to help our own people. I think it is vital for Native Americans to maintain their sovereignty for generations to come.

As Miss Lumbee, I had the opportunity to meet and develop friendships with Natives who are grounded in the traditional and cultural ways of our people. The thing I most admired was the spirituality, the sacredness of life and the belief that all life is joined in a circle, touching and being touched.

There is much we can learn from our brothers. However, there is also much they can learn from the Lumbee. We have a history filled with struggles and racial barriers that we have fought to overcome in order to be successful in a culture nor our own. We are teachers, doctors, lawyers, social workers, counselors, only to name a few. There is much we can share with our relatives.

Now, we, the Lumbee, are rebuilding our campfires. This is a time of culture renewal and we, as a tribe, must stand united in mind, body and spirit in order to overcome the barriers that lie before us. We know who we are: "WE ARE THE LUMBEE, THE LARGEST NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI" and I, Marion Elizabeth James, am proud to be your Miss Lumbee, 1997-1998.

In closure, my prayer is that the North Wind will always be at the back of the Lumbee, Mother Earth will always feed her people, and the Sun and Moon will smile upon the keepers of the land! Thank you!



Roy Maynor from Baltimore, Md., reads his prose that was published in the Sun, Baltimore's leading newspaper. (UNCP Photo by Bobby Ayers)

Native American Literary Voices, Part of Lumbee Homecoming

By: Don Gersh, University Relations

The annual Lumbee Homecoming was the magnet that attracted thousands to campus the other week.

The Fourth of July's activities kicked off with the 5 kilometer Roadrunner Classic that began in front of historic Old Main. Chancellor Oxendine runs every year and is one of the top finishers. On the other hand, our very own Scott Bigelow says he "participated" in the road race, but won't tell us his time.

Saturday's events also included the Homecoming parade, the car show, a Gospel sing, and many other activities in various Town and Gown locations. The AISES-sponsored powwow always draws large, supporting crowds to the quad, and is one of the day's highlights.

One of the newest Homecoming events is Native American Literary Voices. This year's theme was "Lumbee Voices, Near and Far". When this was first held three years ago, Bob and Judy Reising hosted the reading on their lawn, under a tent, on West 3rd Street. It was also the day Pembroke State University became The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

A year later, "Native American Literary Voices" outgrew the Reising location, and it moved on campus. At this year's reading, Dr. Reising welcomed us and said that Native American Literary Voices brings back to

Pembroke authors whose roots are firmly planted here in this region. "All six readers in 1998 either were born in or have ancestors born in Robeson," Dr. Reising said.

After Dr. Reising welcomed us, he introduced UNCP Student Government Association President Benjamin Gersh who shared greetings from the student body.

The reading begins each year with "The Hero of a People" written by Dr. Adolph Dial. "It is significant because it recalls the life of Henry Lowry Berry and because it was Dr. Dial's only published poem," explained Dr. Reising. Mrs. Rosa Dial Woods beautifully shared this poem with about 60 others in the Clifton Oxendine Auditorium of the Adolph L. Dial Human-

ities Building."

Ms. Barbara Braveboy-Locklear had the honor of introducing the three winners of a national writing contest. Tracey Elizabeth Locklear wrote the poem "I Dance Because I Can." Amanda Faircloth, who recently was crowned Junior Miss Lumbee, is the author of "Cupid's Fatal Arrows" which won in the prose category. "Friendship" was the award-winning piece by Tashina Harris. Tashina was unable to accept her award because she is attending an AISES campout of state. Accepting on her behalf was her mother, Belinda.

"I decided to introduce the next two authors at the same time, brothers who were born in the Sampson County," Dr. Reising said during the reception which followed the reading. "Roy Maynor is the older brother, and he read a piece that was published in the Baltimore Sun. The prose was reminiscent of his growing up in a hard-working neighborhood in the eastern part of the city."

I enjoyed his crisp descriptions of Roy's adolescence, including little league baseball, for I, too, grew up in Baltimore.

"Younger brother Ken Maynor is a poet living in California," said Dr. Reising. "He is pursuing a doctorate degree in literature, and he shared five of his published poems with us."

Although we could have spent hours enjoying the works of the Maynor brothers, Dr. Reising invited us all to join them at the reception in the first floor theater. I'm not sure Roy and Ken even had the opportunity to enjoy the delicious treats provided by Ms. Patsy Baker, Ms. Judy Reising, Ms. Yvonne Dial, and other Pembroke-area hostesses because they were so busy answering questions. But I did!

Another person who enjoyed the reception was the cousin of television star Heather Locklear, who, like so many attending Homecoming this year, was anxious to "reconnect" with the region of his ancestors.

Physician Scholars Honored

"Growing our own" is the guiding philosophy behind Southeastern Regional Medical Center Foundation's scholarship loan program. Currently nine young people from Robeson County have benefited from these scholarships which provide funding for four years of medical school.

"Making sure our community has an adequate supply of primary care physicians and medical specialists is a top priority at our Medical Center," said SRMC President Luckey Welsh. "We have been pleased at how effective the scholarship loan program has been in training and recruiting new physicians. We hope all of them plan to come back to their home community and put down professional roots."

In lieu of repaying the scholarship loans for medical school, which are funded through the SRMC Foundation, the physicians who return to practice in Robeson County may have one year's loan forgiven for each year spent in practice here.

"When the Foundation began making the loans, we had no idea what specialties the students would chose," said Morris Bullock, SRMC Physician Recruiter. "We couldn't be happier with the choices they have made."

At a reception held recently the

Medical Center, SRMC physicians had an opportunity to meet recipients of the scholarship loan program. They are: Dr. Michael Baker, a graduate of East Carolina University, now beginning residency training in obstetrics/gynecology at ECU; Dr. Robyn Zanard, a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, entering the family practice program at Moses Cone Health System; Dr. Danny West, a graduate of East Carolina University, training as a family practitioner at ECU; Dr. James West, a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, training in internal medicine at Moses Cone; Dr. Kristi Woods, a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, now a resident at the Medical University of South Carolina in pediatrics; Dr. Alesia Cottrell, a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, beginning a residency in anesthesiology at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville; Kendrick Maynor, a student at UNC-Chapel Hill, considering a residency program in either primary care medicine or surgery; Marcus Lowry, a fourth year medical student at UNC-Chapel Hill, focusing on family practice, and Anthony Brewington, a fourth year medical student at East Carolina University, planning to pursue residency training in internal medicine.

Lumbee Indians Excel at the University of Arizona

Kevin Locklear, son of Grover and JoAnn Locklear of Saddletree, has successfully completed work for his Master of Arts degree in American Indians Studies at the University of Arizona. The research for his Master's was entitled "Political Readjustment Of Lumbee Indian Veterans In Robeson County, North Carolina -- 1941-1998." This research focused on selected members of the Lumbee Indian tribe with the goal of examining Lumbee Indian veterans' perceptions of first leaving home; Lumbee Indian veterans' perceptions of their observations of the world outside Robeson County, North Carolina; Lumbee Indian veterans' treatment upon returning home; and the influence of Lumbee Indian veterans' in local elections of Robeson County, North Carolina -- 1941-1998. This ethnographic research was conducted between 1996 and 1998 and was the first research of its type to be conducted among Lumbee Indian veterans in Robeson County.

Based on Mr. Locklear's research and academic achievements, he has received a scholarship from the University of California at Davis to pursue his Ph.D. in Sociocultural Education. The research for his Ph.D. will be another ethnographic study focusing on Lumbee Indian veterans as

educators. Dr. Ben Chavis, son of Henry (Buck) and Shirley Bell, a professor of Education at the University of Arizona and from the community of Saddletree, has had a productive year in research and academia. He has published an article in the prestigious *Social Science Journal* (Volume 34, Number 4) entitled "American Indian Studies and Its Evolution in Academia." The *Social Science Journal* has the largest circulation in the world. The article is the first in-depth study of American Indian Studies as an academic discipline.

Dr. Chavis has also written a chapter entitled "What is Lumbee Indian Culture? Does it exist?" in a book entitled *A Good Cherokee, A Good Anthropologist: Papers in Honor of Robert K. Thomas*, published by UCLA Press. This book was first published in April 1996, and has sold out all of its first editions. Because of its high demand, UCLA Press has authorized a second edition.

At the University of Arizona, Dr. Ben Chavis teaches in Elementary Education and serves on both Master's and Ph.D. research committees. He also served on Mr. Kevin Locklear's Master's thesis committee this semester.



Kevin Locklear

Overhaul of State Juvenile Justice System Heads to Senate Floor

Raleigh—Dramatic changes to the way North Carolina combats juvenile crime took another step Thursday with a Senate committee's approval of juvenile justice reforms, said state Sen. David Weinstein.

The reform bill focuses on three key priorities: swift, sure justice for young offenders; increased parental responsibility for a child's actions and community-based prevention and rehabilitation. Violent juvenile crime jumped 172 percent statewide in the past decade; gun-related incidents increased 500 percent.

"Juvenile crime has become more frequent and more violent," said Weinstein, a Democrat who represents Robeson and parts of Bladen, Cumberland, Hoke and Sampson counties. "Our outdated juvenile justice system has seen no major changes in 20 years, and it's time to catch up."

The Juvenile Justice Reform Act passed the Judiciary Committee on Thursday. The full Senate will consider the legislation next week.

Stopping juvenile crime should focus on where it matters most: in North Carolina's communities, Weinstein said. From 1993 to last year, juvenile crime increased 31 percent (from 923 to 1,208) in Robeson County, 275 percent (from 8 to 30) in Bladen County, 123 percent (from 1,149 to 2,565) in Cumberland County

and 358 percent (from 26 to 119) in Sampson County. In Hoke County, juvenile crime fell 32 percent (from 69 to 47).

"Fighting juvenile crime must start locally," Weinstein said. "As we find new ways to crack down on crime, community leaders should work together to keep kids out of trouble in the first place."

Solutions should be tailor-made to the communities, Weinstein said. The bill authorizes community leaders to create local Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils that can invest in faith-based solutions, mentors for at-risk children and after-school programs to rally around kids who need help.

The Senate budget released last week committed \$19.8 million to lay the foundation for juvenile justice reform. The recommendations approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee will:

Ensure swift and sure punishment for serious offenses by speeding up all juvenile court appearances and re-vamping training schools and adding detention center beds.

Create new ways to make sure parents take responsibility for their children by requiring parents to attend court hearings with their child and making sure parents help children obey court orders or probation requirements.

UNC Coach Visits Local Rams Club Members



Lumberton, NC—UNC basketball coach Bill Guthridge was the special guest of the local Rams Club Meeting on April 28, 1998 at the First Presbyterian Church in Lumberton, North Carolina. Also in attendance were coaches from the UNC Football, Swimming, and Field Hockey teams. Woody Durham, the voice of the Tar Heels, was the emcee for the event. The coaches and Woody posed for pictures, signed autographs and answered questions from the many fans in attendance. The photo herein shows Coach Guthridge with Jamie Bell of Lumberton, NC.



SRMC President Luckey Welsh and Physician Recruiter Morris Bullock welcome current recipients of the SRMC Foundation's medical scholarship loan program at a reception held recently in the Medical Center dining room. Pictured from left are Welsh, Dr. James West, Dr. Kristi Woods, Dr. Danny West, Dr. Robyn Zanard, Marcus Lowry, Anthony Brewington, and Bullock. Not pictured were Dr. Michael Baker, Dr. Alesia Cottrell, and Kendrick Maynor. These local students have agreed to return to Robeson County to practice medicine after completing residency training in their chosen specialty.