

Mary Livermore Library
Pembroke NC 28372

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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Lifestyle Rollin' Cobras Turn Disability into Team Spirit

One Robeson County basketball team is proof that a disability need not be a liability. The Lifestyle Rollin' Cobras, are partially funded by the Southeastern Lifestyle Center for Fitness and Rehabilitation, placed second in a Division III Tournament in Columbia, SC on October 9th.

"We are trying to bring a Division II National Championship to Robeson County," said Coach Randy Ward, who also plays on the team. He said that although most players are experienced, this teams' first season. "Some of us were playing for other teams, but wanted to bring a team into Robeson County because most of us live in this area," he said. "A group of the guys were working out up here at the fitness center and had been in rehab up here, so we asked Southeastern Lifestyle Center to sponsor us."

Kathy Hansen, manager of fitness services at Southeastern Lifestyle Center for Fitness and Rehabilitation, said that the team is performing a needed service for the community. "We are proud to sponsor them," said Hansen. "They are really like a support group." She said that even though the center does not perform inpatient rehabilitation for spinal injuries, some outpatients there are in wheelchairs and the team serves as inspiration to them.

"We show them how we've come from a tragedy to a victory, and if a newly injured person comes in, we can go to them and try to help them get back into the mainstream of soci-

ety," Ward said. "This can give them another activity to help keep them from feeling sorry for themselves."

Wheelchair basketball is organized similarly to college basketball and played according to NCAA rules and regulations. The sport is divided into three divisions and has a "Sweet Sixteen" and "Final Four" competition at the end of the season to determine the National Champion. According to Ward, the sport is also an Olympic event.

Not only do members of the team inspire others by playing basketball, they also speak to students at area schools about the effects of drugs and alcohol. According to Ward the team is effective in spreading a safe driving message to teens. "We tell them that if you drink and drive this is what can happen to you," he said, pointing to his wheelchair. "We also play games at the school and talk with kids about disabilities. We show them that we are just like anyone else. This teaches them that they don't have to shun people just because they're different."

Ward said that wheelchair basketball is a great equalizer. "Michael Jordan played a wheelchair basketball team, and once he got into the wheelchair, he was no better a player than them. When people who aren't physically disabled get into the chairs to play us, they become the disabled ones, and we have the advantage."

Although the Southeastern Lifestyle Center for Fitness and Rehabilitation partially sponsors the

Lifestyle Rollin' Cobras, Ward said that it takes about \$10,000 a season to operate the team. Currently the team is seeking additional sponsorship. If anyone is interested in making a donation to the team should contact Ward at (910) 655-8553.

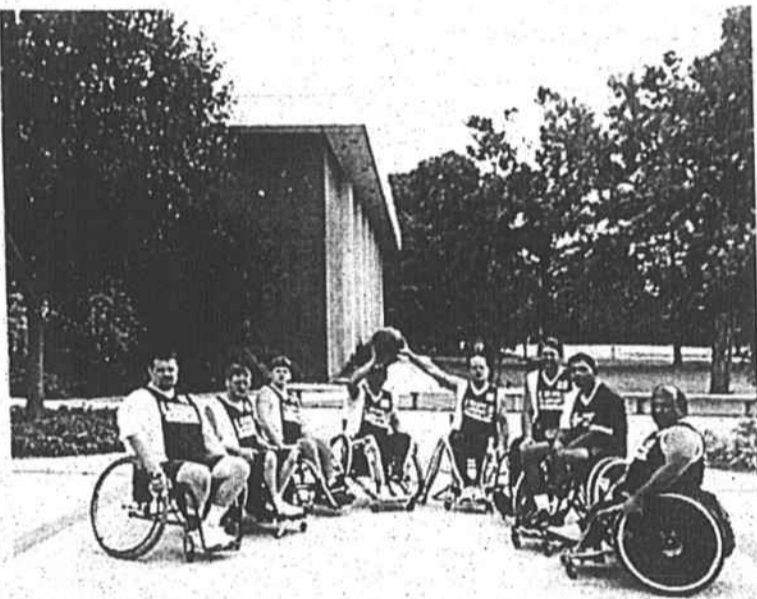
On October 30th the Rollin Cobras will be in competition with several other teams. The Halloween Shootout will be at the Lumberton Junior High School at 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. and Sunday October 31 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The guys on the team have expressed a desire to have more community support in regards to their needs financially and emotionally. As the first Native American Wheelchair Basketball Team they feel strongly about having more input and support from the Native American Community. They stated that they would like to hear from the Native American Organizations that could help them with the funding that they are in need of and also to hear from the six tribes that are in the Carolina area.

Being handicapped is not a limitation as to what can be accomplished in ones life is the message they would like to convey to the youth of Robeson County. Coming up on Friday at the Pow Wow in the late afternoon at the opening ceremony the basketball team will be present to speak and mingle with everyone who is there. If anyone has any ideas or would like to offer any assistance please feel free to write to Del Lambert at P.O. Box 1304, Pembroke, NC 27372.



Coach Randy Ward



Lifestyle Rollin Cobras, from left are Eddie McMillian (Whiteville), Dale Lambert (Pembroke), Joshua Nance (Whiteville), Randy Ward (Buckhead), Bradley Council (White Oak), Welton Locklear (Pembroke), Nick White (Bladenboro), Mark Sutherland (Buckhead), and Jeff Lowry (Pembroke). Not pictured are Jerry Jacobs (Buckhead), Steven Jacobs (Buckhead), Gary Jordan (Chadbourn), and Charles Lee (Parkton).

Robeson County Museum to honor veterans Nov. 4

The Robeson County Museum Associates invite all citizens to attend an evening of patriotic music-honoring Robeson County's veterans on Thursday November 4, at 7 p.m. in the courtyard of the public library. The event also commemorates Veteran's Day.

Fort Bragg's popular 82nd Airborne Chorus will perform in conjunction with the conclusion on November 11th of the Museum's military exhibit which has been on display since summer. In the event of rain, the performance will be held in the Osterneck Auditorium.

A reception will be held in the Museum immediately following the show.

Pembroke City Fire Dept. to sponsor fund raising event

The Pembroke City Fire Department is having a special fund driver for the next several weeks in cooperation with Community Support Services. Families will be contacted by phone and asked to make a pledge. Each family that pledges receives a beautiful 10x13 Canvas Mount Portrait, compliments of the Fire Department. Proceeds are being used to help pay for the new Fire Truck. For any additional information call 1-800-253-2638. They appreciate your past support and look forward to your help this year.



Contribution to Church of God

Harold Dean Demery of the Deep Branch Community attended homecoming on Sunday at his home church, Pembroke Church of God. Demery presented more than \$500 to the church in the Homecoming offering. Demery stated that he collected money all the year from friends and businesses and saved it to make large contribution to his church. The church presented Demery a certificate of appreciation for his dedication to his church. Demery, 41, is a life long member of the Pembroke Church of God and is the son of Mr. Ernest Demery and the late Eunice Demery.

Democratic Women to Meet Nov. 8

Robeson County Democratic Women are having a dinner meeting on Monday, November 8, 1999 at 6:30 PM at the Quality Inn and Suites, Kahn Drive, Lumberton, NC the guest speaker will be State Senator Beverly Perdue, Lt. Governor Elect. Call 521-9960, 521-0045 or 628-6642 to reserve your meal.

Everyone is welcome. Thank You! If you have any questions, call 521-9092 or 628-6642.

Freeman appointed to Commission

Leroy Freeman of Fairmont was recently appointed to the North Carolina Justice Education and Training Standards Commission by Attorney General Mike Easley. His appointment will expire in June 2002. He is serving as the attorney general's citizens' appointment.

In making his appointment, Attorney General Easley stated, "As you know, this Commission is very important to the citizens of North Carolina as well as the law enforcement officers across the state. This Commission's importance is increasing daily as we try to deal with the crime issues in our state. I know that you will serve the citizens of North Carolina and the law enforcement officers of this state well."

VA/HUD Appropriation Doubles Budget for Indian Housing Council

Washington, D.C. The VA/HUD Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2684) signed into law by President Clinton last week allocated an unprecedented \$4.2 million to the National American Indian Housing Council's efforts to improve housing in Indian Country. This more than doubled funding for the twenty-five-year-old group that represents tribal housing authorities and also provides technical assistance, training and research to tribe.

"The housing and economic development problems faced by Indian tribes are unique because of the special status accorded to reservation lands. NAIHC has proven technical assistance and training program that the conferees believe could be a valuable tool in addition to HUD's existing technical assistance programs," the Conference Report for H.R. 2684 noted.

Funding Aids Implementation of Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

"The money Congress entrusted to NAIHC is an indication of how effective Native American technical assistance has been. This is really what NAHASDA was intended to do," said Chester Carl, NAIHC Chairman and Navajo Housing Authority Executive

Director.

Since the passage of NAHASDA, tribal officials have had to learn new rules and develop more sophisticated funding strategies to leverage their block grant funds. Carl said, "Congress has recognized what tribes need to make the transition from 1937 programs NAHASDA. By prioritizing technical assistance we'll have success stories."

"We thank Congress, especially Senators Bond, Mikulski and Campbell and Representatives Walsh and Mollohan, for acknowledging that capacity-building is best done by tribes and tribal organizations," said Christopher D. Boesen, Executive Director of NAIHC. "This funding is an important symbol of the increased trust Congress has placed in tribes," Boesen said.

NAIHC programs respected in Indian Country

Of the \$620,000,000 approved for the Native American Housing Block Grants program for FY2000, NAIHC received a total of \$4.2 million to be administered through contracts with HUD. Boesen said that in addition to expanding existing programs, increased funding enables NAIHC to

better serve small tribes.

"Tribes are comfortable coming to NAIHC because our sole mission is to help them," Boesen said. "We have a good relationship with the tribes."

Lui Young, Interim Director of the Housing Authority for the Yurok tribe said "the Yurok IHA is a new housing authority and NAIHC technical assistance staff has provided us with invaluable training. We are always impressed with the commitment that NAIHC staff have to housing in Indian Country."

Tribally - controlled Organization at Work throughout Indian Country

NAIHC is a tribally controlled organization dedicated to improving Indian Country housing, which is the most overcrowded and substandard in the nation. NAIHC technical assistance specialists travel throughout the country helping tribes to implement housing programs that will best serve their members. NAIHC also works to dismantle the barriers to lending in Indian Country by educating lenders and tribal leaders about making conventional mortgage loans on trust land and by establishing conventional mortgage lending partnerships.

Indian Heritage Month Celebration begins Sunday

Governor Jim Hunt has proclaimed November as Indian Heritage Month in North Carolina. This celebration will begin on Sunday, October 31, at 2 p.m. at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center in Pembroke. The event is sponsored by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs and the United Tribes of NC.

Activities will include the reading of the official proclamation, the presentation of the 1999 poster by artist Karen Harley.

Greg Richardson, executive director of the Commission of Indian Affairs, stated that this kick off celebration and the month of November is very important because it will be the last celebration of Indian Heritage Month in this Century.

The event is being held in conjunction with the Lumbee Fall Pow Wow which is also being held this weekend at the Cultural Center. Ray Littleturtle will serve as Master of Ceremonies and will introduce the various tribes and groups in attendance.

LRDA's Energy Office to Begin Taking Applications Nov. 12

The Energy Unit for the Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. will begin accepting application for one time energy payment for fuel assistance to low income Indian households on November 1 through November 12, 1999.

Eligibility is based on income, number in household, heating source and region households lives in. All eligible households will receive a check in February, 2000.

Please bring correct information to expedite processing applications. (1) Social Security Cards for household members; (2) Verification of income for all household members for October Only; (3) Bank Statements/Stocks and Bonds; (4) Date of Birth for all household members; (5) Telephone number where you can be reached; (6) Picture I.D. with current

address listed.

If you have any questions, contact the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Office at (910) 738-7906. Offices for taking applications are as follows:

Energy Office, 2207 W. 5th St., Lumberton, N.C. 28358, 738-7906, Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Hawkeye Sands Community Bldg., Hwy 211 W., Raeford, N.C., Thursday ONLY, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

LRDA Tribal Enrollment Office, Union Chapel Rd., Pembroke, N.C. 28372, 521-2462, November 10, Wednesday Only, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

LREMC, 205A Fairley St., Laurinburg, N.C. 28352, Tuesdays Only, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

UNCP to Host Parents Weekend Nov. 5-6

Pembroke, N.C. -- The Capitol Steps will be a feature attraction at UNCP's first-ever Parents Weekend on Nov. 5-6. Admission is \$5 to the public for the concert on Saturday, Nov. 6 at 7 P.M. at the Givens Performing Arts Center.

Billed as the only group in Washington D.C. funnier that Congress itself, The Capitol Steps are political satirists who sing and perform. They have recorded 18 albums and made numerous television appearances.

Parent Weekend is loaded with activities including a cookout and a midnight preview of the Braves basketball for the 1999 - 2000 season, according to Dr. Diane Jones, vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

"We're excited about this special weekend we've planned, but the real centerpiece attraction is family togetherness," Dr. Jones said. "We believe it is important to bring parents and family together on campus."

Registration for the weekend of events is \$10 and will be 6-8 p.m. Friday at the University Center, is

\$10 person. Events are as follows:

Friday
Registration -- 6-8 p.m. at the University Center.

Movies and Munchies -- "The Phantom Menace" at 8-10 p.m. at the University Center lounge.

Midnight Madness basketball -- 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Saturday
Late Registration -- 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. at the University Center

Tour of the Native American Resource Center -- 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

A Carolina Cookout - 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on the Quad (free) followed by coffee and dessert at the Bookstore.

Concert by the UNCP Music Department -- 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. at Moore Hall

Social with Students, Faculty & Staff -- 2:30 - 5 p.m. at the University Center

Photo exhibit -- 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., 2nd floor University Center.
Family portraits & Caricatures -- a photographer and an artist will be available.

Pembroke Housing Authority Receives \$492,012 Grant

Pembroke - The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development has awarded the Pembroke Housing Authority \$492,012 under the Comprehensive Improvement Assistance Program for FFY99. These funds were awarded based upon the number of dwelling units currently under new management by the Authority and the aggregate total number of bedrooms for all the units.

According to staff reports, these funds will be used to complete the replacement of the heating systems and installation of central air conditioning units at all four-bedroom units located in Strickland Heights. "This grant will provide for us an opportunity to outfit our units with central air conditioning; thus allowing us to provide comfortable homes for our residents during hot summer months," states Lemark Harris, Executive Director. "We will also be able to replace the badly worn, old heating system with an energy efficient forced air furnace. These improvements will directly benefit our residents by making their homes comfortable and livable."

In addition, the Authority will use these funds to install replacement windows in many of its units. "We are

eager to begin this project", states Harris. "For some time now we have been trying to address our most critical needs with respect to our housing stock. Now that we have all but eliminated the risks associated with combustible air, we can continue to make our units both energy efficient and less susceptible to burglars by providing state-of-the-art windows for all of our resident's homes."

These modernization programs are directly related to the management focus of the Authority. Through it's ability to increase the effectiveness of the housing assistance program for the Town of Pembroke, the Authority has been able to bring in several hundred thousand dollars that might not have been available otherwise. "We want to thank our residents for their help and assistance with the planning of this grant as well as all the others in the past. We recognize the effect our performance has upon the families we serve and take this objective to heart in all that we do" states Harris.

For more information about this program, the public is invited to contact the Central Office of the Authority at (910) 521-9711.