

Editorial And Opinion Page



AS I SEE IT

Bruce Barton

Lumbee Self Determination Panel making steady progress

I admit that I used to smirk from time to time in the beginning when I paused and considered the worth of a Lumbee Self Determination Panel put in place by a White, Conservative Republican Judge, but I am being won over by the steady progress of the legitimate and decent Lumbee who make up the 39 member body. The panel is led by Jim Lowry, a Robeson native now living in Guilford County where he owns a car dealership or two. He is slow to anger, and is a reconciler of the first order. Lowry is doing reasonably well in leading the panel that was put in place by Superior Court Judge Howard Manning to decide whether or not the Lumbee people want a tribal government; and, if they do, what kind of government do they want and how can it be put in place?

Manning entered the fray between LRDA (Lumbee Regional Development Association) and the Lumbee Tribal Council and created the panel by court order when the Indians could not agree and began to sue and counter sue in his state court. On reflection, it might be the answer to a dilemma that has haunted the Lumbee people for decades. For instance, in the 30s the Indian people in Robeson County suffered an interecine feud between two factions; one led by the late Indian activist Joe Brooks and another by Rev. D.F. Lowry. The split in the Indian ranks was never healed and continues until today.

I believe the panel is earning the Lumbee people's trust. I support the collective effort of the panel and ask our readership to give them the benefit of the doubt. The alternative is more feuding and fighting amongst ourselves.

Roundball

with Coach Kelvin Sampson and the Oklahoma Sooners

by Bruce Barton

Kansas 53, Oklahoma 50



Kelvin Sampson

Lawrence, Kansas - "I told Kelvin that this game was the hardest we've played and it was the hardest anyone has played against us as well", Kansas Coach Roy Williams said, referring to Oklahoma counterpart Kelvin Sampson. Williams was talking about the defensive battle Sunday afternoon (Feb. 20) when Kansas bested the Sooners 53 to 50.

No. 21 Kansas committed fewer errors down the stretch than 19th ranked Oklahoma and held on for an important Big 12 Conference victory. The game leaves the Sooners with a still impressive 20-5 overall, and 8-4 in conference play.

Coach Sampson said, "It really came down to the last two minutes of the game. Our team played well, we just did not make the shots. Our leading scorers weren't up there this time. Big 12 Player of the year candidate Eduardo Najera dribbled the ball out of bounds at the end, and finished with just 8 points and 10 rebounds, paltry figures by his standards.

The Sooners played Wednesday night (Feb. 23) at home against Texas Tech and will play again Saturday (Feb.26) at home against Missouri. They will finish the regular season against Texas A&M on their home turf Wednesday (March 1) and Saturday (March 4) at Oklahoma State for bragging rights to the state of Oklahoma.

WHAT ABOUT THEM SOONERS!?

FLASH! As we went to press, it was reported that long time Georgia Tech Basketball Coach Bobby Cremins has retired. Guess whose name is being bandied about as a possible replacement? Yep, you guessed it ... our Coach Sampson. No word from Coach Sampson as to whether or not he might be interested in the Atlantic Coast Conference team. Ummm!



(NAPS)—To learn about a national literacy drive, see the National Educational Association web site at www.nea.org.



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Unlike other dogs, hairless dogs don't pant to cool off.

Around Ol' Robeson



Twenty-fifth Annual N.C. Indian Unity Conference is March 8 - 11... And will be held at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux Convention Center, 1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, North Carolina. THEME: "500 years of tradition...breaking into the Millennium". The Purpose is "to inform North Carolinians about Indians in North Carolina in the areas of education, sovereignty, self determination, health issues, economic development, Native American culture, affordable housing, employment and training, tribal recognition and U.S. Census 2000." Mighty big marching orders, huh? We hope to see you there.

Indian Basketballers featured in *American Indian Report, Indian Country News Magazine*

Our Robeson County Indian basketballers appeared in the February issue of *American Indian Report*. Big as life on page 28 in the "Perspectives" column of Valerie Ceriano. It was a good article that highlighted the history of Indian basketball and how they overcame the rank racism of their day and all that happened to them along the way. There is a wonderful picture of the 1953 Pembroke High Eagles, and another picture featuring some of the players of long ago as they look today. Featured in the photograph are Ned Sampson, Delton Ray Locklear, Bundy Ross Locklear, Oceanus Lowry, Gary Wayne Locklear, Kenneth Ray Maynor, Bobby Jacobs, Hartman Brewington, Tim Brayboy and others. Come by the Indian Education Resource Center if you would like to see a copy of the news magazine featuring the article entitled "Athletes beat prejudice, graciously accept Plaque."

Sandra Dee McCormick receives national teacher award from Scott Foresman

Scott Foresman Book Publishers and the National Teachers Hall of Fame are pleased to announce ten winners of this year's Scott Foresman National Teachers Award.

One of the ten winners is Robeson County's own Sandra Dee McCormick, a second grade teacher from W.H. Knuckles Elementary in Lumberton. This is Ms. McCormick's second big honor in the last few weeks as she recently received word that she has earned her National Teacher's Certification.

Ms. McCormick was chosen from more than 600 participants of K-6 reading teachers who were invited to submit written essays. They were also evaluated via professional references and on site evaluations and interviews. The essay asked them to tell how they made a difference as a reading teacher in the lives of their children.

The teachers will receive an all expense paid trip to the 2000 International Reading Association Convention in Indianapolis May 1-4, including airfare and hotel accommodations and \$1,000 worth of select Scott Foresman educational materials. Congratulations to Ms. McCormick, the only teacher chosen from North Carolina for the prestigious award.

Say you read it in the Carolina Indian Voice



The first explorer to sight Antarctica, it's believed, was Nathaniel Brown Palmer, a U.S. sea captain, in 1820.

Let's Keep Mitchell "Bosco" Locklear Working for You!

Board of Education-at Large
May 2, 2000

This is a County Wide Election



*For Experience *For Continued Progress
*Someone Who Speaks Up For Your Interests
Re-elect Mitchell "Bosco" Locklear
"A Man you Can Trust"

Loving animals 'till it hurts!

Rantin' and Ravin'



Garry Lewis Barton

A woman who used to work at the newspaper in S.C. along with me was a staunch animal lover.

Like so many other so-called animal lovers, she advocated neutering and spaying animals.

"If cutting out animals' reproductive organs is an act of love," I told her one day, "do me a favor and don't ever fall in love with me."

"I'd shoot you instead," she laughed, "and put you out of your misery."

She made a good argument by informing me that humans were the ones who lured animals around the campfires. I believe she used the word "domesticated" to describe what she felt we had done to animals. So, according to her logic, animals are our responsibility. And since there are so many running the streets because of their prolific breeding habits, especially dogs and cats, it's man's responsibility to spay (surgically remove the ovaries of the females and neuter (castrate) the male animals.

My Mama, Berna has what I call one of those "Yo quiero" dogs made famous on those Taco Bell commercials. I don't like dogs, but since moving in with my Mama, Peanut and I have learned to tolerate each other. Truth be known, he doesn't like me any more than I like him.

Ol' Peanut's an ornery, ill-tempered cuss. He's 20 years old, or thereabouts. And Mama loves him desperately, oftentimes referring to him as my brother. And Peanut's been neutered, or castrated, or whatever you want to call it.

No wonder he's so ornery and cantankerous! I don't like ol' Peanut. But I can sympathize with his gonads-less plight. Of course, since they say one human year is the equivalent of seven dog years, ol' Peanut would be somewhere in the neighborhood of 140 human years.

His excised body parts probably wouldn't work today even if he still had 'em. It pains me not only to think about him going under the knife, but also to consider the joys he has been deprived of because that joy might have inconvenienced some human being.

In the famous Taco Bell commercial, a chihuahua speaks like a human in spanish, saying "Yo quiero Taco Bell." Translated into English, I think that means, "I want a Taco Bell."

Folk, if ol' Peannut understood the ramifications of what he was missing because of what was done to him, he'd probably be declaring in a plaintive voice, "Yo quiero me gonads."

I'm sorry, folk. I just can't buy into the notion that animal lovers neuter and spay their pets because they love them.

I believe far too many of them diminish the quality of their pets' lives simply to improve the quality of their own lives, otherwise they'd love their pets in the state God made 'em.

And if God hadn't intended for animals to engage in sexual activity, why did He insist that Noah load a male and a female of each species of animal into the Ark?

I dare say, if we would be honest with ourselves, considering the high incidence of teenage and out-of-wedlock pregnancies throughout this country, we'd have to admit that human beings were better candidates for the gruesome neutering and spaying.

Perhaps God will forgive me for being so bold, but I'd like to suggest a possible Eleventh Commandment specifically for so-called animal lovers:

"Do not unto animals, what you wouldn't have done unto you!"

We'll talk again, folk.

The Carolina Indian Voice

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Looking Back While Walking Forward

LONG AGO ROBESONIAN NOT A FAN OF HENRY BERRY LOWRIE EITHER

It was amusing to read about the Robesonian Newspaper lambasting Eddie Hatcher recently unless you happened to be Eddie Hatcher. The daily newspaper has often been quick to render a judgement before the trials of the Eddie Hatcher & Henry Berry Lowries of our nefarious county. We have heard this editorial tenor before, especially when the Robesonian used to spend a lot of time saying nasty and sarcastic things about Henry Berry Lowrie and his stalwart band back in the 1870s. It would be nice if the Robesonian wrote more about causes, and less about symptoms. But you know how it is. Ain't that right?

Here are a couple of Robesonian clippings about Henry Berry Lowrie, their favorite whipping boy back then. The first clipping is from the Robesonian, May 23, 1872, Page 3, column 2.

"H.B. Lowrey (this was usually the way the daily spelled the last name of the object of their derision).--Some of our neighboring exchanges last week contained the statement made on the authority of a reliable (very) gentleman, that the reported death of H.B. Lowrey was all a mistake, and that the great outlaw was still 'lurking in the swamps of Robeson.' On the contrary, it is known that Henry Berry Lowrey is dead--that he was shot and killed by his brother Stephen on the day after the robbery of Mr. McLeod's safe in this town (Lumberton), three months ago."

Robesonian, May 30, 1872, Page 3 Column 2.

"A GOOD HIT.--Our young friend, A.J. McNair, of this town (Lumberton) got off a good thing on the Grant administration on the day of the radical speaking here. Col. O.H. Dockery, Holden's Kirk-war Brigadier General, and better known in this section as the 'dysenteric dodger,' asked Mr. McNair whether he believed that H.B. Lowrey was dead; on his saying that he did not, Oliver expressed his concurrence and asked where he thought the outlaw was. Mr. McNair stated that he believed him to be in Washington City. Col. Dockery inquired what he thought Lowrey was doing there when McNair replied, 'Soliciting an appointment from Grant in the civil service.'--The dodger sloped."

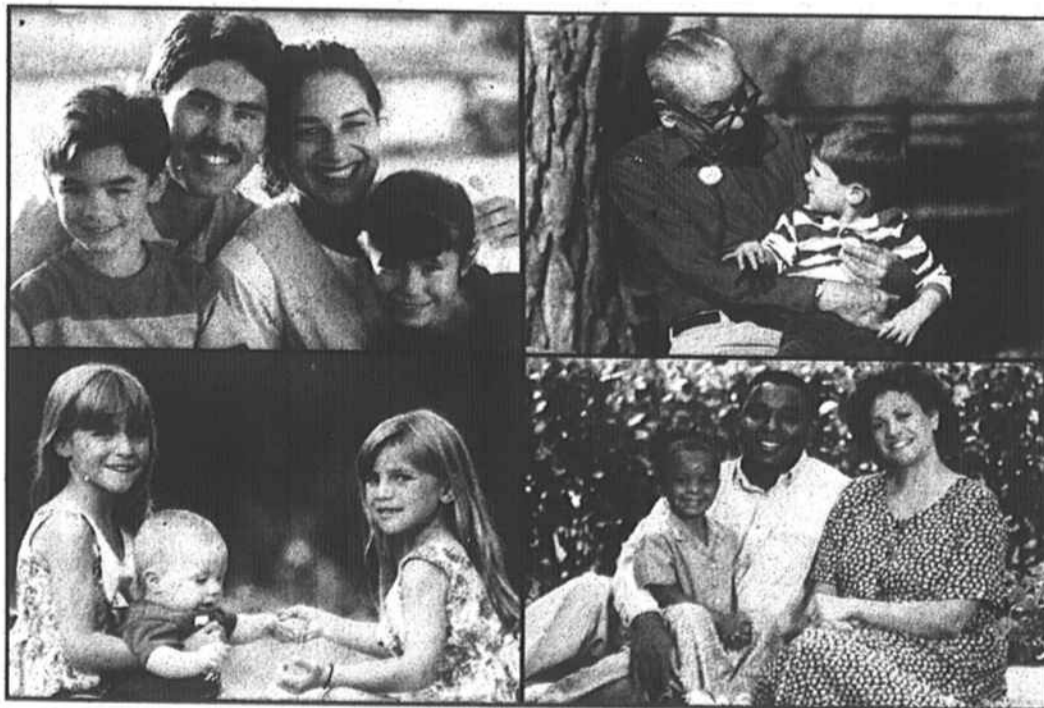
The first article was just dead wrong; the second one was a feeble attempt at sarcasm. The correspondent of this column is one of those who believes firmly that Lowrie (or Lowrey, or Lowry) escaped the deadly confines of Robeson County and lived out his life elsewhere. Your correspondent believes that he is buried somewhere in the foothills of Tennessee and says that "If I knew where he was buried exactly, I would mimic his wife Rhoda and take it to my grave. WE DON'T NEED TO KNOW EVERYTHING!"



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