

PERIODICALS LIBRARY
SAMPSON LIVERMORE LIBRARY
JAN - 8 2003

The CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Livermore Sampson Library

UNCP

PO Box 1510

Pembroke NC

28372-1510

25 Cents

VOLUME 31 NUMBER 01

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2003



Local student to play in Middle School All County Band

Pembroke-Rachel C. Malcolm, an 8th grader student who plays the clarinet in Pembroke Middle School Band, has recently garnered two honors. She auditioned for and earned a position in the Middle School All-County band, the consecutive year she has been a member of the group that is comprised of band students from across Robeson. The United States Achievement Academy has recognized Rachel as a National Band Awards recipient on the basis of her academic excellence and as a result of being nominated by her band teacher, Mr. William Gilchrest.

Rachel is the daughter of David & Beth Malcom of Pembroke. She is the granddaughter of J. T. & Vera Locklear Malcom, also of Pembroke, and Jerry & Betty Taylor of Kernersville.

UNCP graduates set a record for Winter Commencement with more than 300

Pembroke, N.C. - As Ronnie Eddings entered Jones Athletic Complex before the Dec. 14 Winter Commencement, he dropped the sash that he was awarded for community service.

His companion, a golden retriever, quickly returned it to him. In the motorized wheelchair that has become familiar on The University of North Carolina at Pembroke campus, Eddings received his Bachelor of Science degree Saturday morning and a standing ovation from his 328 fellow graduates.

If graduation is a time to talk about overcoming obstacles, Eddings could write a book. He was wounded during Desert Storm and continues to struggle with health problems.

"I have been in a coma three times," he said. "I took many tests while in intensive care."

If graduation is a time to talk about going forth to do good work, Eddings' social work degree and his award for volunteering at Odum Baptist Home for Children exemplifies that ideal. He also graduated with honors.

There were a record number of graduates at the three-year-old Winter Commencement at The Givens Performing Arts Center. There were also a record 91 graduate degrees conferred.

Grand Marshal and keynote speaker Paul Flowers professed the virtues and sadness of "fear as a motivational factor." A chemistry professor, Dr. Flowers was the 2002 winner of the UNC Board of Governors Award for teaching Excellence.

"I firmly believe that fear is an unavoidable emotion for healthy, mature humans, and that it is our response to fear that sets apart strong from weak, success from failure," Dr. Flowers said.

Dr. Flowers told the graduates that his introduction to fear came from watching the tears of his own single mother as she struggled to raise two sons.

"Later, I came to realize her fear was the fear of what the future might hold for her, my brother and me," he said. "She responded to that fear with years of hard work, personal sacrifice and unconditional love that saw our family through. To this day, I make every effort to follow her example."

After surviving youthful fears and challenges in the educational system, Dr. Flowers said that he was challenged by the responsibility of raising his own children.

"The ideal college graduate is a person who experiences and acknowledges fear, but one who feels confident in their ability to prevent its realization, a person with their arms open, receptive and tolerant, ready to embrace the future with their eyes open, knowledgeable and competent," he said. "I hope you fear the future, and that you overcome that fear with great achievements."

After ceremonially conferring graduate and baccalaureate degrees, Chancellor Allen C. Meadors encouraged the graduates to "go for it with a passion."

"Education is an investment, the cornerstone upon which you can build a great life," Chancellor Meadors said. "If you continue investing in education, it will continue to reward you."

Offering greetings to the graduates were Hannah Gage, a member of the UNC Board of Governors, Dr. Gretchen Bataille, UNC's senior vice president for Academic Affairs, Gary Oxendine, chair of the UNCP Board of Trustees, Dr. Thomas Dooling, chair of the UNCP Faculty Senate, Brandon Davis, president of the UNCP Student Government Association and Dr. Dwight Pearson, president of the UNCP Alumni Association.

Music was provided by the University Concert Band and the Pembroke Singers under the direction of Dr. Gary Wright.

A Call for Poems

Write a poem and win the \$1,000 grand prize! Hollywood's Famous Poets Society is sponsoring a new poetry contest, open to everyone. There is no entry fee.

To enter send one poem of 21 lines or less: Free Poetry Contest, 1626 N Wilcox Ave. #126, Hollywood, CA 90028. Or enter on-line at www.famouspoets.com. A winner's list will be sent to all entrants.

"This is our big contest of the year," says Executive Director Mark Schramm. "We trust our prizes will encourage new poets to share their talent." The deadline for entering is January 17, 2003.



Ronnie Eddings shown with UNCP Chancellor Alan Meadors



Left to right: Lindsay McCormick from St Pauls High, Stephanie Stutts from South Robeson High, Ashley M. Oxendine from Purnell

Swett High, Luke Hickman from St. Pauls High, Teresa Brockington from Red Springs High, Monica Vyas from Lumberton High, and Amber Grooms from Fairmont High.



Teresa Oxendine is shown with Ashley Oxendine, PSHS student.

Chambers Recognize Students of Excellence

Six juniors and one senior from five of PSRC's six high schools were recognized at the meeting of the Public Schools of Robeson County Board of Education on December 9, 2002, as Students of Excellence. Students were highlighted based on their leadership and service activities in their schools and their communities. Nancy McBryde, Coordinator for Gifted for PSRC, presented chamber representatives and students. The students of Excellence initiative is a collaborative effort with the local chambers and the public schools. Each chamber selects a student from among applications submitted from the high school in their area; students who apply must have at least 3.0 grade point average. Each chamber honors their student with a plaque and other rewards for their meritorious service and achievement.

Recognized from Purnell Swett High School was Ashley M. Oxendine whose award was presented by Teresa Oxendine of UNC-P and representing the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce. Among Ashley Oxendine's school contributions are being vice-president of SAAD, Junior Class secretary, and a Varsity Cheerleader. She is also a member of HOSA, NASA, the National Honor Society, and the JV softball team. In her spare time, she is active as a tutor in the Prospect area and is an active member of her Sunday School class and the Drama Team at her church. She also volunteers for Special Olympics. Her career plans are to major in pre-med in college and then pursue some area of medicine where she can help others. She says that "success is believing in yourself even when things don't go the way that you had planned... and being content with what you accomplish."

Steve Floyd of the Fairmont Chamber of Commerce presented the award to Amber Grooms of Fairmont High School. Grooms is ranked number one in her junior class and serves her school as a Varsity cheerleader, as President of the Student Council, and as percussionist in the FHS band. She attended the Legislators' School of Leadership at East Carolina University and participated in the Summer Rewards Program as an apprentice at the Robeson Medical center in Fairmont. Grooms is active in her church in Bible School, in Youth Sunday presentations, and in musical performances. She is an adult volunteer in

reading and is active in Beta Club Service Projects. Grooms plans to pursue a degree in micro-biology and then plans to seek a career as a forensic or biologist for the FBI. She believes that her strong perseverance will help her reach these goals.

Sara Hayes of the St. Pauls Chamber of Commerce recognized Luke Hickman as the Senior Student of Excellence from St. Pauls High School. Hickman has been President of the National Honor Society and is currently Vice President of the Senior Class. He is a member of the Student Government Association, the Quiz Bowl Team, and SADD.

Hickman is proud to have been accepted at North Carolina State University where his college career will begin next fall. He is preparing for a career in medicine and currently volunteers in a doctor's office. "Medicine," he believes, "needs people dedicated to helping others"; he sees success as "satisfaction with having done a good job, rather than measuring by monetary standards."

Lindsay McCormick was recognized by Doris McLean of the St. Pauls Chamber as the Junior Student of Excellence from St. Pauls High where she is currently number one in her class. McCormick is active in the National Honor Society and the Student Government Association. She volunteers as a harpist in her church and in other churches and has participated in the St. Jude Bike-A-Thon. She plans to pursue a double career as a nurse anesthetist and as a musician. "Healthcare," she says, "needs nurses who will work to improve the quality of life for others." As a professional harpist, she hopes to contribute to programs for the performing arts and to use her talents at special events. She plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she will pursue her training in nursing and then will continue towards the goals she has set for herself.

Presenting the award for the Red Springs Chamber was Fran Ray, who recognized Teresa Brockington as the Student of Excellence from Red Springs High School. Her activities include being Junior Class President and Vice President of the Future Business Leaders of America. She is a member of Mu Alpha Theta and the United Students of African American Heritage. Brockington is a Quiz Bowl member, par-

ticipates on the Journalism Staff, and plays flute for the Red Springs High School Marching Band. She is very active in her church as a junior usher and as a member of the junior choir. In addition to being a member of her church's F.A.I.T.H. Ministry, Brockington volunteers at Greystone Manor. Her dream is to become an attorney and eventually to be a government official. To achieve her dreams, she believes that a plan of action is important. One leadership role which has been an asset to her was her participation in this year's National Student Leadership Seminar of the Washington Workshops Foundation as the Mike McIntyre Scholar.

Ben McCallum, representing the Rowland Chamber of Commerce, recognized Stephanie Stutts as Student of Excellence from South Robeson High. Currently number one in her class, Stutts is active in several school organizations. In addition to being the Beta Club Vice President and the Leadership Development Chairman for the Student Council, she is a member of the Math Club, a participant in the ACTIONS Club, and a presenter for PUFFS. Stutts attended the North Carolina Renaissance at UNC-Chapel Hill and the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference at Meredith College. Active in her church, Stutts is President of the Youth Group, is a member of the Youth Choir and the Adult Choir, serves as Youth Representative to the Administrative Council, and is a member of the Worship Committee. Her dream is to be an elementary school teacher, a role she sees as a life-changer.

Recognized by Anne Chaney of the Lumberton Chamber of Commerce, Monica Vyas was named Student of Excellence from Lumberton High School. Vyas is a member of the Quiz Bowl, the Science Olympiad, and the Science Club, and she serves as Treasurer of the Beta Club. She often volunteers as Southern Regional Medical Center. Her dream is to become a doctor and treat those who live in remote areas and who are infected with deadly disease. She views success as "the love or kindness which comes from helping others." One of the greatest leadership opportunities to date was participating in the National Student Leadership Conference in Washington, DC, during the summer of 2002.

All students of Excellence recipients are recognized at their individual schools, at their area Chamber of Commerce meetings, and officially at the Board of Education presentations.