

daily oregon emerald

An Independent Newspaper

Vol. 79, No. 109

Eugene, Oregon 97403

Monday, February 27, 1978

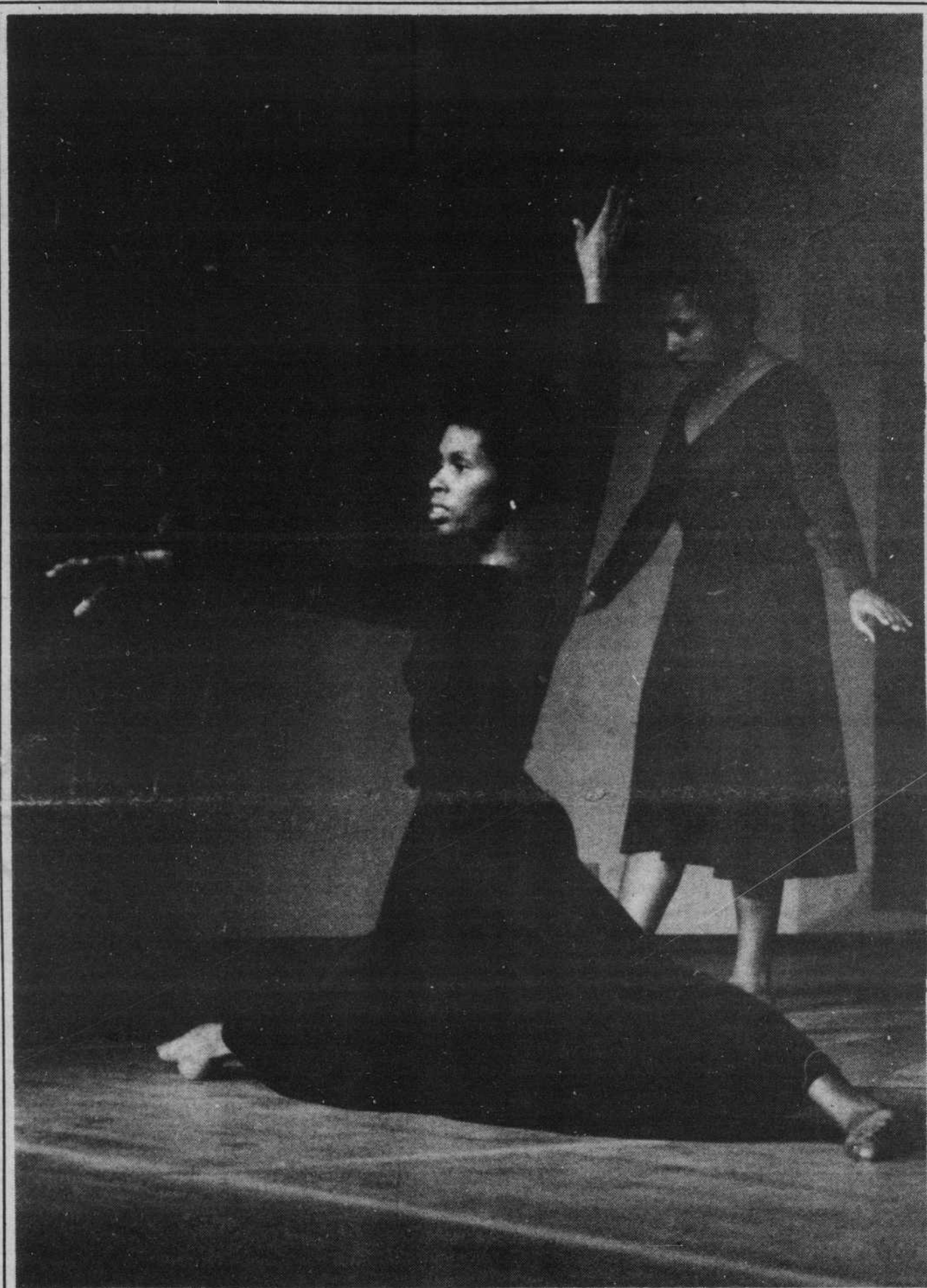


Photo by Patrick Sullivan

Cultural Collage

The Second Annual Multi-Cultural Historical Symposium Week concluded Friday night in the EMU with a dinner and show.

Included in the entertainment were musi-

cal and dance performances, poetry readings and a martial arts demonstration. The weeks events were sponsored by the Black Student Union, the Asian American Student Union, and the Native American Student Union.

Students seek minimum wage for higher ed.

University student workers' demands for minimum wage compliance were presented to the State Board of Higher Education's Finance Committee, by student leaders, Friday in Portland.

After hearing from representatives of the University of Oregon, Oregon Institute of Technology, Southern Oregon State College and the Oregon Student Lobby, the committee asked its staff to research the issue for further discussion next month.

Student workers at the University are currently paid the minimum wage until April, when the wage will decrease to classified salary levels. Although the wage rates vary, the wages are roughly 20 to 30 cents under minimum wage standards.

The representatives asked that the board include the payment for minimum wage into their 1979-81 budget projection and to request Emergency Board funding for minimum wage for the rest of the current biennium.

ASUO Pres. Gary Feldman, testifying on behalf of the University, told the board it should not simply focus on budget figures but also ask "What is the worth of the worker?"

Spokespersons said workers doing the same work as students often get paid more.

William Lemman, state system vice-chancellor for personnel administration, listed a few barriers to complying with students minimum wage requests.

Lemman said increasing student wages could raise student costs in general. He also told the board that because state schools have a set sum of money available for student employment, increasing wages would decrease the number of students eligible to be employed.

However, a spokesperson for Southern Oregon State College, said matching minimum wage at that college would only cost an additional \$15,400 for the rest of the biennium.

Lemman also pointed out the state system has no obligation to meet minimum wage standards.

"It seems to us the public policy issues have already been decided by the Congress and the Oregon Legislature," said Lemman, referring to the Fair Labor Standards Act. The act exempts the universities from complying with minimum wage for part-time student employees.

Roy Lieuallen, state system chancellor, recommended that the board keep the present system of leaving the decision to individual university presidents. He reasoned this would ensure the practice of paying students less than minimum wage, so a larger number of students could benefit from the employment.

In other action the finance committee approved an initial \$147,000 remodeling project designed to save fuel and reduce operating costs in the University's physical plant.

The new project, using heat recovered from "boiler stack gases," would save the plant \$48,000 annually, according to Jack Hunderup, vice-chancellor for facilities planning.

The plan must be approved by the board as a whole and by the State Emergency Board.

Meanwhile at the committee-as-a-whole meeting Thursday, the board spent most of its time reviewing budget programs for the upcoming 1979-81 biennium.

Freeman Holmer, vice-chancellor for the State System of Higher Education, said the discussion was designed "to ensure that the budget development would be responsive to board direction."

Science uses a different app-roach

By JOCK HATFIELD
Of the Emerald

Cockroaches make good scientific subjects. No matter how many times they are experimentally electrified, stabbed, crushed or otherwise taken apart, they don't scream.

If a cockroach's head is choipped off, the body walks away in good humor. When dismembered, its various parts get up and look for lunch. It exists only to persevere.

So along with its monkeys, rats and its

other less durable volunteers, the University science department keeps a herd of cockroaches.

The roaches exist as exiles in a sealed room beneath Science II. Few people dare go here, and those who do must pass three locked doors, a "do not open" sign and tons of discarded science machinery.

The science department used to keep its human cadavers down there, lined up along one wall. But even the cadavers moved to a better neighborhood.

The door to the cockroach room must be kicked violently before entering, knocking

loose roaches from the door and letting the rest know you're coming.

Three years ago the roaches had free run of the room. The drawer-like cages could not contain them when they were small, and they grew up in the dark of the room. As the lights flicked on, visitors would see hundreds of escaped roaches stampeding for a dark corner. They flew, they ran, they hopped. Cockroach caretakers could not take a step without hearing a hearty, untroubled crunch from beneath their shoes.

Many escaped. Cockroach cunning. By waiting on the door until just the right mo-



ment and taking a flying leap, cockroaches could make a break for the science department basement. Here among the wreck-

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