



Photo by Erich Boekeheide

Black Arts Week portrays culture

The University's Sixth Annual Black Arts Festival continues today with the opening of "Black Odessey," a historical art exhibit by cultural art specialist George Norman, in Room 167 EMU. The Black Student Union and the Council for Minority Education are sponsoring the week-long festival, which began Friday. Both groups invite the public to help them celebrate the cultural contributions of blacks in music, dance and poetry and to promote the understanding of blacks in America. Alex Poinsett, senior editor of Ebony magazine, will speak Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the EMU. Additional events this week include a beauty clinic, talent show and disco dance.

Stove-makers, inspector in legal showdown

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

Legal action may be taken against seven area wood stove manufacturers who claim a city mechanical inspector subjected them to "unreasonable and capricious action" through his inspections.

According to James Jagger, attorney for Lyle Lamont, a mechanical inspector with the city's Public Works Department, some form of legal action may be considered against the stove manufacturers who claimed Lamont was negligent in his duties.

Although no decision has been made by either Lamont or Jagger about what, if any, legal action will

be taken, a press conference has been set for Tuesday to announce their intentions.

Lamont has been under investigation by the city manager's office and the Eugene Police Department since April 12 when five wood stove manufacturers presented their claims to the city council and asked that unreasonable action by Lamont be investigated.

Those manufacturers, Mike Duval of J & J Enterprises, Ken Hussey and Doug Johnson of Mannan Building Supplies, Thomas Lichty of the Oregon Woodstove Company, John Orlando of Oregon Steel Fabricating, Fred Wingham, Radke Stove distributor and G.M. McCormack of McCormack Consulting En-

gineers, claim Lamont has been attempting to "force local businessmen out of business by threats and malicious statements."

The group also claims two other wood stove manufacturers, Schrader stoves, Inc. and Fisher Stoves Distributors, both of Springfield, paid Lamont to approve the stoves manufactured and sold by those firms.

In a letter sent to the city council

last month, the group said Lamont subjected their stoves to "unreasonable" inspections and made misleading statements that discouraged potential wood stove buyers from purchasing one of their stoves.

"Misleading statements have been made by the mechanical inspector that installations of certain stoves will result in cancellation of homeowner's insurance," the letter said. "Such statements are false

and have been pointed out to the inspector in the past."

Lamont, who had just returned from a two-week vacation, declined to comment on the accusations Thursday.

Jagger, who took Lamont's case early last week, said Friday that although no firm decision has been made on what recourse his client will take, legal action against the stove manufacturers is a possibility.

Integrating disabled due to legislation

By GREG WASSON
Of the Emerald

Historically, persons with disabilities were separated from a society which did little to help minimize the restrictions resulting from wheelchairs, hearing difficulties or blindness. Slowly, that's changing.

Chris Casady, a member of the governor's Steering Committee for the Handicapped, says a great deal of the increasing awareness can be traced to federal legislation.

"A lot of businesses that were unfamiliar with any type of individual with a disability have been forced to become aware. If they contract with the federal government, they have to address program access as well as affirmative action when hiring," Casady says.

Friday, about 50 people gathered in the city council chambers for an update on laws dealing with the handicapped. The conference was one of five sessions scheduled around the state.

According to Jerry Remple of the vocational rehabilitation office, the sessions are designed to let those who participated in planning sessions a year ago know what's being done.

According to Remple, there's a lot of misconception about programs designed to help the disabled.

"The primary misconception is the difference between barrier-free construction and program accessibility," he said. "Program access means the individual has to be able to get the program and it has to be in an integrated sense. They can't pull 'em apart and stick 'em in another building or off in a closet by themselves. But every single barrier doesn't have to be removed. If it's a two-story building, classes can be moved downstairs."

But sometimes, removing barriers is the only way to insure access.

"Where the schools are running into problems is when laboratories are upstairs, and there's no way to move them. Eventually an elevator has to be put in and that's costly."

Casady says the main thing left to be done through state law is providing money.

"The federal government told the states you will comply, but there was no financial help offered. So right now we're between a rock and a hardspot. The feds say we have to do it; we want to do it, but how do we do it financially?"

Casady says the bucks are necessary to plan for program accessibility and to update government forms and regulations, which are no longer practical.

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