

Committee questions Atiyeh energy choice

By GREG WASSON
Of the Emerald

Gov. Vic Atiyeh would like Dr. Kelly Woods to head the Department of Energy (DOE), at least until July, but that appointment must be approved by the Senate.

Wednesday, the Senate Committee on Energy and the Environment took testimony on Woods' nomination and much of the discussion centered on the fact that Woods' appointment would likely be temporary.

"We're concerned about the tentative nature of this appointment," said Norma Jean Germond, speaking for the League of Women Voters, "and the implication that has for stability regarding planning, education and regula-

tion. To keep it adrift like this is one of the first steps toward dismantling the department."



Dr. Kelly Woods

Germond's concern about appointment of a temporary director

was shared by a member of the committee, Sen. Ted Kulongoski, D-Junction City. Kulongoski also questioned the advisability of acting on the appointment before Atiyeh releases his energy plan which is now two weeks overdue.

When Atiyeh first took office last month, he talked of combining the DOE with the Public Utility Commission, an idea Kulongoski said he understands the governor has backed off on.

"I want to know how far he has backed off before I vote for anyone who is going to be put in as acting director," Kulongoski said.

Kulongoski's hesitancy was seconded by the chair of the committee, Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene.

It's very difficult to vote on the appointment if you don't know what the person's going to be asked to do.

When the DOE was established by the 1975 Legislature, it was charged with encouraging development of alternative energy sources. Speaking of Wood's nomination, Fadeley said, "Unless that program is in fact changed by the Legislature, Woods is not the proper leader for the department."

Nuclear power opponents, like the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance, repeated their objection to Woods, labeling him a nuclear power advocate.

The charges made Kulongoski ponder whether Woods' appointment should be approved.

"It's obvious that Dr. Woods is opposed by a number of people because he has become a symbol for a philosophy they oppose. I wonder whether he can muster the citizen support needed to bring about a viable energy program in the state," he said.

Station airs black history

Radio station KLCC will join National Public Radio to observe Black History Month. A locally produced program is scheduled for broadcast each Thursday this month at 12:30 p.m. and features 20 to 30 minutes of conversation with KLCC's producer-director Thurston Briscoe about Blacks in

Eugene and the Northwest.

NPR will also have special programs each Thursday this month at 8 p.m. featuring interviews and dramatizations that focus on Black history.

Black History Month grew out of the efforts of historian Carter Woodson.

Black celebration features historian

In celebration of Black History Month, the Black Student Union is presenting Yosef Ben-Yochannan, author of several books on Africa, today at 8 p.m. in the EMU Forum Room.

He teaches history and religion at Marymount College and history at Malcolm-King College.

Ben-Yochannan is a scholar and African anthropologist

and speaks fluent Hebrew, Swahili, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and English. He was born in Ethiopia, raised in the Virgin Islands and has studied in Africa, England and the United States.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: LOOKING BACK TO THE FUTURE

An Overview

KLCC joins forces with National Public Radio to observe Black History Month in February. Four locally produced programs are scheduled for broadcast each Thursday at 12:30 p.m. - twenty to thirty minutes of conversation about Blacks in Eugene and the Northwest with KLCC's producer-director Thurston Briscoe. At 8:00 p.m. each Thursday during February, special programs from National Public Radio feature interviews and dramatizations focusing on Black History. Black History Month grew out of the efforts of historian, Carter G. Woodson.

Carter G. Woodson grew up in the turbulent years of the post Reconstruction era. While slavery had finally been abolished, the attitudes that had perpetuated the systematic disenfranchisement of blacks still permeated American society. American history was written with the same biased viewpoint that had nurtured slavery for hundreds of years. The contributions of the Afro-American were ignored and consistently assigned an inferior status.

In 1912 Dr. Woodson received his Ph.D. in history from Harvard University and set about the challenge of rewriting history - the history of blacks as well as the role of blacks in the history of America and the civilization of the world. Woodson's first step was to found the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915. One year later, Woodson enlisted the interest and talents of other historians to publish the first volume of the *Journal of Negro History*. In 1920, Dr. Woodson founded the Associated Publishers, Inc. providing an outlet for the books on black history written by himself and others.

Woodson's initial efforts filled the void of statistical information based on scientific research. In 1926, he launched Negro History Week as a bold experiment designed to reach the larger public as yet untouched by the impact of his scholarly works. Gauged to embrace the birthdates of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, the observance came each year about the second week in February. In preparation for the annual event, Dr. Woodson issued a circular which included a denunciation of the bias of some historians; a summary of achievements of Afro-Americans; and suggestions of ways and means for various organization to render programs.

For 50 years Negro History Week (changed later to Black History Week) was one of the most dramatic and popular vehicles for educating Americans - black and white - on the contributions of Afro-Americans to the totality of America. In 1976, with the Bicentennial celebrations, the observance of Afro-American history was extended to one month. Today Dr. Woodson's inception of a Black history movement has become a national event observed by most educational and social institutions in this country.

Black Student Union Calendar of Events

Dr. Yosef Ben-Yochannan Thursday Feb. 8, 8:00 Forum

Black Professors Panel Discussion Thursday Feb. 8, 2:00 EMU

Reception: 10:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Gerlinger Lounge

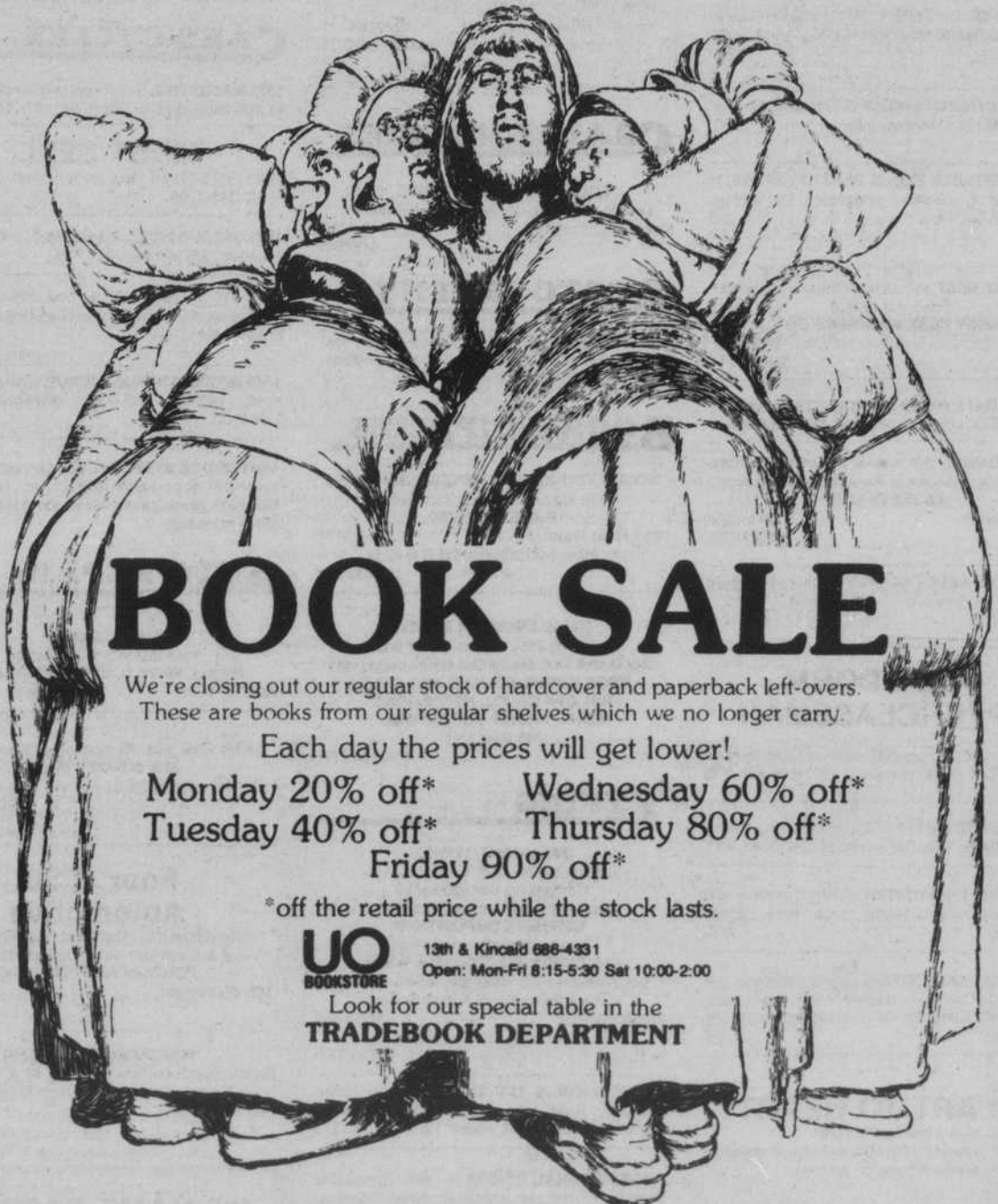
Rap Session: "Black Woman - Black Man: Is there an Identity Crisis?"

Monday Feb. 12, 7:30 EMU

Dr. Ron Rousseve: "The Black Student in the Predominantly White University"

Thursday Feb. 15, 2:30 EMU

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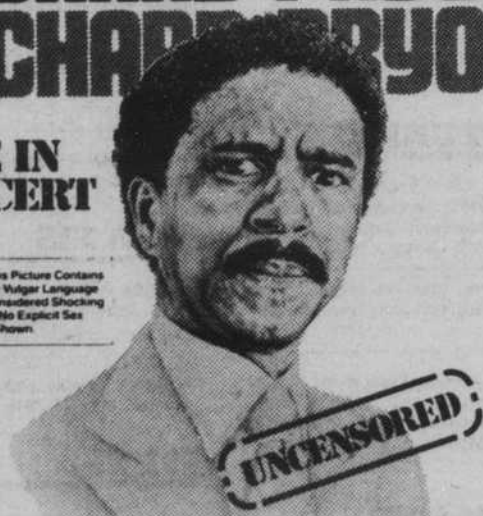
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