

Speakers examine role of black men

■ **LECTURES:** Possible solutions to the lack of African-Americans in college were discussed in the BWA event

By Joel McGrady
Freelance Reporter

The Black Women of Achievement hosted a group of lectures and discussions on the topic of "The Elevation and Transformation of the Black Man" as a portion of their Ebony Man Showcase. Saturday's function featured three speakers: Elpidio Rocha, Dr. Keith Harrison and Professor Clarence Spigner.

Rocha, who is currently assisting the School of Architecture and Allied Arts in establishing a multicultural curriculum, spoke on the need for public architects to have a knowledge of many cultures in order to make designs that reflect a community's diversity.

"I believe that without teaching the history of women and people of color in the context of American history as rigorously as European history we are training technicians — not ar-

chitects," he said.

Rocha said he does believe the University has the potential for change, but more work is needed. "There seems to be a lack of understanding, especially on the part of white students, of multicultural issues. All students need to educate themselves," he said.

Dr. Keith Harrison, an assistant professor at Washington State University, spoke about the athletic image of African-American males and the effect this particular image has on the goals and ideals of African-American men. Harrison pointed out the need for diversifying the image of the black man. "In American universities today, black student athletes are majoring in eligibility and are not receiving an education which will allow them to succeed," he said.

Harrison also feels students need to respect each other. "[Students] need to go to events from other cultures and they shouldn't stop at race either, understanding is deeper than that," he said.

The keynote speaker for the day was former

University professor Clarence Spigner, who is now teaching at the University of Washington. Spigner addressed the problem of the absence of African-American males from universities. Spigner said, "Nearly twice as many black women are going to universities. This means that black women have to take the responsibility for leadership on campus."

Professor Spigner also raised concerns about the ability of student media to accurately report on multicultural concerns. "The Emerald seems, even on a liberal campus, to have a conservative bias. We have to write to the editor, show up at his office and be certain that we are heard," he said.

Spigner then led a discussion on how to get black student athletes more involved in student issues.

The Black Women of Achievement will also be hosting a women's empowerment luncheon on April 5. For more information on this event or on the BWA, call Stephany Peters or Marie Jones, BWA co-directors, at 346-3707.

Access: Web page helped cause controversy

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Systems, provides records to law enforcement agencies, banks, firms and even employers.

Charles R. Williamson, an attorney for the organization, was on hand last Wednesday to testify that CIS should fall under one of the exemptions. Williamson said he felt the information service wasn't the type that could be used with evil intent, pointing to the fact that users must pay \$400 to sign up.

"People can't just walk in off the street and get this information," Williamson said. "There has never been any abuse for the records provided by the service."

In many people's minds, the

consummate example of abuse happened last August, when a Portland computer consultant purchased the rights to DMV records and placed them on the Internet. After much public outcry, the man voluntarily took the records off the web.

Gail Ryder, director of governmental affairs for the Oregon Newspapers Association, said state legislators told her they had never experienced more phone calls on one issue than during the Internet situation.

With so much public displeasure, Ryder's organization decided against sponsoring an opt-out bill. The bill would have given public access to DMV records, but

would have provided citizens the opportunity to make their records exempt.

"It became very clear that the public is really much more concerned about privacy than we originally thought," Ryder said. "We want to respond to what the public is saying here."

While private interests may see the DMV as the enemy in this situation, Bill Seely, head of information services for the DMV, disagrees.

"We haven't been saying yeah, yeah, shut them down," Seely said. "DMV hasn't taken a pro or con stand."

Seely said the DMV's role in the hearing was only to provide

the committee with sufficient information about policy effects.

"A lot of people think we make up a lot of what we do. What we make up could be put in a thimble," Seely said. "We are at the beck and call of the legislature and the governor."

Rep. Mike Lehman, a Democrat from Coos Bay and vice chair of the transportation committee, said the committee's role was to balance the need for legitimate background searches with the risk of intrusions for harmful purposes.

He said he felt the committee would lean toward confidentiality as opposed to greater access.

Assault: Officer treated for injured back, hip, leg, knee

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ty-goers on the roof of the house were throwing glass beer bottles at a transport driver delivering autos to the nearby Romania Chevrolet dealership. People began leaving the party when police arrived.

A witness told Thompson he saw Reinwald get into a Honda Civic and start to drive off.

Thompson left his patrol car to talk to peo-

ple at the party. He tried to wave down Reinwald, who was driving away from the party in a 1992 Honda Civic.

According to the police report, the driver slowed down but when Thompson walked in front of the car, the vehicle appeared to speed up before it hit Thompson.

After hitting Thompson, the driver of the vehicle stopped the car and was immediately ar-

rested.

Thompson was taken to Sacred Heart Medical Center and treated for injuries to his back, hip, leg and knee. He was released Friday and returned home to recuperate.

The extent of his injuries is not known, and he will not be able to return to work until he is given a medical release.

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Monday

Information & Technology Fair

11:00am to 3:00pm

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4:00pm

Carson Hall Gold Room

Student Panel

Refreshments

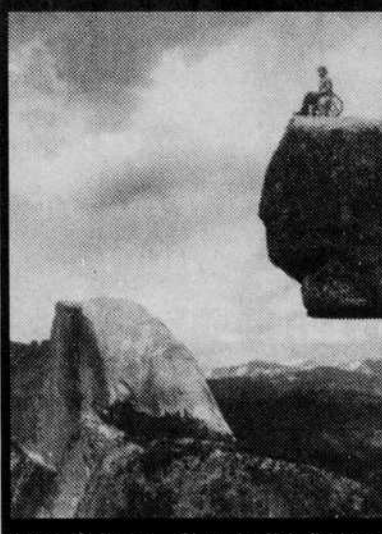
Sponsors: Disability Project Committee, RHGC, ASUC

*A sign language interpreter will be provided

For accommodation requests, please contact

Hilary Gerdes @ 346-3211

Celebrating
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Mark Wellman Photo by Eric Perlman

February 25

Tuesday

Video Fair/ American Sign Language Demonstration

11:00am to 3:00 pm

Cedar Room B, EMU

Mark Wellman Video Presentation*

Piano Performance by music

student Thierry Renoux

7:00pm

EMU Ballroom

Refreshments

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