

# Race combats local prejudice

The 5k Race Against Racism, sponsored by the YWCA, will feature speakers discussing racism issues at a local level

**Andrew Shipley**  
Freelance Reporter

Students and community members will unite against local racism and prejudice May 17 in the 5k Race Against Racism at Alton Baker Park. The event is sponsored annually by the University YWCA. The final day to register for the race is today, and registration is \$12 for students. Proceeds will fund future YWCA efforts to heighten awareness of racial issues in the Eugene/Springfield community.

More than 400 runners participated in the 2001 race, and the YWCA seeks to build on that success this year by expanding the race's educational dimension.

"This year we have really made a

commitment to bringing information to the event," YWCA Executive Director Mauri Castle said.

Castle said the focus of this year's event is not the race itself but the issues being promoted. Because of this, the YWCA has decided not to time the race in an attempt to foster a relaxed and noncompetitive atmosphere.

"It is more important that people show up," Castle said.

To attract those individuals not interested in running, community groups will be on hand with information and opportunities on how to combat racism and prejudice at a local level. The event will also feature guest speakers who will talk about issues surrounding racism.

"This year's speeches will be really localized," YWCA Racial Justice Advocate Chris Kiyuna said. "All of the speakers are local figures who have been involved in Eugene."

The Race Against Racism has been a popular event among University students in the past.

"There has been really good student participation before," said Castle. "This year there will be a push for community involvement to get more diversity."

The importance of race issues in communities such as Eugene may not be obvious to everyone.

"I don't see racism very often here," freshman Brian Newton said. "I'm personally not racist, and neither is really anyone I know."

However, Newton said events like the Race Against Racism are useful.

"I can see how it would be good," Newton said. "You can't know what it's like for a minority group because you don't have that history."

Kiyuna agreed.

"Racism today isn't just face judging," said Kiyuna. "It's not seeing how certain people are offended by

words or actions."

By spreading awareness, the event will address some of these racial misunderstandings.

"This (race) shows you how you can combat racism in your everyday life," Castle said. "When you live in a community in which you are a majority, there are a lot of things you take for granted. There is cultural misunderstanding and ignorance."

Students can register for the race today at the YWCA table outside the bookstore, and a registration form can also be printed off the Web at <http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/~ywca/RAR.htm>. Castle said missing the registration date does not prohibit involvement in the event, and volunteers are always welcome.

"Even if you aren't a runner, it would be great to come out and help," Castle said.

Andrew Shipley is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

## Athletes

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self-proclaimed fixation with the 1920s — and found Williams and Robinson in several Oregon yearbooks. Since then, he has been on a mission to get the two athletes officially recognized by the University.

"My mouth dropped when I saw those guys," said Brame, who now works as a program manager for Multnomah County in Portland.

By 2002, Brame had talked with other former University athletes and realized that almost no one has ever heard of Robinson or Williams.

"Every time I talk about them, nobody has really heard of these gentlemen," he said. "It's just like they never existed."

So Brame wrote a report that told the athletes' stories and has since sent it to University President Dave Frohnmayer and Athletic Director Bill Moos, in hopes that they would agree to placing a simple plaque or cornerstone to commemorate them.

"I'm going to tell them that there's a huge hole in the University of Oregon history that needs to be closed, and they are the type of guys who can close it," Brame said.

### Brame's crusade

Vice President for Administration Dan Williams said Moos has not been

briefed on the matter yet, and that Frohnmayer would not take part in this process unless the Athletic Department thought the athletes deserved more than just a mention in the Athletic Hall of Fame.

"We have never received a proposal of this kind before," Dan Williams said. "If there is special University recognition (involved), then the president will step in at some point."

After being contacted by the Emerald, University Media Relations Director Pauline Austin said Frohnmayer and other administrators prepared a letter and sent it to Brame on Thursday.

"These things take time," Austin said, adding that she does not know how soon action might be taken.

Brame has volunteered to pay for all possible charges and hopes to have the plaque or cornerstone placed by next fall at Hayward Field because that is where the football team played during that era.

"All I want is permission to make a donation," he said, adding that because of everything the two athletes went through, it is a shame that they have not already been recognized. "When I started going through the old dusty archives ... I began to realize (Oregon) was a very different place."

According to Brame's report, Oregon State College — as Oregon State

University used to be called — personnel said they were worried that the University of Oregon was "creating an environment that could lead to interracial dating by bringing the two African Americans to the school."

### Second-class citizens

When Robinson and Williams first got to the University, they were not allowed to live in the dorms, Brame said. Eventually they were allowed to live in Friendly Hall, but only if they went in through the back door. During their last football game at one East Coast university, team officials said the school refused to play against Oregon if Robinson or Williams suited up — so they did not play.

"It must have been devastating to them," Brame said. "They were doing something very powerful and social. This isn't about how many all-star games they were in or how many points they scored ... it's about making the University of Oregon a better place."

Many West Coast universities do not keep accurate records from that period of time. A spokesman from the UCLA Athletic Department said he cannot remember any black student-athletes prior to the late 1930s, and a representative from the University of Washington Athletic Department said the school does not keep records based on race. University Archivist Heather Briston said many universi-

ties did not begin to collect records until after World War II.

"For a long time, people only collected things they thought would be historical — the program, the award — but they wouldn't collect the stats," Briston said. "People weren't thinking how important the regular documents would be. Sometimes you don't know who the first (black student-athlete) is unless you have a complete set of photographs."

### Continuing the fight

Dan Williams said he has no doubt that Williams and Robinson went through a lot, but that there are other factors to consider.

"The issue is not whether they are deserving," he said. "If we are going to start recognizing other University pioneers, we have to think about the repercussions. Maybe there are other ball players of color we need to recognize."

Brame said he believes that it is important for students to know that the University has evolved since the 1920s, and that he will continue to push for Williams' and Robinson's recognition. He is currently planning on starting a Web site that will contain all of his research.

"Education is a chain — you take one link out, and it's gone," he said.

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## Classes

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scheduling that would bring Friday back to the school week. The amount of classroom activity on Fridays at the University is about 36 percent less than the average.

Scheduling of classes is a process that is based on the needs of departments as well as individual faculty members. Departments try to offer

a variety of time and day choices for classes so students can take classes without many conflicts.

Registrar Herb Chereck said after renovations in spring 2002 to Gilbert Hall left fewer classrooms, the Registrar's Office devised a new protocol for classroom scheduling for fall 2002. The new protocol was designed to schedule more classes throughout the day to decrease the number of time con-

flicts for students.

The protocol was also designed to increase the number of classes held on Friday, given that previous systems led to a decrease in the number of Friday classes, yet the number of classes held on Friday is still significantly lower.

Chereck said required in-class hours naturally work better in a four-day week, but some universities have tried to make changes that would give

students and faculty a free day in the middle of the week and eliminate the three-day weekend.

Chereck said the article from the Chronicle caught his interest and was brought to the attention of other administrators, but no discussion about changing the structure of the week has taken place.

Contact the reporter at [lindsaysaue@dailyemerald.com](mailto:lindsaysaue@dailyemerald.com).

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4 credits, CRN 42325, 18:00-19:50 MUWH  
Meets June 23-July 18  
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**LING 150 Structure of English Words**  
4 credits, CRN 40961, 10:00-10:50 MUWH  
4 credits, CRN 40962, Web-based  
Meets June 23-August 15  
Satisfies Arts and Letters requirement

**LING 199 Forensic Linguistics**  
4 credits, CRN 42356, 10:00-12:20 MUWH  
Meets June 13-July 18  
Learn how linguists identify criminals from the words they leave behind.

**LING 290 Intro Linguistics Analysis**  
4 credits, CRN 40963, 12:00-14:20 MUWH  
Meets June 23-July 18  
Satisfies Social Science requirement

**LING 440/540 Linguistics Principles and Second-Language Learning**  
4 credits, CRNs 40969/40873, 9:00-11:20 MUWH  
Meets July 21-August 15

**LING 451/551 Syntax and Semantics I**  
4 credits, CRNs 40970/40974, 15:00-17:20 MUWH  
Meets June 23-July 18  
Prerequisite: LING 290 or 421

**LING 452/552 Syntax and Semantics II**  
4 credits, CRNs 40971/40975, 15:00-17:20 MUWH  
Meets July 21-August 15  
Prerequisite: LING 451/551

**ENG 495/595 English Grammar**  
4 credits, CRNs 42118/42119, 14:00-14:50 MUWH  
Meets June 23-August 15  
Prerequisite: Junior standing