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PSU Education Center starts winter classes

Registration is now in progress for winter term classes at the Portland State University Education Center, 2611 NE Union Avenue, according to Dr. Ronald Cease, Dean of Undergraduate Studies in charge of Special Programs at the University.

A number of new courses are being scheduled.

"Portland State is an urban university, committed to serve urban residents with the kind of education they need and want", he stated. "The Education Center is an important arm of the institution. We regard it as an educational 'Halfway House' where people can come to take courses in Mathematics, English, Sociology, Psychology, etc. and when they consider themselves ready to do so, move on to courses on the downtown campus."

Classes are taught by PSU professors, he emphasized. Most of them devote their time because of their interest in helping people who really want to learn, and may have been deprived of the opportunity at some time in their lives. Portland State students and graduate assistants work at the Center as tutors, helping people who need special assistance.

A special rate of \$6. a term is available for those who want University credit. Dr. Cease said. People in the Model Cities area may take one course a term at this rate. Non-credit courses are only \$1. for registration each term.

"Our courses at the Education Center are not watered down in any way," Dr. Cease said. "People who register for them earn PSU college credits. However, at the Center we try to give people personal attention to bolster their self-confidence to do college work."



Dr. Ronald Cease, Dean of Undergraduate Studies at Portland State University, praises program of new classes at PSU Education Center.

High school dropouts and older people who come to the Center to study for their GED (high school equivalency) test are encouraged to take further courses after they have passed the test, Dr. Cease said.

Dr. Cease praised the staff at the Center: Harold Williams, the director; and his assistant, Harvey Rice, for their efforts in building the Center's program since its beginning in May, 1969.

"The University is fortunate in having these young men in charge of the Education Center," he said. "They have built the Center with a very

minimum budget but their hard work and spirit of dedication have inspired other faculty members to donate their time and service."

Winter term classes begin January 4. Anyone interested may call the Center, 29-3864.

"We call this our storefront campus," Dr. Cease said. "The location is an old furniture store. Now that PSU is occupying the building, we say we are furnishing minds with new ideas and information instead of furnishing homes with furniture. The Center is of benefit to people in the job market as well as in their personal lives."

Boateng to conduct survey on news media

Ocie Trotter, Director of Albina Family and Community Services Project, announced the intentions of Emanuel Boateng, a student from Ghana, West Africa attending the University of Oregon, to conduct a survey on the Impact of Mass Communication on the Black Community in the Portland area. Boateng, who is working on his Dissertation toward his PhD, stated that the purpose of this survey would be to study the effects of newspapers, radio, television and other types of communication on the average black family. He pointed out that quite often a black man looking for a job is more likely to go to a friend for information than to read a newspaper. It is Boateng's objective to find out why.

The meeting was attended by James Griffin of Media, Inc.; Azree Lathan, Community Volunteer; Charles Jordan, C.J.A.; Ella Mae Gay, Operation Step-Up. The meeting was held in hope that the various organizations represented would assist Boateng in his efforts. Many studies have been made by whites with results drawn from white families, but never has a study been made to obtain information from black families.

When asked why he chose the Portland area for this survey as opposed to larger cities such as Los Angeles, Detroit or Washington, D.C., Boateng stated that Portland had all

of advantages and disadvantages of those areas. He pointed out that this survey was not aimed at just one section of the black community, but all. He was interested in mass media effect on the poor as well as the rich in the community.

The survey will consist of a printed questionnaire which will ask questions concerning family life and use of communications. The survey, it is hoped, will answer some of the following questions: Do Black Americans consider to be important that following topics: educational opportunities, family planning, financial loans, housing, job or employment opportunities, local and national news, local/national organizations, political, political election/voting, shopping and welfare? What media and non-media sources are readily available to Black Americans for obtaining information on the above stated topics? What kind of credibility do Black Americans assign or give to these sources which they use on the above listed topics.

Mr. Boateng expressed the hope that the results of this survey would be of help to Black publication and other types of news-media not only in this area but throughout the country. He is expecting to begin work in the near future with help from local agencies.



EX Convict makes good

Charles "Bobby" Powell at his desk interviewing unidentified applicant. Powell interviews applicants and refers them to employers who have placed job orders with OSEO. In addition to his duties at OSEO he is a student at Mt. Hood Community College.

Charles "Bobby" Powell is a soft spoken, quiet man with compassion for his fellowman. It could be that this is because "Bobby" has experienced some of the good and much of the unpleasant in his thirty-five years of life.

The summer of 1953 he was a member of the Portland Beavers Baseball Club and was offered college scholarships for his athletic ability but since he had not made any vocational decision, he enlisted in the U.S.A.F. in the fall of 1953.

When talking of his experiences after returning home, "Bobby" smiled and explained a "feeling of closeness" to Nathan Miller and all (approx. 40), employees of Friedman Bag Co. He was an employee of the firm "on and off" for twelve years.

One day while he was working he received a call from his older sister, who was in Wenatchee, Washington, telling him that his mother had been hospitalized following a beating administered by his step father. Powell took the next bus to Wenatchee. When he walked into the house, he saw his mother bandaged and bruised. While he was talking to his mother, his step-father pulled a hatchet on him, then Powell shot him.

Bobby says, "If I hadn't gotten into trouble, I probably would not have ever looked at myself. I would have been still running -- and not going anywhere."

After spending 8 months in the county jail before sentencing, he was given a 20 year sentence with 19 years suspended providing he spend an additional year in the county jail on the charge reduced from murder to manslaughter.

After 18 months Charles Powell was confined in the county jail where there was nothing to do but play cards and listen to the radio. The last two months he was a trustee with little else to do and remained on the same floor of the jail. When he was released he understood he was given a year parole.

When the time came for release, a Washington State Parole Officer contacted the Friedman Bag Co. for Powell. Mr. Miller said "Anytime he is released, he has a job waiting." Consequently he was released on this basis, that he had gainful employment waiting for him.

In July of 1968 he gave an acquaintance money to keep for him over the 4th of July holiday. When he returned to his friend and asked for his money, his friend, who was enter-

taining a gentleman friend, said she felt that he had no money coming. There was a fight between the two men. Police were called and charges were pressed against Powell.

The presiding judge sentenced him to 1 year on assault charges. The local authorities wrote to the Wenatchee, Washington, police and after an exchange of several letters which stated that Powell was granted an "inactive probation" (not the understanding Powell had of 1 year), he had violated the terms of his parole. The parole violation hearing was heard in Wenatchee. The terms of the original Washington parole are still cloudy to Powell as "inactive probation" is a term not understood. As he was being taken from Multnomah County to Wenatchee, he asked an enforcement officer what the term meant and the officer did not know.

At the parole violation hearing Powell was sentenced to 20 years in the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla. He arrived there during August of 1969 and served 3 years. In the spring of 1970 he was transferred to Larch Mountain Honor Camp and was there until paroled on November 10, 1970.

Upon his return to Portland he learned that the assault charges had been dropped and at present he is on parole from the state of Washington.

On February 8, 1971, he entered the S.T.E.P. Program. The program is the Supplemental Training and Employment Program. Powell qualified as an unemployed disadvantaged individual. According to Mr. Rich Seufert, Manager of the Southeast Portland, Oregon Employment office, "It is a stop gap program for 13 weeks designed to give work experience so applicants can compete in the labor market. The Job Developer in the program places people in meaningful employment prior to completion of the program." Powell

was assigned to the Vernon Neighborhood Care Association as Administrative Assistant to Mr. R.L. Anderson. At the termination of the program he was transferred to the AIC Program where he interviewed applicants for AIC for a period of 4 months. During this time he was liaison to the North Portland Oregon State Employment Office, working with minority groups explaining the Apprenticeship Program.

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Sabin-King plan approved

A large delegation of King-Vernon-Sabin residents were on hand at Portland City Council chambers Wednesday, December 15th to speak for and witness the Council's unanimous approval of an urban renewal plan for the area. Residents of the Model Cities area neighborhood had developed the plan in cooperation with the Portland Development Commission as a result of neighborhood meetings since January 1971.

Through this process, a Long Range Plan for the area has been developed to serve as a guide for yearly action programs. Priorities have also been established to further assist the neighborhood in implementation of the Long Range Plan. Residents and Model Cities committees approved the plan earlier in December.

The neighborhood priorities under the plan include:

- 1) Housing rehabilitation

- 2) Traffic study.

- 3) Improve park facilities (access)

- 4) Community and social service facilities.

- 5) Street improvements in lighting, beautification, etc.

- 6) Pedestrian greenways.

- 7) Public sanitary and storm sewer improvements.

- 8) Improve/replace commercial buildings.

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Charles Jordan (left) Ocie Trotter (standing) and Emanuel Boateng study plans for an investigation of the impact of the news media on the Black Community.

Employ the handicapped essay contest slated by Governor

The Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped reports that material concerning the 24th Annual Ability Counts Writing Contest has been distributed to all high schools in the state. The writing

contest based on the theme, "Employment of the Handicapped: How Well is My Community Informed?", is open to 11th and 12th grade students.

Written reports on the theme must not exceed three pages, typed double-spaced on white, regular-size typing paper, together with a cover sheet containing the student's full name, age, home street address, and school address, plus the student's and teacher's signatures.

First place Oregon winner of the contest will receive an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., paid for by the Oregon AFL-CIO, plus a \$330 scholarship award to the Oregon college or university of his or her choice. The first place winner is also eligible for competition in the national contest with prizes of \$1,000, \$600, \$400, \$300, and \$200 in cash, paid by the Disabled American Veterans. Second place Oregon winner receives a \$220 scholarship and third place winner a \$110 scholarship. Fourth, fifth and sixth place Oregon winners receive special citations.

Closing date for Oregon entries is February 18, 1972 and completed reports should be sent to Fred M. Tolleson, Executive Secretary, Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, 402 Labor and Industries Bldg., Salem, Oregon 97310, postmarked on or before that date. For further information about the contest contact the nearest office of the Employment Division.

Have A Safe Holiday

Artist displays art



ARTIST - Staff Sergeant James A. Fairfax with his painting entitled "Christmas Tree."

Merry Christmas to all



Roslyn L. and Alisha Cheri Henderson wish the subscribers, Advertisers and Friends of the Portland Observer a very Merry Christmas.

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