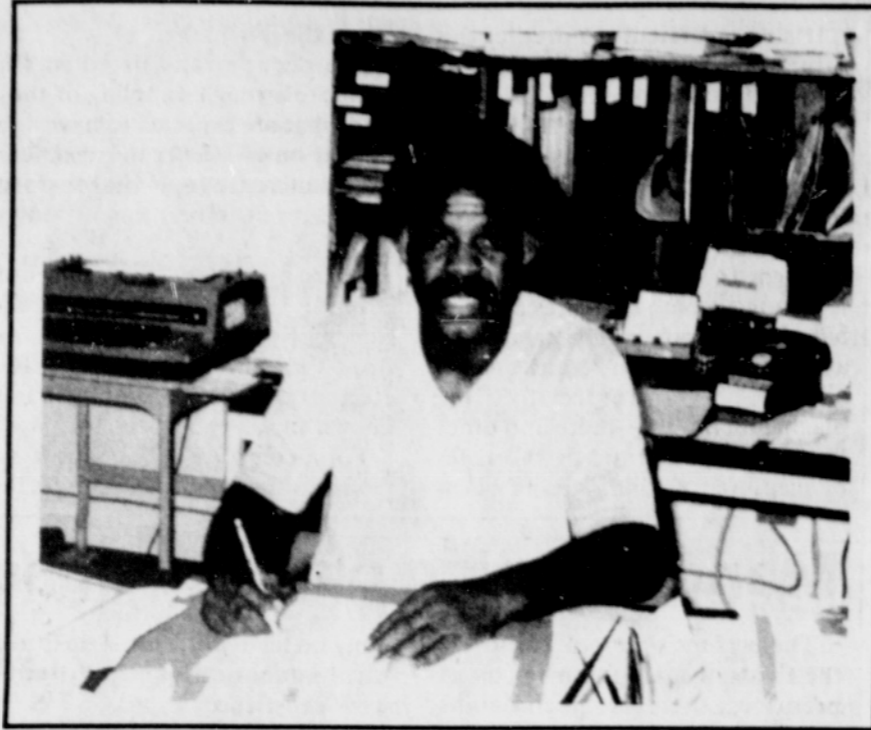


OSU EOP program supports students

The Educational Opportunities Program (EOP) at Oregon State University is a very successful student support program for non-traditional students which has assisted 235 students to graduate from higher education during the thirteen years of its existence. The groups of students which the program is dedicated to assisting are Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, resident refugees, low-income students, and older returning students. The program offers support and assistance in all areas of admission, financial aid, academic planning and growth, and personal concerns. EOP at OSU is now beginning its fourteenth year. It is well-established in the community and has developed a vast network of services for students, valuable contacts at the university and in the community, and resources at other schools and agencies throughout Oregon. The program has gained a favorable reputation with these contacts resulting in more students being referred to EOP.

EOP offers a wide range of support services to its students, including academic developmental classes, tutoring, career counseling, and personal counseling. When a student applies to the university, the EOP office acts in the capacity of an admissions office until the file is complete and ready for official admission. The application fee and hous-

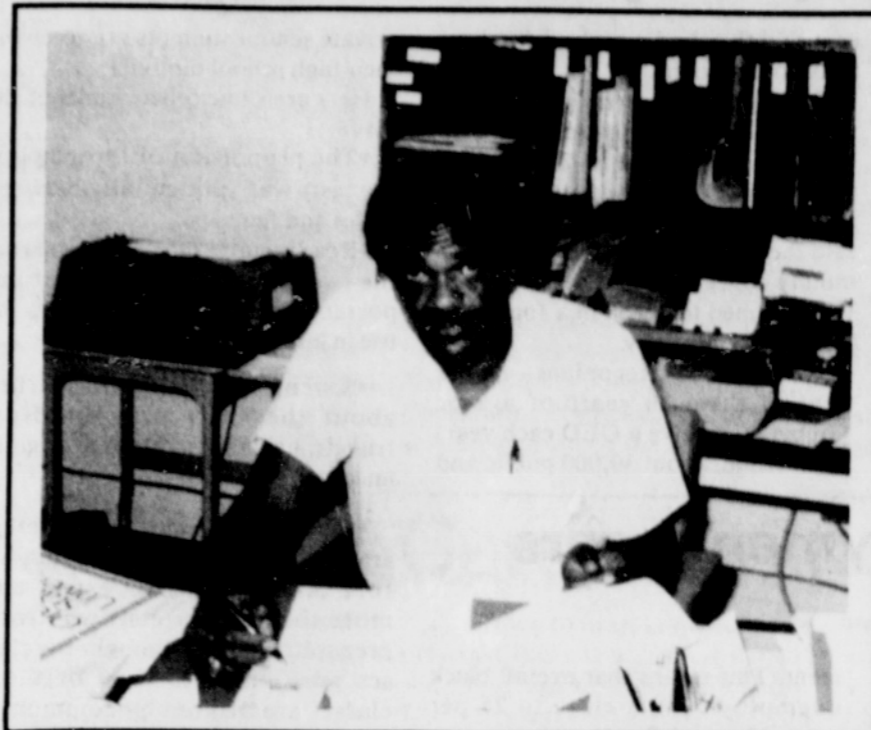


LAVERNE WOODS

ing deposit are deferred until the student arrives on campus. New EOP students attend special orientation sessions, including an overnight retreat where they have an opportunity to meet and interact with people from various departments on campus, including OSU's president. Companies in the Corvallis area also send representatives to this retreat.

Each student is assigned to a

counselor who assists in both academic and personal areas. Academic skills are evaluated through testing so that students can be placed in the proper classes. Developmental courses are available in the areas of reading, writing, math, personal development, and study skills. When EOP students need extra assistance in any particular course, they can turn to EOP's own Learning Center where the students are matched up



DR. LAWRENCE GRIGGS

with tutors who have expertise in that particular area. The students also have access to audio-visual teaching aids in EOP's Learning Lab.

If a student should encounter problems with financial aid, the EOP assistant director, Dr. Lawrence Griggs, counsels and acts as a liaison with the OSU Financial Aid Office. Dr. Griggs has information on scholarships and grants which are not available to a majority of stu-

dents, and he aids the students in applying for these funds.

An EOP student has available the services of a Cooperative Education Counselor, Monte Freeman. Cooperative Education is a university-wide program which enables students to gain employment experience in their fields, receive credit toward graduation, and often receive a salary as well. In addition, other EOP counselors work directly

with the Career Planning and Placement Office to assist students in preparing resumes and interviewing for employment upon graduation.

EOP students are also given the opportunity to attend various cultural affairs on and off campus. In the past, students have attended a poetry reading in Portland, Shakespearean plays in Ashland, and were able to watch fellow classmates perform in plays at OSU's Mitchell Playhouse.

Another facet of EOP is recruiting. It is the mission of the recruiters to see that information and assistance is given to all students in Oregon and in the Pacific Northwest to enable them to get a higher education, if that is the desire of the student. Several counselors travel around the state visiting high schools and community colleges,

talking with students about the opportunities and services available through EOP at OSU. Information packets and applications are given out, and slide presentations are given. One of these recruiters, LaVerne Woods, visits the Portland area regularly. LaVerne recently joined the EOP staff after retiring from the Army with the rank of Sergeant-Major. He had been working on the OSU campus for several years with the Army ROTC.

V.A. loan program expanded

The Veterans Administration's Loan Guaranty program has expanded its services to veterans and their dependents with acceptance of Growing Equity Mortgages (GEM).

Under this new mortgage concept, loans are arranged to mature much earlier than standard 30-year mortgages, according to William Cipolla, Loan Guaranty Officer at the Portland Regional Office.

"In some cases the loan could be satisfied in 11 years, even though

early mortgage payments are in the same amount as those for a 30-year loan," Cipolla explained.

The early payoff results from a gradual increase in mortgage payments, typically no more than 3 to 5 per cent each year. Unlike variable interest rate mortgages, however, all of the payment increase is applied to principal rather than interest, resulting in an accelerated reduction in the loan balance.

In addition to an early payoff of a

GEM, another advantage to the borrower is that the investment in the property grows rapidly at a relatively low monthly cost. Lenders also benefit by receiving an early payback of capital and a lessening risk of loss as the property equity increases.

Like other types of VA financing, VA-guaranteed GEMS are obtained through mortgage lenders and other traditional residential loan sources, according to Cipolla.

Center selects director

Ellen Dressler has been selected as Director for the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, Commissioner Jordan announced Tuesday.

Funded by a \$420,000 federal rehab grant by the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR) matched by a \$180,000 City Grant (HCD) to convert an abandoned firehouse located at 5340 N. Interstate Street, the community cultural center will provide recreational, artistic, and cultural programming to include physical fitness, drama, crafts, dance, music, photography and social activities.

The new Director, a native of Portland, recently served as Director of Cultural Affairs for the City of Charleston where employed for the last four years. In addition to her management, program development and public relations skills, Ellen has excellent experience working with community organizations, gained while employed with the City of Montgomery, Alabama as its Cultural Arts Supervisor in 1977 and Galassini Advertising as Creative Services Director in 1976. Her public relations skills were acquired during her tenure with WSFA-TV in 1974 and Fuller and Dees Publishers, also in Alabama.

She attended Portland State University from 1961-1964 as a music major.

She has also attended Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey and the University of North Carolina for post graduate study in arts management and recreation.

She is President of the South Carolina Alliance of Community Arts Agencies and serves on the Governor's Arts Task Force. Ellen also serves as Advocacy Chairman and as a member of the Board of Directors for the National Assembly of Community Arts Agencies. In addition, she chairs the Working Subcommittee for the Arts for the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Miss Dressler will be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the center which is scheduled to officially open in October 1982.

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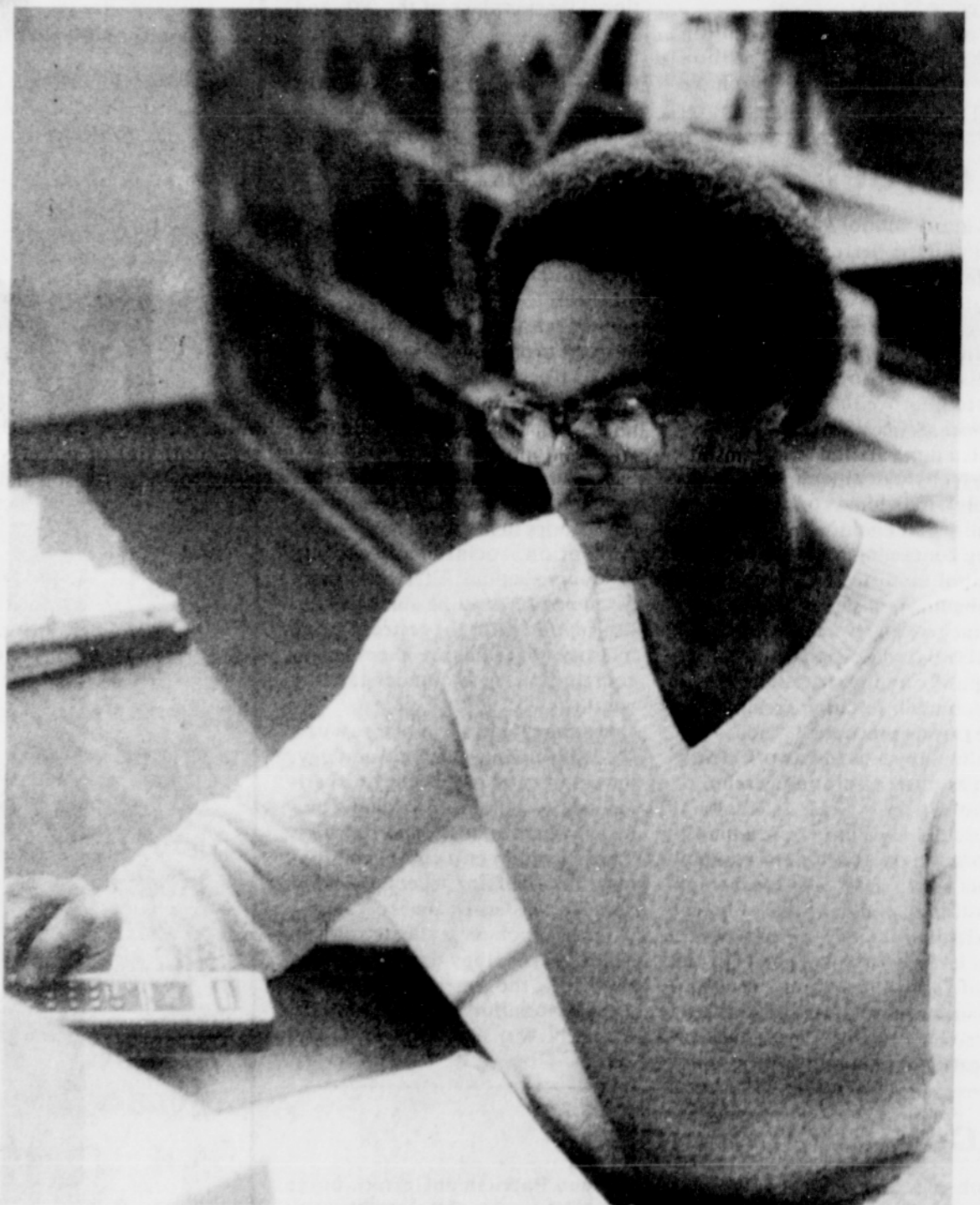
Do you feel that your high school GPA is too low to get you into college?

Are your math, reading or written skills marginal?

Do you think that you may not qualify for funds to help you through college?

Do you live in an isolated rural area?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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