

# Increased Profile For Black Studies at PSU

"Recent developments in our curriculum place us on the leading edge of black studies in American institutions of higher learning," noted Dr. Darrell Millner, head of the Department of Black Studies at Portland State University during a recent review of his department's accomplishments.

Admitting that black studies "has not been a very available option for students in the past," Dr. Millner stressed that black studies is now an integral part of the University's general education requirements. In the early years of black studies, PSU students have had to make a formal appeal in order to have such courses count toward the requirements. But now, they are being accepted as "part of the mainstream," he said.

Further Millner added, his academic department is now the only one at PSU whose courses can be used to satisfy general education requirements in two specific academic areas: Social Science as well as Arts and Letters. "This constitutes a significant breakthrough in both the academic and popular acceptance of black studies courses here on our campus as well as on campuses across the country," Millner said.

Looking ahead, Dr. Millner anticipated that PSU will soon give formal approval to a new academic minor in black studies in early 1987. "While some students would not consider black studies as their academic major, many would consider it as an academic minor," he explained, predicting that the new minor will greatly increase the number of students enrolling in PSU black studies courses.

"By taking these courses, more students will be taking advantage of learning about a new perspective on blacks in American life and in American history which they offer," he commented.

Meanwhile, PSU's Department of Black Studies has worked diligently to increase cooperation with other academic departments at the University. An example can be seen this fall in a new course offered by PSU's Department of History, called "World History," which will be offered in winter and spring terms as well. Instead of the usual "Western Civilization" class, PSU students may now take this instruction from a team of teachers who come from different academic backgrounds, including an assistant professor of black studies who is one of the permanent teachers in this course. This is the result of developing "very extensive relationships" over the past few years with members of PSU's English, Anthropology, History and Sociology Departments in particular (all are part of the University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences), Millner noted, adding that such cooperation helps make the black studies discipline available to a much larger audience of PSU students.

Further, Dr. Millner noted that an African Studies component has be-



Dr. Darrell Millner  
Photo by Richard J. Brown  
come a part of Portland State's recently established International Studies program.

Elsewhere, PSU Black Studies staff members have stayed involved during the past year in an ad hoc "Committee on Minority Student Affairs," according to Dr. Millner. The committee is charged with investigating and making recommendations to Dr. Natale Sicuro, University president, concerning the identification of problem areas and issues which have to do with attracting and keeping ethnic students so they can achieve success at PSU.

This committee has examined a wide range of issues including how student government monies are spent, as well as the need for increased affirmative action when teachers are hired. "We feel that our participation has been significant," Millner commented, "and that the potential for improvement in the attractiveness of PSU to ethnic student populations is

about to be realized."

PSU's Department of Black Studies also has stressed active involvement in the larger community which surrounds the University and is in the process of serving it in several ways involving "bridging activities" between ethnic and white communities:

- Its faculty members are providing expertise to help bring a Smithsonian Institution exhibit known as "Portraits in Black" to Portland, to be hosted by the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, Portland;
- Its faculty are working with the History Department at Oregon State University and other community groups to develop educational programs which meet the needs of black inmates;
- Its faculty are working to help develop a black cultural center at one of the Multnomah County Library branches located in the black community.
- Its faculty members are lending expertise to help develop a multi-cultural project at the Children's Museum in Portland;
- The department has arranged to bring to Portland an exhibit involving a history of ethnic depictions in commercial advertising. The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies exhibit will be hosted by the Portland Advertising Museum from June 1 - July 15, 1987;
- The department is providing its expertise to the World Affairs Council in Portland as the council works to select qualified speakers for its "Leaders in the Third World" lecture series;
- Its faculty members are scheduled to consult with and to help train Portland Art Museum employees as the museum acquires new holdings for its African collections;
- The department will co-sponsor for the second year a February 1987 African Film Festival at Northwest Film Study Center, Portland, to include two visiting guest lecturers;
- and the department will work with Oregon Public Broadcasting and Western Oregon State College to offer a college credit telecourse based on the show entitled "The Africans." The department also is co-sponsoring a visit by the show's producer, Ali A. Mazrui, to the Portland area.

"We started at PSU in 1969, and we are one of the oldest Black Studies departments in the nation," concluded Dr. Millner, "and we aspire to be one of the best."

Comments and inquiries about the department's work may be directed to Dr. Millner in care of Portland State University, P.O. Box 751, Portland, OR 97207. Telephone (503) 229-3472.

## How to Remember Names and Faces

What's in a name? A lot if you happen to have forgotten it.

To save face, here are a few simple rules.

- **Be sure to hear the name.** Never be afraid to ask a person to repeat his or her name. A name is a person's most prized possession.
- **Ask how the name is spelled.** This forces you to pay attention.
- **Make a remark about the name—any remark.** For example, "Oh, I just met a person with the same name."

- **Use the name where apropos during your initial conversation.**
- **Use the name again when you say goodbye.**
- **Visualize a name by creating pictures in your mind.** Names like Flag, Carpenter and Rivers are easy. But how about Petrocelli? Try thinking of a pet rolling in jelly. Bartosevitch? Think of bought a savage.
- **Make a person's face tell you his name.** If Petrocelli has a big nose, picture a glob of jelly

on the nose and a pet rolling in it. Of course, if you do know someone with the name Petrocelli, try not to run into him after you have just eaten.

7.35%

YLD  
FSLIC INSURED  
ONE YEAR CD  
CALL FOR OTHER RATES & TERMS  
**W. WILSON FINANCIAL**  
421 SW 5th 227-3144

## Teen Suicides in Oregon

Teenagers are taking their own lives at an alarming rate in Oregon. The Oregon State Health Division has reported that 80 teenagers committed suicide in Oregon during the three-year period from 1983 to 1985. The suicide rate among 15-19 year-olds has quadrupled in the last quarter-century, with suicide now the second leading cause of death among teenagers. The 1983-85 annual suicide rate for 15-19 year-olds was 11.3 suicides per 100,000 population in this age group per year compared to 2.8 during 1959-1961.

Seven in ten teenagers who committed suicide did so at home, and six in ten used a gun, most commonly a handgun. In the last twenty-five years the rate of suicide by shooting among teenagers has increased 211 percent compared to a 149 percent increase for all other methods. Hanging was the second most commonly chosen method, followed by poisoning with auto exhaust. Other less common methods included: poisoning with an overdose of drugs, jumping from a bridge or overpass, jumping in front of a truck, and self-immolation.

Of the 80 teen suicides, 17 were females and 63 were males. Eleven of these young people were between 10 and 14 years old, including three eleven year-olds, the youngest recorded. The sharpest increase in

suicide among teens occurs at 19 years of age. The suicide rate for teenagers is lower than the rate among adults; males 65 and over and females 45-54 are most apt to kill themselves. One of every 1,100 of today's fifteen year-old boys and one of every 4,300 fifteen year-old girls will commit suicide before reaching 20 years of age.

Copies of the report "Teenage Suicide in Oregon" are available from the Center for Health Statistics (229-5897).

## Halloween Safety Tips Available

A free booklet on Halloween safety tips for children (and adults) is available at any one of 9 Children's World child care centers in the Port-

land-Vancouver area.

The booklet has ideas on safe costumes, where and how to "Trick or Treat," and how to inspect treats before consuming. There are also safety suggestions for adults on Halloween.

The booklet may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Children's World, 100 Second Ave., S., Edmonds, WA 98020, or by stopping at any of the following Children's World locations: Beaverton: 18425 N.E. Walker Road, or 4845 S.W. Murray Blvd., or 12360 S.W. Pioneer Lane; Gresham: 3200 N.W. Hogan; Hillsboro: 1771 S.E. Minter Bridge Rd.; Rockwood: 840 N.E. 181st; Sunnyside: 10501 S.E. Sunnyside; Vancouver: 622 S.E. 117th Ave., or 10021 N.E. Hazel Dell Ave.



## For Women

*Groups designed to enhance self-confidence, build self-esteem and facilitate positive change in the lives of women over 40.*

*Daytime and Evening Group Sessions held weekly in a warm, supportive environment. Moderate fee.*

**Gee Gee Roos, M.S.**, is an experienced counselor who has worked in the field of Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling and Career Counseling for 10 years. Her work focuses on the concerns of the older woman, who, in transition, may experience depression, loneliness and feelings of alienation. In her on-going weekly women's group, she offers understanding and intelligent support to women who want positive change and renewal in their lives.

**For Registration or Further Information Call 227-3943**

Franklin's Ready Ribs

230 N. Killingsworth  
283-6000

THIS COUPON GOOD FOR  
**\$1.00 off on**  
1 Slab o' Ribs  
or  
1 Chicken Dinner

**We also offer**

- Potato Salad
- Pig's Feet
- Potato Pie
- Banana Pie
- Peach Cobbler

Good 10/30 thru 11/6  
You've Tried The Rest  
Now Try The Best

## VOTE: Nov. 4th for this very critical position.



**VOTE**

**Gladys**

**McCoy**

**Multnomah County Chair**

### FOR PROVEN LEADERSHIP

- Six years as County Commissioner (1978-84)
- Eight years on Portland School Board (1970-78)
- Three years as Oregon Ombudsman (1975-77)

### FOR WORKABLE SOLUTIONS

- An Effective Criminal Justice Plan
- Improved Health & Mental Health Programs
- Addressing Needs of Youth/Homeless
- Doing More For Our Older Citizens
- Jobs Through Economic Development

**WE NEED GLADYS MCCOY WORKING FOR US!**  
**Gladys McCoy has earned our trust!**

Paid for by Friends of Gladys McCoy, 710 S.W. 2nd, Portland. George Brower, Treasurer.