

# Education

## High School Students Help Local Natural Area/Planting Project

Students from Madison High School planted native plants to reclaim and naturalize a corner of Rose City Golf Course adjacent to the high school.

This has been a model community/school partnership project utilizing our community resources to enhance our students' education as well as improve our neighborhood. Students aren't just in the classroom learning science, they're out doing it. Madison teachers were looking for opportunities to get students out of the classroom to do "real" science; the City of Portland's Rose City Golf Course was looking

to naturalize out-of-play areas and looking for ways to involve the community in issues related to golf course grounds. Together we created the opportunity for students to develop a master plan and landscape plan for an area that will now be useful to both parties.

Through the process of designing the planting plan, students better understand the concepts of habitats, native versus non-native plants and the needs of specific plants and animals. By participating they have also learned valuable lessons in teamwork, time management, commu-

nication and presentation skills.

The newly planted area will serve both to beautify the golf course as well as provide an area for ongoing study for future years of Madison students. Students will be monitoring survival and growth rates of the new plants as well as monitoring any changes in wildlife populations as the native plants take hold.

Approximately sixty students divided into planting teams organized by a student team leader and a Friends of Trees volunteer. Golf Course and parks personnel were also present.

## Computer Lab Opens New Opportunities for University Park Youth

A state-of-the-art computer lab, funded by a \$278,000 donation from Intel and the Intel Foundation, could give young people the keys to a high tech future. The lab, located in Portland Parks and Recreation's University Park Community Center at 9009 North Foss, opens March 23rd. The lab will offer community member-young and old-a chance to learn new job skills, get information about science and technology careers, use computers for art and recreation, plus give their homework a lift.

Young people who participate in sports programs at UPCC will be required to spend time on the

keyboards before putting in time on the court or ballfield. "These kids need to be sold on the excitement and the tremendous potential of computers," says UPCC Director Lee Jenkins. Jenkins says the lab will be open from 9am-9pm daily so Portland Parks staff and volunteers can serve senior citizens, preschoolers, and adults in welfare-to-work programs, as well as school students.

The Intel Corporation and its foundation provided a combination of grants, equipment, and

professional services to get the lab up and running. Intel spokesman Peter Broffman says that the project demonstrates the company's strong commitment to providing technology education in Oregon and increasing access of people of color to careers in this growing field. The need for such opportunities is particularly acute in the Portsmouth neighborhood where University Park Community Center is located. The center is across the street from Columbia Villa/Tamarack, Oregon's largest public housing development.

## 'Law Day' Seeks to Attract Minority Students

Are minority students becoming even rarer at law schools due to challenges to affirmative action? If so, what does this mean for understanding and promoting cultural diversity in law schools, as well as among lawyers and the clients they serve?

These are some of the questions to be explored during Minority Law Day, April 3, at the University of Oregon School of Law, Grayson Hall (UO Law Center), 1101 Kincaid St.

The event, which is free and open to the general public, is targeting minority high school and college students, as well as all members of minority groups across the state who may be interested in attending law school.

Minority Law Day is shared each year among Oregon's three law schools—the UO School of Law, Willamette University School of Law

and Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College—with the goal of cultivating a stronger minority interest in attending law school.

"Nationwide, the percentage of minority law students is falling due to a number of factors, including economic pressures and challenges to affirmative action," says Katherine Jernberg, director of admissions, UO School of Law. "We're trying to reach out to minorities in high schools and colleges, as well as in the general population to let them know that a law degree is an attainable goal which will open the door to a multitude of rewarding career opportunities."

The event's sessions, located in rooms 125 and 129 at Grayson Hall, are:

**10-10:30 am**

"Ready, Set, Go"—A panel of law school admissions administrators will

discuss the nuts and bolts of getting into law school.

**10:30-11:15 am**

"Following Dreams"—A panel of law students and lawyers will talk about their personal experiences involving law school and the legal profession.

**11:30-12:30pm**

Box lunch and concurrent sessions. "The Assault on Affirmative Action"—Legal scholars will discuss the current state of affirmative action, including constitutional issues, lawsuits, and California's Proposition 209.

"The Trial of Goldy Locks"—high school and college students observe and participate in the trial of Goldy Locks, led by UO Law Professor Wayne Westling.

**1-2pm**

"The Image of Minorities in Mass

Media"—Speakers include UO Law Professors Dennis Greene and Keith Aoki, and Rennard

Strickland, dean, UO School of Law.

**2:30-4pm**

"Race to the Bottom: The Global Labor Process"—A panel discussion sponsored by the UO Race, Labor and Economic Justice conference.

Additional sponsors for Minority Law Day include the UO Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA); the Oregon State Bar Association; the Law School Admissions Council; and the OMA-sponsored Race, Labor and Economic Justice Conference, which takes place April 3-4 on the UO campus.

For more information, contact Holly Parrish, UO School of Law, 541-346-1558.

## \$42 Million Gift to The United Negro College Fund-Gift to UNCF

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) today announced that America's largest private foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc., has awarded a \$42 million grant for a three year program designed to assist historically black colleges and universities with capital, scholarship and faculty funding needs.

This gift is the largest ever given to a single entity by the foundation in its 61 year history.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business,

Eli Lilly and Company.

In keeping with the wishes of its three founders, Lilly Endowment exists to support the causes of religion, education and community development. The Endowment affords special emphasis to projects that benefit young people and that promote leadership, education and financial self-sufficiency in the non-profit charitable sector.

UNCF is the nation's oldest and most successful minority higher education assistance organization in the country. It is a consortium of 39 private, historically black colleges and universities.

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