



Downtown the Easy Way

Celestial Ward sees her 'Memorizing Shakespeare's sonnets' slogan become part of a TriMet ad campaign to remind people that riding the bus or Max downtown is the easy way to commute even during construction of the Portland Mall Light Rail Project.

North Portland Bridge Closure

Portland Transportation Maintenance Operations will be closing the Vancouver Avenue Bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad between North Farragut Street and Columbia Boulevard starting Monday, Oct. 13 through Sunday, Nov. 2 for deck maintenance work.

The public is advised that the bridge will be closed to all motorized traffic all days and all hours. Pedestrian traffic will be allowed on the sidewalks at all times, and bicycles may walk their bikes on the sidewalks during the closure. Pedestrians and bicyclists may experience


short delays while the work is being performed.

Detour signs will direct traffic around the closure. The primary detour route around the bridge is Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard between Lombard Street and Columbia Boulevard.

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For more information, contact:
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Obama's Historical Run

continued ▲ from Front

Rights-era Americans have gotten replaced by younger people that weren't taught racism then Obama has a great chance at victory."

Millner said the first factor working against Obama in this race is that he lives in a country where race has been overwhelmingly important throughout most of its history.

"This election will tell us how the United States feels about race today," said Millner. "Obama isn't just a gesture to the ethnic community like Jesse Jackson, but a serious candidate that can improve the situation in this country."

Millner notes how Obama has energized young voters through his campaign.

"People born after the 1970s have heroes like Michael Jordan and Bill Cosby and accept blacks and women as normal contributors to political positions," he said. "My children see the election as how elections should be, without race being an issue. Eventually, blacks in politics will be non-news items."

Millner is convinced that this election will be decided by the young and independent voters rather than older voters and those affiliated with the Democratic and Republican parties.

"Involvement of new voters is very important in this election," he said. "Obama has the ability to mobilize and energize youth. "The younger voters have the ability to overthrow the older voters. The balance of these two groups is very different. The younger generation is unpredictable, while older blacks are still suspicious about the possibility of Obama winning this election."

Millner said Obama is gaining traction by his consistent calm and purpose-

ful demeanor, easing the concerns of some who may not have voted for a black person in the past.

"This is a historical event in America right now, yet it is too soon for people to appreciate it," he said. "There hasn't been a real landslide election since the early 20s. Many people wonder if this one has turned into a landslide due to skin color."

Millner said he would like to see Obama win, but wouldn't be surprised if he doesn't.

"I don't know if this country can handle four to eight more years of Bush policy politics," he said. "On the other hand, I don't know what the country will be like if Obama wins but it will definitely be better than what we have now."

Expert at PSU since 1975

Darrell Millner was born in Columbus, Ohio in 1946 and raised in the Los Angeles area where he graduated from California State Polytechnic University in 1969 with a degree in English.

He moved to Eugene in 1970 to attend the University of Oregon where he earned a Doctorate in Education. In 1975, he was hired to teach Afro-American Literature and History at the Black Studies Department at Portland State University.

He was chairman of the black studies department from 1984 to 1995. Currently, he is a full time professor, serving on many local, regional and national boards and organizations including the Editorial Board of the Oregon Historical Society.

Millner is an expert on the history of African-Americans in the western movement with a special focus on the Oregon and California trail experiences; early Oregon and California Black history; and the history of the Black Buffalo Soldiers in the Indians Wars. He is also an expert on Black cinema history and the development and perpetuation of negative racial stereotypes.

He has served on the "frontlines" of the multi-cultural and diversity controversies as the Director of Multi-cultural education for the Portland Public Schools and has an extensive background in teacher training and curriculum development for inner city schools and disadvantaged youth.



Darrell Millner

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The Portland Observer Established 1970
USPS 959-680
4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, PUBLISHER: Charles H. Washington
EDITOR: Michael Leighton
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER: Mark Washington
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208

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