

# Activist, Political Leader Writes Memoir

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for more than \$2,200 showcasing her broad support.

In winning the 1996 election she became the first African-American woman to be seated in the Oregon Senate.

Gordly won the public over through constant involvement with progressive civic issues such as environmental justice, women's rights, funding for early childhood programs as well as raising the state minimum wage.

She's been a leader in honoring the past accomplishments of African Americans, and sponsored the bill that proclaims Juneteenth, June 19, of every year to be a day of statewide celebration of dignity and freedom of all citizens.

Gordly also was a staunch supporter of opening doors to the

public's right to access a party's political planning sessions. Discouraged with the party caucuses within the Democratic Party, she became an Independent in 2006.

Her actions within the Legislature earned her recognition as "The Conscience" of both the House and Senate. As part of the last days of the 2007 Legislative session, she teamed with Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers to pass a law requiring a planned response to incidents in which police use deadly force.

Gordly's commitment to Oregon extended to economic issues such as trade with South Africa. She's made more than 17 trips to Africa to learn about issues in nations there as well as represent Oregon business and social interests.

Gordly advanced her education at the same time, and earned recog-

nition for completion of the Program for Senior Executives at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

She is a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum.

Portland honored Gordly for her

public service in July of 2007 with a proclamation and reception in the City Hall council chambers.

Gordly's memoir, Remembering the Power of Words: The Life of an Oregon Activist, Legislator, and Community Leader is co-authored

by Patricia A. Schecter, who is an associate professor of History at PSU.

Gordly and Schecter are scheduled to speak on the book on Sunday, Feb. 27 at 2 p.m. at the Oregon Historical Society.

## Concordia's Big Step

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fantastic. We want to take the same concept to the field, and use it as a community resource just like the library is".

Spanning four city blocks and covering almost 16,000 square feet, the new turf field and athletic center will seat over 1,800 fans, while providing not only first-class facilities for Cavalier athletics and NAIA sports, including soccer and baseball, but a home field for neighborhood soccer clubs, and serve as a host exhibition site for the Portland Timbers.

Construction is underway and the athletic complex is anticipated to open during this fall.

In the past, athletes, including Concordia students and community teams, have either played off campus for games or on the only campus field, which now serves as the new location for the library and campus green. The old grass field had no lights, and the hours of field use were very limited due to a full season of wear and tear that caused poor playing conditions.

With a future of lights and synthetic turf, the new athletic complex will be able to dedicate more hours to field use on a year-round basis.

"More than half of the field time will be dedicated to community groups," says Madeline Turncock of Concordia's marketing and communications department. The athletic complex will devote 63 percent of its available hours to the community and 37 percent to Concordia athletics, according to the project's website.

Cavalier fans and players can't wait to finally cheer on teams in their own backyard.

Concordia athletics hope to see a new bubbling of school spirit as student athletes and fans are brought back to the campus for home games.

With the latest features including a press box, space training, team rooms, stadium seating, concessions, and restrooms, what current or prospective athlete wouldn't love to play in the new facility?

"I think to have a home for soccer and baseball teams is very exciting for our student athletes and an opportunity to bring back the home field advantage," says English, who also believes that more students will be apt to stay on campus in the evenings to watch games, keeping them safe and engaged with the university.

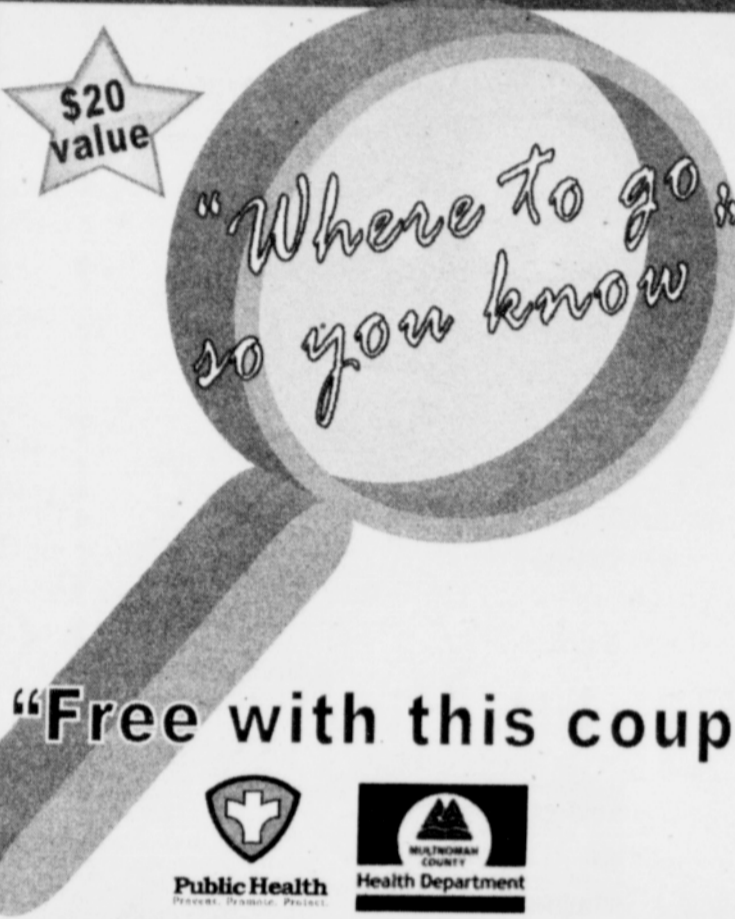
The Athletic Complex is just one of several recent additions for the university. In 2009, the private, Christian, liberal arts university opened the George R. White Library and Learning Center, and in effort to invite community members to its use, issued 1,500 free library card to neighbors. During the same year, the new Concordia Place Apartments on Northeast 27th Avenue also opened for students and community residents.

Concordia University is one of 10 universities founded by the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. The school first began as a four-year academy in 1905 to meet educational needs of local pastors and parochial school teachers for the church.

Over 100 years later, Concordia has evolved into a university comparable to larger accredited Oregon colleges, offering a full liberal arts education, pre-professional programs, professional church work programs, and undergraduate and graduate degrees in education and business.

Concordia offers 19 undergraduate majors with concentrations in more than 20 fields, and is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

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Portland, 97204

### Northeast Health Center

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Portland, 97211

Se habla español: other interpretation by appointment.



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