Kareem shares black profiles in courage

By MEGHNA CHAKRABARTI
Senior Staff Writer

"Challenge is a part of the road to discovery and opportunity. Anyone who needs to learn something ought to be challenged."

~ Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Abdul-Jabbar sided his high school aged son as his primary motivation in writing his book, Black Profiles in Courage, Abdul-Jabbar's son was unable to find adequate information on any significant African-American for a high school biographical report. "A significant portion of American history is missing, and it damages all of us," he said.

Abdul-Jabbar arrived 25 minutes late to an exuberant greeting from the crowd of several thousand at Gill Coliseum. His tall, slender figure ducked beneath the northeast entrance of the basketball court as he glided toward the podium. With a refreshing combination of quiet passion, genuine humility, and honest intelligence that seems to have faded from the NBA, Abdul-Jabbar said, "In order to be American, we have to have connections to the state itself. For white citizens, this is not uncommon, but for black citizens this is a rarity."

In an attempt to encourage deeper connections to history, Abdul-Jabbar described his own connections to the figures he profiled in his book, including Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr. and Sojourner Truth. Responding to a question regarding a chapter on Crispus Attucks, Abdul-Jabbar said, "I'm outraged that I had to wait until I was an adult to find out about this man. He was a true American patriot. Not discussing these incidents adds to the denial of power."

During the question and answer period, Abdul-Jabbar elaborated on his desire to further illuminate little known events in black history. Lonis Howard Letterman, inventor of the filament that Thomas Edison later used in the light bulb was instrumental in speeding Edison's success, Abdul-Jabbar said. Though Edison himself readily admitted Letterman's indispensability, "people still chose not to see him," Abdul-Jabbar said.

"Every American has a right to be proud," Abdul-Jabbar added, "But the treatment of Black Americans is nothing to be proud of." LaVerne Woods of the Office of Affirmative Action speaks to lack of minority profiles in courage at OSU affects everyone's lives."

A vocal critic of financial influences on campus, Professor Rich Daniels displays a cartoon portraying the "corporate classroom" during his presentation at the UHC Winter Forum. A University Honors College "Corporate Campus" forum presentation on February 10th was a study in ambivalence. On one hand the crowd was sparse, consisting mainly of the campus' all-stars of the public lecture circuit and noticeably devoid of UHC students.

In response to the forum's base question, "What role should private corporations have in the education of students, and how does the corporate world play out at OSU currently?" each of four panelists offered thoughts that ran the gamut from very pro-corporate to very anti-corporate.

On the anti-corporate side, Dr. David Bella, professor of Civil Engineering, suggested that the university address the "imbalance" that currently exists in its approach to education. According to Bella, higher education is increasingly regarding its students as customers to be molded into effective members of the job core. As an alternative, the university should provide the tools for students to discover the "knowledge in the information," so that they will be able to provide checks on corporations which "are obviously not going to do it themselves."

Basing his anti-corporation stance on a more theoretical construct, Dr. Rich Daniels of the English department, postulated that increasing private control over the public sector is a form of "incipient fascism." Daniels stressed that over the course

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OSU Educational Opportunities Program appreciated Abdul-

Turn to Kareem, Page 3

Beaver Bucks? Corporate influences debated at UHC Winter Forum

By CHRIS PETERSEN
Senior Staff Writer

A University Honors College's "Corporate Campus" forum presentation on February 10th was a study in ambivalence. On one hand the crowd was sparse, consisting mainly of the campus' all-stars of the public lecture circuit and noticeably devoid of UHC students.

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Customer service at OSU in need of repair

Yesterday the strangest thing happened: I walked up to the Cashier window in the Administration Building and I was greeted with a smile! I was so stunned that it took me a minute to recover and remember that I needed to make a deposit. The woman further astounded me by next asking how my day was going, and then chatting with me about the weather as she processed the transaction. I thanked her and as I walked away, trying to remember the last time someone over one of the marble campus windows had been so pleasant.

Normally I dread it when I need to go to the Registrar window, the Financial Aid office, the Payroll office, the MU Student Activities office, etc. I procrastinate the task as long as possible, and then in a weak moment of absolute necessity, get in line. I have grown so accustomed to being sent to a different line because someone is on break, or being sent back across campus for a different departmental signature, that I sometimes forget that this is not the way it has to be.

When I step back from these traumatic experiences and think about all of the money students are paying in tuition and fees, I am appalled by the lack of quality customer service in the Administrative offices. I could go just about anywhere and be treated this rudely for free! And, there are days (when I have to withstand going to numerous offices) that I wonder why I am at OSU at all. If I did not love the colleges within OSU that I am part of and if I did not know how many incredibly nice faculty and staff members there are around campus, I do not think I would stay.

In light of the recent problems with low enrollment and the need to retain more students, I cannot help but wonder if it might be partly due to the fact that polite and friendly customer service has become the exception, not the rule at OSU. I know there are just as many courteous and helpful people working in these offices as grouchy ones because I occasionally run across them.

And, I sincerely thank those people who go out of their way to be cheery because they have no idea how that brightness an ordinary, stress-ridden day). It concerns me that prospective students may not be fortunate enough to talk with that certain friendly person when they first come to our campus. It only takes one sour experience as a customer to leave and never come back.

Before working in any business where high amounts of interaction with the public are required, people receive training in polite, quality customer service. From time to time we all could all use a "refresher" course! Maybe this is a good place for the University to begin their quest to simultaneously improve students' experience and enrollment at OSU. And, students, maybe we could help in this process by letting people, such as the woman at the cashier office, know how much their smile and friendliness are appreciated.

Lack of funding leads to steady erosion of liberal arts at OSU

With Measures 5 and 47 waiting overhead like a tainted cheese, the news that OSU would not receive an expected $2.28 million in enrollment bonuses from the Oregon State System of Higher Education was certainly not the way to start off winter term. Because enrollment was not within 500 students of the targeted projection, OSU lost the OSHE money that the administration had already budgeted.

The end result of this debacle is heavy cutting, especially in the Liberal Arts. The last time the axe fell — during the heyday of Measure 5 — OSU eliminated (among other programs) its Journalism department, leaving us with the contemporary Baronet, a bottom-feeding AP wire slave which never falls to depress. Ultimately though, like the sands in the hour glass, our ability to gain a worthy education at OSU is quickly slipping away.

That the College of Liberal Arts is to receive the heaviest blow is not surprising. Final cuts tally $288,471 for the year, or just over 2% of the College's budget. This comes about despite the fact that theCLA currently has the highest enrollment of any college at OSU, while maintaining a distant second to the College of Science in State General Fund Budget allocations. The determining factors involved can be summed up metaphorically: OSU's most recognizable science alum was Linus Pauling, twice a Nobel Prize recipient. Most visible from engineering may be the folks who founded CHEM-Hill. Perhaps our most prominent Liberal Arts icon is Bernard Malamud, author of The Fixer and The Magic Barrel, winner of two National Book Awards and one Pulitzer, and former OSC English professor. While the former two examples retained basically fund memories of their alma mater, Malamud hated it here and couldn't wait to get out.

Something even more sinister is lurking in the wings though. With the state citizenry and bureaucracy taking a decidedly anti-higher ed stance these days (Oregon recently fell behind perennial basement state Mississippi in funding for higher ed), a growing source for maintaining and upgrading services at our public university is private money.

Corporations are basically dictatorships with no democratic checks on the little separation of powers. They are motivated only by profit and are willing to do anything the law allows to attain an increased market share. In August of 1981, when Ronald Reagan

Learning to play by the rules

When the milky water finally brimmed up over my toes at the train station, I decided that wearing Texas during a Bombay monsoon was an unqualified act of stupidity. I watched the water rise up beneath my heels and vaguely recollected some past microbiology lecture about grotesque tropical waterborne pathogens. The water was gritty. And unbelievably dirty. A ring of mud circled my feet marked the progress of the storm.

A small, dark, rail-thin woman stood on a dry patch of concrete 20 meters to my left. Having pinpointed the only section of plastic awning that wasn't leaking, she ceremoniously unwrapped a dull pink sari from her waist. Yard by yard, the fabric spilled away from her body and into her fists where she squeezed the cloth dry. As I watched her, I Talentently thanked the gods of Gore-Tex. The woman was very, very wet.

The awning above her groaned and sagged, twisted by the weight of accumulating rainwater. I wondered why the woman even bothered to wring out 6 yards of a sari that was surely going to be soaked the moment she stepped away from the platform. She twisted out the last length of fabric, and turned away from the tracks and towards the wall. Only then did I notice that pressed against a wall coated with the spit, urine, and of millions of callous Indian commuters was a naked, shivering child with toothpick arms, staring at me with toothpick arms, staring at me with toothpick arms, staring at me with toothpick arms, staring at me with toothpick arms, staring at me with toothpick arms. What I had thought to be an exercise in futility was actually one of the greatest demonstrations of love I shall ever witness. The woman unwound the thin, pale sari from her body, worked out the water, and wrapped the child, her child, into its folds.

When I tell people this story in person, I tell them of the sight of that woman and her baby struck me with such force that before I knew what I was doing, I walked over, bought two cups of tea and gave them some money for food. I tell people how the child looked up at me with thankful, ebullient eyes, and how the woman blessed me as I walked the train to Jaipur. I tell

Contribute to the diversity of public debate. Write to the Chronicle.
Sunflower House shines light on lives in need

By DOW YEH
Senior Staff Writer

Throughout the winter season, many less fortunate people find themselves in situations where they could use a helping hand. Corvallis Community Outreach, Inc. is an organization dedicated to helping these kinds of people.

Based at the Sunflower House, Community Outreach provides services including an emergency shelter, crisis line, food bank, medical clinic, counseling and multicultural assistance.

• **Multi-Cultural Assistance Program (MCAP):** This program seeks to improve relations in the community, affirm diversity and reduce cultural and language barriers to resources in the community. Bilingual and bicultural collection is provided to low income, non-English speaking people in translating important documents and interpreting information.

Many of the services at Community Outreach depend on volunteers from the community. The number for Community Outreach is 758-3000.

The Chronicle
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Oregon State University
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Staff
Meghan "Wheezie" Chadwick
Ethan "Wounded to know" Easley
Tracy "Susan and a friend"
Don "I love you" B.A.

"Photograph" Photos

Advisor
Winston
"The rep. is gone."

Corvallis

Submission is required of all the Chronicle office or emailed to chronicle@oregonstate.edu

Try to define time without using the word time in your definition. It is a fairly precipitous challenge which only those of the hardest intellect can face. Here at the Chronicle, we have started certain defeat in the eye after though bloodied and bruised, have come away victorious. Our spirits have not been broken. We defined time by simply ignoring it.

The Chronicle is published with complete disrespect for Father Chronos, but usually once a term. As always, all the usual disclaimers apply. Essentially, even though all the opinions expressed here are right, if you have the audacity to disagree, don't go running to the UHC office to complain. Instead, why don't you write a response? A letter to the editor? A flaming indictment of irresponsible journalism? Trust me, we'll print it. Hey, we might even stretch a deadline or two for you. After all, what is time?

Civil Rights activist Julian Bond to speak at OSU

By WINSTON COWNRALL
Chronicle Staff Advisor

If asked, "Who have been instrumental figures in the American civil rights movement?", most of us might reply "Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Andrew Young, Jesse Jackson," among others. However, if one were able to ask these leaders who they felt they have been key participants in the movement, many of them would respond, "Julian Bond."

Julian Bond has been a proponent of social change from his days as a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta. Bond was a founder, in 1960, of the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights (COAHR), the Atlanta University Center student civil rights organization. COAHR directed three years of non-violent, anti-segregation protests that won integration of Atlanta's movie theaters, lunch counters and parks. Bond served in the Georgia General Assembly though he received his seat only after a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Bond was first elected in 1965 to a one-year term in the Georgia House of Representatives following a court-ordered reapportionment of the legislature. However, members of the House voted not to seat him because of his outspoken opposition to the war in Vietnam.

In1968, Bond's name was presented as a presidential candidate by a Georgian delegation at the Democratic Convention. However, he withdrew his name because, at age 28, he would have been too young to serve.

Bond is the host of America's Black Forum, the oldest black-owned show in television syndication, and was a commentator for radio's By-line syndicated to over 200 stations.

Kareem

Jabbar's treatment of the unsung black hero. "It takes a lot of courage to do something that others will not do," Woods said. "There are always people working in the trenches, and those were the people Kareem was talking about."

Other audience members expressed dissatisfaction with Abdul-Jabbar's overall assessment of contemporary American racism. "He wasn't radical enough," said sophomore sociology major Smriti Ayal. "I think he was intimidated by the fact that the crowd was so white."

"I think it sucks that Kareem was one of the best basketball players that ever lived and he doesn't have a nickname," said UHC senior and library sciences major Chris Petersen.

Abdul-Jabbar fielded a variety of questions following his lecture. Inquiries ranged from how Abdul-Jabbar chose the historical figures for his book, to advice on other Black Americans about which to learn, to general questions about life on the road in the NBA. A large audience of faculty and students asked nurses Abdul-Jabbar's heroes are. "Jackie Robinson," Abdul-Jabbar said. "Even though I was from New York, my dad was a Brooklyn fan."

"Did you have a hard or easy childhood?" a small tow-headed boy asked. With a grin, Abdul-Jabbar said, "I had a hard childhood."

The most popular question of the night came from a five-year-old girl who asked, "How tall are you?" With a flourish and a smile, Abdul-Jabbar held his hand up over his head and said, "I'm this tall. Seven feet, two inches."
Erosion
illegally fired 11,600 striking air traffic controllers, the union movement has dissipated, leaving big business unencumbered to push for money and power that would have pleased Ghenghis Khan. Today real worker’s wages are down, jobs are moving overseas and south of the border and the gap between rich and poor is widening. Meanwhile, big business ‘has its hands over government and the media, the stock market is booming, executive salaries are quite comfortable. This is not the sort of element that I want funding my classes. Corporate America is notoriously lacking in its regard for legitimate public education much preferring to attack the public with a barrage of mindless advertising which can accurately be described as propaganda. Certainly these people are not likely candidates to ably fund a slew of Ethics or DPD classes. They are however, likely candidates for gaining control of the “propaganda” educational base that French scholar Jacques Ellul describes as necessary for stirring action from later propagandists.

In the end OSU is a research university, and always has been. Out of a $7.33 million General Research budget, only $25,000 was cut, a relative slap on the wrist. Undergraduate education gains little by our Carnegie I research status, especially in the CLA.

And because our very existence is a fiscal drain on the state, our needs are generally placed on the back burner. In such a setting, corporate America, through the selection of its own current mess, and while the president continues to attend power lunches with old men in imported suits, I urge you to focus on the big picture. Clink to your honor college and guard against the steady dissipation of your education. We are the determinants of this university’s legacy.

Railway Rules
item how I felt simultaneously powerless and powerful in my capacity to act. I also lie. None of those things ever happened. I just stood there entombed by the shivering crowd, and was basically never seen as much money as I carried in pocket change, reached across the platform, and handed it to the boy who asked on the platform, and crushed me. The mighty American. I was hurt, and angry. I resisted the strong urge to kick a boy that had flopped up to my feet, and instead stared rigidly down at my shoes, enduring long, hot, steamy showers. The rising gritty waters had deposited a foul ring about my ankles when the train finally pulled into the station at midnight. The dim and shadowy Indian railway engineers, I swore that next time I was going to buy a first class ticket. And then, without a pause, and without looking back, I played by the rules and stepped onto the train.

One panelist who opposed the Bella/Daniels motion was Dr. Roy Rathja, Assistant Dean of the College of Engineering. Speaking from a more personal and “pragmatic” slant, Rathja stressed the benefits of MECOP, a privately-funded internship program. According to Rathja, MECOP is “the only non-faculty sponsored program that HP/Texaco has.” He stressed HP’s strong belief in education, evidenced by HP’s annual donation of roughly $500,000 to “an engineering school,” i.e., a company that needs outstanding students, Cooper said. Cooper contended that HP’s goal was to stay involved in the university, not to sell its professors what to teach. In the future HP could endorse support for a more developed “engineering ethics” program, which is currently one of the standard programs for OSU engineers.

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UHC Forum
domestic and international education, have shaped educational and social change for the better. The following are examples of what can happen when communities work together to bring about positive change.

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Affirmative Action
opportunity issues,” said Stephanie Sanford, director of the Office of Affirmative Action in University Relations. “We can no longer afford to ignore these issues or the data that points to the need for continued affirmative action efforts.”

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