



Mayor Culliver Visits OSU Mansfield

Mayor of Mansfield Don Culliver took some time out of his busy schedule to visit with OSU Mansfield students during spring quarter.

The mayor fielded a number of questions and concerns, then discussed his career and how it led to the mayoral seat. Students peppered him with questions about housing issues, business development, politics and community gardens.

"I think the students appreciated the mayor's forthright approach to issues," said Rodger Smith, assistant director for university relations. "He draws very successfully on his community knowledge and political experience."

The session was arranged for the benefit of students by the Office of Student Life in cooperation with the student government.



Mayor Don Culliver meets with students to answer questions and discuss his community initiatives.

OSU-M to Offer Course on the Black Woman

A new course, **The Black Woman: Her Role in the Liberation Struggle**, will be offered at OSU Mansfield during Autumn Quarter 2008.

The course will introduce students to fundamental social, political, economic and ideological factors and conditions that have had an impact on African American women in the United States. It will further explore cultural images and perceptions of African American women and identify those who have participated in the liberation struggle.

For more information, contact Ketwana Schoos at 419-755-3910.

Blues Schoolhouse Musicians Perform Fantastic Show



Two powerful vocalists entertained a delighted audience and provided commentary on each number.

One of the most exciting events of this year's Black History Month featured the group Moving Blues Schoolhouse in a live musical performance tracing the history of blues music from its roots in African musical traditions. The event was held at Mansfield Senior High School auditorium.

From field hollers, work songs and spirituals, through urban blues and today's popular music, the program demonstrated how the blues musical form developed and reflects events in American social and cultural history.

The program's commentary was highly informative and the musicianship was outstanding according to program organizers. The audience found the show to be an engaging experience with songs from some of the great blues innovators, including the raw and powerful blues of Bessie Smith and Muddy Waters, the blues-influenced soul of Aretha Franklin and James Brown, and the revolutionary blues-inspired guitar playing of Jimi Hendrix.

An audience of close to 200 people swayed and sang as they recalled the great musical numbers brought to life by the musicians. The introductory commentaries helped the audience to fully appreciate the historical value of each piece.



OSU Mansfield Celebrates 50th Anniversary

The Ohio State Mansfield campus will celebrate 50 years in Mansfield during the 2008-2009 academic year. OSU classes first started in Mansfield in 1958 and were held at the old Mansfield Senior High School.

A number of activities and events will be held during the year in celebration of the anniversary. Upcoming autumn quarter events are:

- ❖ October 2008 – Art exhibition in Epperson Atrium of Riedl Hall featuring campus artists of the past 50 years, free.
- ❖ October 12, 2008 – Tony Pasquarello Piano Concert, “Fifty Years of Fabulous Favorites,” 2:30 p.m., Conard Performance Hall, free.
- ❖ November 3, 2008 – Distinguished Diversity Speaker Robert Moses with an emphasis on civil rights from voter registration to math literacy. Time and location to be announced.

Presentation Very Informative, Yet Unsettling

Arriving with a highly interesting presentation that was sometimes hard to listen to due to its graphic content, Dr. Rebecca Wanzo, OSU assistant professor of African-American and African Studies and Women's Studies, navigated through the life of Anarcha, one of the slaves upon whom surgeon J. Marion Sims conducted gynecological medical experiments in the 1840s. Sims' work eventually led to the development of the speculum, but at the expense of the poor and enslaved women he utilized for his work.



Dr. Rebecca Wanzo talked to a packed house about the lives of slaves and medical experimentations by surgeon J. Marion Sims.



Dr. Wanzo's amazing talk was part of this year's Black History Month activities, which continue to expand annually through the dedicated work of a campus and community committee.

Other activities during Black History Month featured a concert by Moving Blues Schoolhouse, a hip hop dance, a soul food dinner, Jim Lucas as Martin Luther King, and a choral concert featuring works by Black composers.

Campus Regularly Reaches Out to Minority Community

The External Relations Committee of the OSU Mansfield Board of Trustees continues to hold luncheon meetings with representatives of the minority community.

In April, about 40 community members, board members and college staff and faculty joined together for a periodic update. The group learned the recent Ohio Board of Regents report indicates the college's African American student population reflects 7% of the enrollment, comparing favorably with OSU Columbus. The figure places the OSU-M campus in second position among the four OSU regional campuses.

Student housing identifies 17.6% of the residents as students of color. With a diverse mix of residents from surrounding communities and northern Ohio, over 17% of residents are from Cuyahoga County, with many from the Cleveland and Youngstown areas.



OSU-M Trustee John Jordan speaks to the group.

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(Campus Outreach, cont'd)

Ketwana Schoos, the new multicultural coordinator, discussed our partnership with the Culliver Reading Center and the results of a volunteer event involving about 30 faculty, staff and students to help Habitat for Humanity.

Cheryl Canada announced the second FaReal Camp to be held during summer. This year's program has been expanded to 50 slots for students in grades 5-8 to study math/meteorology and theatre/physical education.

A discussion then ensued regarding The Algebra Project. Dr. Heather Tanner, associate professor of history, told the group about the program on math literacy originally developed by Robert Moses. The Algebra Project is considered the key to college and jobs.

Tanner informed the group that the project would

involve 20-25 students from the bottom of their classes who would work on math at least 90 minutes a day for four years. The campus has applied for a National Science Foundation grant to fund the project.



Staff member Shari Petersen (center) talks with Reverend Thomas Hunt (standing).

Accent!

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