



LAST WEEK FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

Deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 5 p.m.

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Obama's Historical Run

Black Studies
professor
brings insight

BY CHARITY PRATER
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sen. Barack Obama's nomination for president ranks with some of the greatest historic markers for equality in the United States such as the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery and the birth of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1929.

Now just a month away from the Nov. 4 General Election there is a real possibility that we will see the first black president elected.



Darrell Millner, a 33-year veteran professor of black studies and U.S. history at Portland State University, is hoping to witness such a glorifying event, but like other unknowns there are doubts.

“My generation grew up with racist policies as the norm, Millner told the Portland Observer. “It’s hard to believe that this country would elect a black man as president, but I think we are finally ready for that step.”

Millner compares the heated 2008 election to 1860 when Abraham Lincoln ran for the presidency.

Many Americans are praying that Obama wins, especially many older African Americans.

“If Obama wins then many people will feel invigorated, where if he loses many will lose hope in our political system,” Millner said.

On his educated prediction of the outcome of the contest, he replied, “If enough older Civil

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Darrell Millner, long-time Black Studies professor at Portland State University and student Kyra Maples count-down the days to register to vote in a national election that could result in the first black president.