

# Afro-America Department Opens in Fall

By CLIFFORD C. BEHNKE  
(Of The State Journal Staff)

The University of Wisconsin's new Afro-American Studies Department will begin its first semester this fall with four full-time professors and nine courses, according to Prof. Charles E. Anderson, department chairman.

Between 100 and 200 students are expected to enroll in each of the courses.

BY 1973-74, total departmental enrolment is expected to increase to between 2,100 and 2,400. The number of graduates from the program that year is expected to be about 25 or 30.

The department will grant bachelor of science and bachelor of arts degrees within the College of Letters and Science.

The department's creation marks the first time such a major will be available in a public institution in Wisconsin. Courses in black history, literature, politics, and economics will be offered this fall.

**THE PROGRAM** will expand during the year adding new courses as the demand for them grows.

Anderson said he expects "a goodly cross section of students to enroll in the courses. The total undergraduate enrolment in 14 similar courses offered by various departments in 1968-69 was 3,170.

Anderson said that two or three professors from outside the department will also teach Afro-American courses on a part-time basis.

**FULL-TIME** professors include O. Ronald Dathorne, Okon Uya, William Scott, and Gerald Thomas. Uya transferred from the UW's history department. The other three professors came from other institutions.

The initial formal recommendation for an Afro-American major was made Mar. 3, 1969, by a faculty group appointed specifically to review proposals on new curricula, especially in the field of race relations.

The original demand for a black studies program was made in February, 1969, by black students during a student strike.