

# 'Blk Life' asks for minority affairs officer

By CATHY CLARK  
Collegian Staff Writer

The first issue of a new campus publication, "Blk Life," asks University President John W. Oswald to appoint a vice president of minority affairs to lessen the responsibilities of the "one minority member in a key position."

University-minority relations now come under the office of Thelma Price, assistant vice president for student affairs for special programs and services. The office includes the Educational Opportunity Program, the Black Cultural Center and Community Awareness.

"For the overall welfare of the University and the survival of minority students financially and academically, a vice president of minority affairs is vital," co-editor Alfred D. Harrell writes.

According to Harrell, most universities have such an office that works efficiently within their administrations.

Other articles in "Blk Life", which is to be a monthly publication, cover religious, social, academic and financial affairs of the black students, and it includes essays by black faculty members.

"Blk Life" is the first

project of the Black Desk, an organization established and financed through the Undergraduate Student Government's Minority Affairs Office.

According to co-editor William McMillan, its main purpose is to "tell interested people what the black students are thinking and what they need."

Harrell and McMillan said they hope "Blk Life" will inform both the black and white communities of black cultural events which they said are often neglected by The Daily Collegian.

The 32-page magazine also includes original poetry and a survey of the top soul and jazz recording artists of 1973.

The response of blacks to "Blk Life" has been good, according to contributing editor Winter Chatman.

"'Blk Life' vocalizes black needs which would otherwise be left unsaid," she said.

In her article on the Jan. 17 meeting of black students with Oswald, Chatman writes, "To my amazement there are only 750 blacks here at University Park. Just one-and-a-half years ago that number had

been double or more. Now, if Penn State is supposed to have such a fantastic recruiting program for minorities, where are the programs to keep them here... Why have so many blacks dropped out of Penn State in the past two years?"

The next issue of "Blk Life" will be available in mid-April, free of charge, at the Black Cultural Center in Walnut Building, the black lounges and at the HUB desk. Anyone wishing to contribute ideas and articles can contact the Black Desk in Walnut Building.