

Evergreen

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WSU reacts to beating death of gay student

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

A gay college student's death from injuries sustained in a beating that has been denounced as a hate crime has prompted a response from WSU President Sam Smith and the WSU chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Allies Program.

Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old University of Wyoming student died Monday after spending the past five days in a coma resulting from an attack last Tuesday.

Police say Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney lured Shepard out of a bar in Laramie, Wyo., Tuesday telling him they were gay. After the three men got into McKinney's truck, police said the two men began beating Shepard.

The two men allegedly then drove Shepard

out of town, where they robbed him, tied him to a split-rail fence, continued to beat him with a .357 Magnum pistol and then left him in near-freezing temperatures. Shepard was not found until Wednesday evening, when a group of bicyclists discovered him, originally thinking he was a scarecrow.

Shepard died Monday at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colo., while on life support. His skull was so badly smashed that doctors could not perform surgery on him.

In a statement released Monday, Smith commented on Shepard's death: "Both personally and on behalf of the WSU community, I express sorrow on the recent death of Matthew Shepard, the University of Wyoming student. His death is, unfortunately, a reflection on those in our society intolerant of difference."

See DEATH on Page 11

Clinton denounces death

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Clinton condemned the beating death of a gay University of Wyoming student, saying that "crimes of hate and crimes of violence cannot be tolerated in our country."

Clinton called on Congress anew, even as it rushes to adjourn this week, to pass legislation making it

easier for federal prosecution of hate crimes.

The president spoke Monday after the death of Matthew Shepard, 21, who died five days after he was found pistol-whipped and lashed to a fence post in near-freezing temperatures outside Laramie, Wyo. Clinton talked with his family on Saturday.

Clinton decried the circumstances of Shepard's

See CLINTON on Page 11



Sports

Mencke is now in the driver's seat **Page 7**

Braves best Brown, Padres, series now at 3-2 **Page 7**

Jacksonville pulls off win against Miami on Monday Night Football **Page 7**

Opinion

It's ironic that the United States uses the death penalty **Page 5**

Correction

Due to reporter error, some remarks made by faculty author Peter Chilson on Friday were reported incorrectly. Chilson really said publishing is "unfair," not fun fare. His book is awaiting publication by the University of Georgia Press.

Quote of the Day

"Words are tricky things always. In the final analysis, the word is the biggest thing in the world. All the knowledge we have, everything we possess, is a collection of words which represents ideas, of course." *Jawaharal Nehru*

Today's Weather

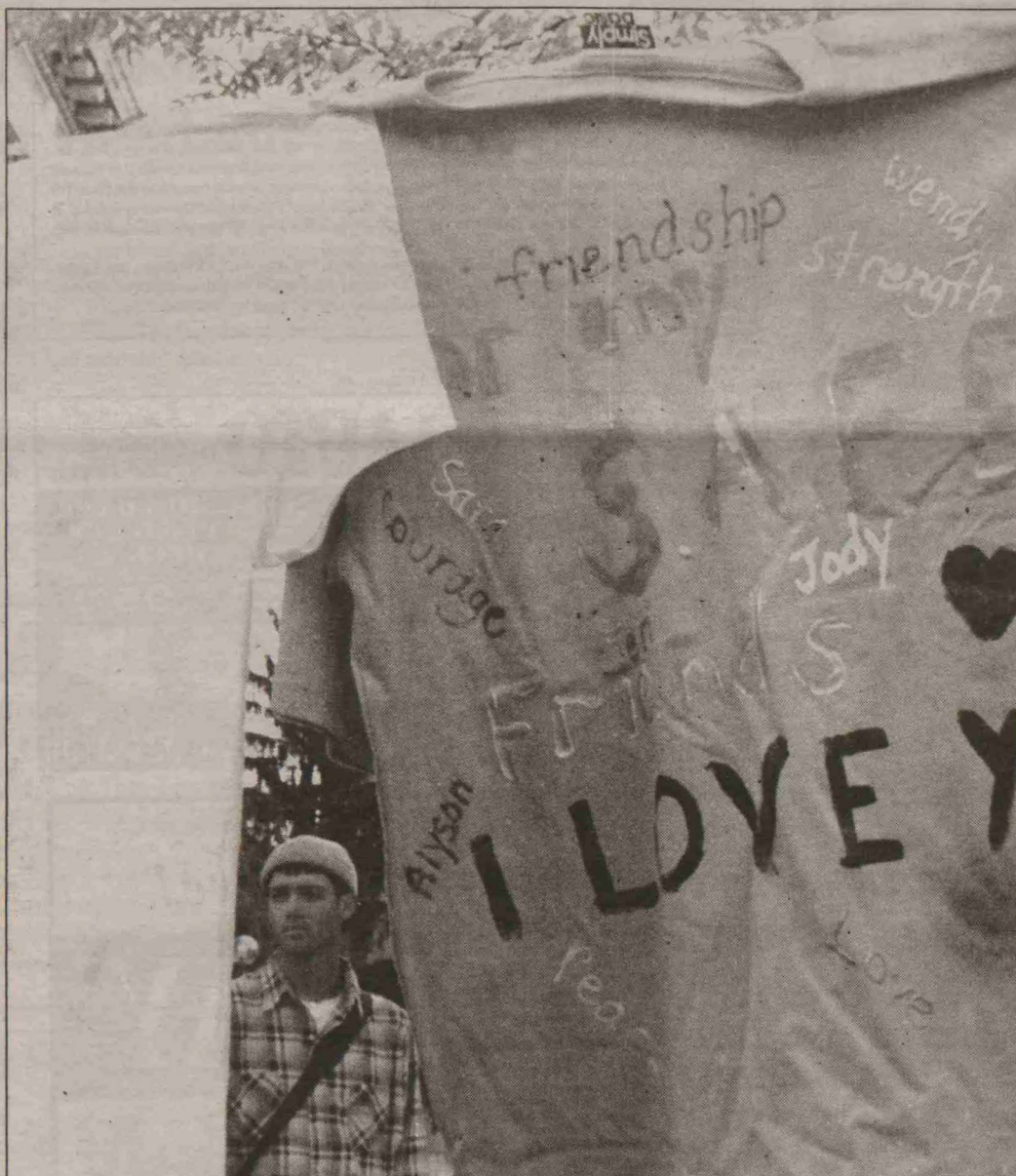


Sprinkles
H 64 L 45

Weather 2
Opinion 5
Sports 7
Classifieds 10

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Remembering the pain



STAFF PHOTO BY RACHEL E. BAYNE

The Clothesline Project began its annual presentation Monday. "It's a good way to get the message across," said Andy Kohler, a graduate student in environmental science.

Clothesline Project a healing process against violence

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Young Women's Christian Association of WSU will contribute to the "Week Without Violence" this week with its Clothesline Project.

The project consists of a series of clotheslines on which people who have lost a loved one or are survivors of violence can paint a T-shirt and then hang them along Glenn Terrell Mall.

The activity is meant to serve as an aid in the healing process after a violent attack and as a tribute to women as victims and sur-

vivors of violence.

Different colors on the shirts will represent violence women have witnessed or been experienced. White will be used for women who have died of violence; yellow or beige for women who have been battered or assaulted; red, pink or orange for women who have been raped, sexually assaulted or sexually harassed; blue or green for women survivors of incest or child abuse; and purple or lavender for women attacked because of their sexual orientation. Male survivors of violence also can

submit shirts for display.

While the colors are suggested for such situations, they are not mandatory.

In addition to the shirts, which will be displayed all this week from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., a variety of information also will be available on the Mall.

Anyone interested in painting a shirt for the Clothesline Project is encouraged to stop by the Women's Resource Center in Wilson Hall, Room 8, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or call the center at 335-6849.

U.S. Supreme Court clears execution

Gov. Locke refuses to grant clemency

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WALLA WALLA — The U.S. Supreme Court and Gov. Gary Locke late Monday cleared the way for the execution of a condemned man who said he enjoyed slaughtering a young boy and two women.

The high court voted 7-2 in Washington, D.C., to lift a stay of execution imposed Sunday by a panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The appellate court had raised questions about Jeremy Sagastegui's mental competency.

Shortly after the Supreme Court ruled, Locke refused to grant clemency. The governor could have commuted Sagastegui's sentence to life in prison without parole.

"There is nothing extraordinary in this case to merit leniency."

GARY LOCKE
GOVERNOR

"There is nothing extraordinary in this case to merit leniency," Locke said in Olympia. "Accordingly, I will not halt the execution."

Sagastegui, now 27, had said he wanted to be killed. The execution by lethal injection was scheduled for just after midnight Monday at the Washington State Penitentiary.

On Nov. 19, 1995, Sagastegui beat, raped, stabbed and drowned 3-year-old Keivan Sarbacher, whom he was baby-sitting at a friend's home in Finley.

Sagastegui then shot and killed Keivan's mother, Mellisa Sarbacher, 21, and her friend Lisa Vera-Acevedo, 26, when they arrived home.

Locke's clemency board split 2-2 last week on whether to recommend execution or life in prison.

On Monday, Sagastegui asked for a last meal of combination pizza, french fries, corn, jellied fruit salad, ice cream and an éclair, prison spokeswoman Mary Christensen said.

A panel of the 9th Circuit had ruled that evidence presented by Sagastegui's mother warranted additional hearings. Katie Vargas contended her son was mentally ill and not competent to make life-or-death decisions.

The state contended Sagastegui had been proven in several court-ordered examinations to be mentally competent.

But Sagastegui's mother presented "new and meaningful evidence that Sagastegui's mental state has deteriorated since the last state compe-

See EXECUTION on Page 11