

Smith appoints committee to develop policy for AIDS

by Sheryl Pace
Evergreen Staff

The medical community is working on an escalating problem for which there is no cure and no immunization.

AIDS is the problem, and the educational community may help contain it by teaching prevention.

Washington State University President Sam Smith has appointed a 10-person committee with representatives from the faculty, staff and students to develop a university policy on AIDS. The committee will also consider development of an educational program for the campus to begin fall semester of 1987.

Vice Provost for Student Affairs Maureen Anderson said, "National organizations in both student affairs and student health services have been calling for universities and colleges to develop comprehensive institutional policies for dealing with AIDS, if and when they have cases on the campus."

Education and prevention are the only "methods of attack" presently available, Anderson said.

She said an assumption of other campuses and the Centers for Disease Control is that everyone is at risk for getting AIDS since it is not known how it is spread.

But college students may be at a slightly higher risk because they are more sexually active.

The university's Health and Safety Committee last year recommended that WSU follow national guidelines in handling any AIDS cases. Those guidelines were developed by the National Center for Disease Control and the American College Health Association (ACHA). The recommendation was generally accepted, but did not become official university policy.

WSU policy will concentrate

on specifics, including AIDS-active students, professors and staff who work closely with students.

AIDS-active persons are those who have the actual symptoms of the disease, not just who are carriers of the disease.

Anderson said the committee will determine whether it agrees to follow the guidelines already set up by the ACHA.

It will then possibly formalize the policy and proceed with information dissemination and education.

She said it will be up to the committee to design a policy and program, but the plan will be implemented by WSU Health Services.

The program is not specifically aimed at students or employees, Anderson said; rather, the target is all WSU constituencies.

She added that the structure of the committee is designed to provide broad representation.

Committee members include Ken Abbey, assistant vice president for business; Dr. Betty Adams, director of Student Health Services; and Nancy Ahson, vice president Graduate and Professional Students Association; George Bettas, director of residence living; and Bill Cheevers, associate professor of veterinary microbiology and pathology.

Other committee members include Bill Gruber, vice president Associated Students of Washington State University; Ron Hopkins, vice provost; Annette Lopez, affirmative action director; Sally Savage, senior assistant attorney general; and Sandi Vibber, safety professional supervisor.

President Smith has asked the committee to submit recommendations by the end of the academic year.

According to an article in the Feb. 11 issue of *The Chronicle*

of *Higher Education* by Lawrence Biemiller, chair of the ACHA's AIDS task force, preventing the spread of AIDS "is entirely our (colleges') problem."

Although the number of AIDS cases among people in the traditional undergraduate age group is still small, Chair Dr. Richard Keeling said colleges are responsible because they are dealing with people who are young enough to change their sexual behavior before becoming infected.

In the same publication, Bruce Decker, chair of the State of California's AIDS Advisory Committee said, "The AIDS virus doesn't discriminate."

"It's an equal-opportunity virus," he said.

He added that many people are still in the denial phase. A lot of people who never had sex with someone they thought was at risk are going to die of AIDS.

An estimated 30,000 people in the United States have AIDS and the number doubles every 13 months.

To date, there are no known cases of AIDS in Pullman.

"We're not a high risk community," Dr. Adams said. "Statistics identify large urban areas as high risk."

But that is no reason for Pullman to be "smug," she added.

Since WSU has a transient population, it is the university's obligation to educate the young population about AIDS in preparation for when they leave Pullman — especially as AIDS spreads through the heterosexual population, Adams said.

Chair of WSU's Heterosexism Awareness Committee, Sheri Wyatt, said this type of topic is "always a problem," because "no information often leads to misinformation."

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Pianist to perform tonight

Pianist Jaime Bolipata, a performer with the Young Concert Artist Series, will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 17 at the Beasley Performing Arts Coliseum.

Bolipata was the winner of the 1983 Young Concert Artists International Auditions. He will perform works by Bach, Schumann, Beethoven and De Falla.

Tickets for tonight's performance can be reserved by calling the coliseum box office, 335-1514.

Who We Are program set

The YWCA and the Sexual Information Referral Center are cosponsoring a discussion group, "Who We Are: Relating to Our Lesbian and Gay Relatives," at 9 p.m. today in the Koinonia House.

The group was developed to generate dialogue and provide support for lesbian, gay and straight people who want to understand homosexual life-styles.

The meetings are held every Tuesday. For more information call 335-3916.

Program celebrates 20 years

The longest running series on public television, *Washington Week in Review*, will celebrate 20 years on the air at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27 on KWSU-TV 10.

The program will review highlights of its 20-year history with a panel of leading newspaper and magazine journalists.

Elephants' life to be discussed

Irven O. Buss, professor emeritus with the WSU zoology department, will report on the "Social Life of the Elephant" at the Washington State Retirees Association meeting at 1:45 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Youth Center, Pullman City Hall.

Buss received his graduate training at the University of Wisconsin and has been affiliated with the department of zoology at WSU for over 40 years. Buss is also the former chair of the wildlife biology program.

The public is invited to attend the lecture. For more information call Gardner Shaw, 332-2780.

WSU play starts Thursday

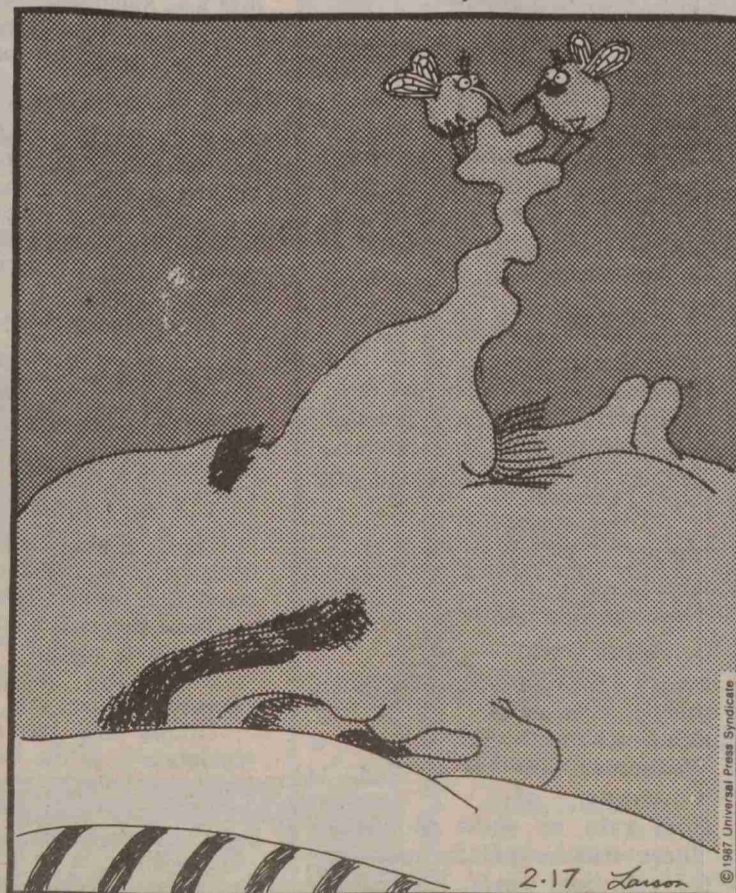
"Footlight Frenzy," a comedy about show business, will open at the WSU Theater on Feb. 19.

Performances of the show will be at 8 p.m. Feb. 19-21 and Feb. 26-28. Tickets cost \$4 or half price with student identification cards.

Tickets may be purchased or reserved at the Daggy Hall box office.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Well, that about does it for the nose — I'm starting to hit cartilage."

MEMO

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THE STUDENTS & FACULTY OF WSU
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We thought you should know that we've spent over \$25,000 in December and January on air freight charges expiditing textbook shortages due to class over-enrollments and last minute textbook orders. None of this expense was passed on to you, our customers.

We want you to know that we appreciate how stressful book shortages can be, and that we are doing everything we can to alleviate these added pressures brought about by the uncertainties of class enrollments and last minute switches in teaching assignments.

We thank you all for your patience during "Rush" and apologize for any inconveniences we may have caused you during this busy period!

THANKS!

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