

The Kapi'olani Newspress

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

THE KAPI'OLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWSWEEKLY

Volume # 38 Issue 17

Hawaii not prepared for locally generated tsunami

By Desiree Johnston
STAFF WRITER

The tsunami that hit South Asia on Dec. 26, 2004 opened many eyes in Hawaii to the possible threat of destruction and devastation if one should hit our shores.

Since the tragedy, people have started becoming more aware of the possible threat, yet the question still remains: how prepared is Hawaii if a tsunami should strike?

"I really don't know what I would do," said Grace Ramirez, a student of seven semesters at KCC. "I would head to higher ground I guess and I think there is a warning of about 2-3 hours."

Most people who die in natural disasters such as tsunamis are those who do not know what to do. In 1960 a tsunami hit off the coast of Chile. There was a warning system in place but no one was told what to do if and when a tsunami struck, and when the sirens went off, curious residents of the coast went to the shoreline to find out what was going on. The first wave, like most tsunami waves, was the smallest so people stayed thinking that was the only one. An hour later, the second and third waves started rolling in and 61 people were killed.

There are two types of tsunamis that pose a threat to Hawaii. The first is an offshore tsunami, which can be caused from an earthquake generated by any of the continents surrounding the Pacific Ocean (also known as the Pacific Ring of Fire). If generated it would take 5-10 hours to reach Hawaii depending on where the epicenter of the quake was located.

The second is a local tsunami. A local tsunami can be caused by an earthquake located off the Southern coast of the Big Island by the volcanic activity of Kilauea

INSIDE: Warning, page 8

ASIA'S DEADLY WAVE



KCC students gathering donations

By Diane S.W Lee
STAFF WRITER

One of the most destructive tsunamis recorded in history resulted in the destruction of more than a dozen nations in parts of South Asia and East Africa. The hardest hit areas were the southern coasts of India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Despite the fact that Hawaii is miles away from the disaster area, faculty, staff and students have been affected by the tragedy. It strikes closest to home for those who have relations in the victimized areas. Some people at KCC are natives, have loved ones there, or have been to the tragedy struck area.

Assistant professor of Japanese and coordinator of the International Café, Linda Fujikawa and Robin Fujikawa, professor of philosophy and religion, both learned the true meaning of the aloha spirit and hospitality while in Sri Lanka.

"Immediately after we heard about this tragedy, Robin and I were touched because we were engaged in 1983 in Sri Lanka," said Linda Fujikawa. We learned what real hospitality was in Sri Lanka. Additionally, it touched my heart because I was raised in Thailand from age 10

to 14. We used to go there for family vacations down to the beaches in the area of Phuket."

As there was no lack of the aloha spirit in the tsunami stricken areas, there was also no shortage of aloha spirit and hospitality here in Hawaii. There was an immediate statewide response in Hawaii's community, as Hawaii residents made local relief efforts through island churches and direct contributions to national organizations.

So far, the American Red Cross has already collected about \$385,000 in donations from Hawaii residents alone. The East-West Center Tsunami Relief Fund has received more than \$280,000 in relief funds.

Hawaii based military units also participated in the humanitarian effort by assisting in the relief and aid by delivering food, water and medical supplies to countries ravaged by the tsunami. Relief aid helped to speed the recovery of more than a dozen countries torn by the disaster, totaling over \$1 billion in donations. Global support from nations all over the world contributed to the humanitarian relief efforts, including donations from Australia, Germany, Britain,

Japan and United States among many others.

"We've never seen a disaster like this," said professor and chef instructor, Kusuma Cooray, who is also the Honorary Consul of Sri Lanka. "It was a surprise and it came so suddenly. Initially, I felt so alone, because I was thinking who would help us because we are such a small country and so far away. I didn't know who would help us initially at that time. But it's so unbelievable to get help from all around the world. They were so generous and started helping us right after the disaster struck. All the help and compassion from around the world, I don't know how we could have survived without them. I think the heart of the world opened up."

Even with school out of session, it didn't stop faculty, staff and students from collecting donations and supplies for the victims of the tsunami during the winter break. According to Cooray, there was an overwhelming response in the donation of clothes, dry goods, and medical supplies throughout the entire U.H. system soon after the call for donations.

"The response was so overwhelming," said Cooray. "We had three containers already, so we had to stop collecting. It's so comforting to

INSIDE: Charity, page 5

Oahu's 'Second City,' the mayor's plan for Kapolei

By Clint Kaneoka
EDITOR

Fifteen years ago, when government officials first envisioned the city of Kapolei, expectations were set high. Planning to create thousands of homes and government jobs by 2020 to help support this new community, officials often publicized Kapolei as being Oahu's "Second City."

However, since that time, the progress on Kapolei has been relatively slow. While thousands of homes have been put up in the area, jobs have been scarce, forcing residents to make long commutes to get to work, and leaving some to wonder if Kapolei is becoming Oahu's "Second Suburb" rather than its "Second City."

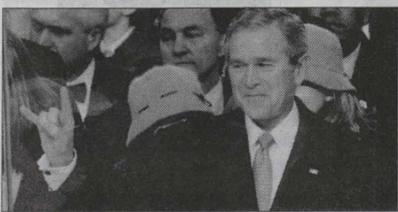
But despite past criticism, recent events have kindled a resurgence of interest in Kapolei.

"With the economy getting better, more people are investing in the area," said Theresia McMurdo, Public Relations Manager for Campbell Estate, the company in charge of developing the area. "It is the fastest growing region in the state, increasing in population by 60 percent over the last 10 years, compared to the -3 percent growth of Honolulu. I think people are seeing that it has the potential to become both the 'Second City' of Oahu, and a large economic stimulus for Hawaii."

One of Kapolei's biggest boons came recently when Mayor Mufi Hannemann indicated his support for its development by becoming the first mayor to be sworn in at Kapolei Hale, and vowing to work at least one day a week out of the Kapolei office.

"As the first mayor to be sworn in at Kapolei Hale, I plan to follow up on that symbolism with substance," said Hannemann in a commentary to the Honolulu Advertiser. "I will be working at least once a week in

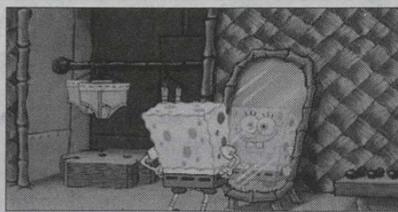
BACKPAGE: Kapolei, page 8



Rock on, Satan!

Norwegians, confused by the University of Texas Longhorns' salute during the inauguration, thought President Bush was saluting the devil.

Full story @ www.ap.com



SpongeBob GayPants?

Christian conservative groups have accused SpongeBob of promoting homosexuality in a video encouraging tolerance and diversity.

Full story @ www.reuters.com



Dumbo's Toilet Trained.

After teaching elephants to paint, dance and play musical instruments, trainers in Thailand are now potty training them.

Full story @ www.yahoo.com



Breaking up is hard to do.

The Supreme Court has said they will break up if Chief Justice William Rehnquist steps down.

Full story @ www.theonion.com



ILLUSTRATION KARI WRIGHT

EDITORIAL

The media's own disaster

Those watching any type of news in last three weeks are sure to know a bit or two about the tsunami in South Asia. The media did a good job of delivering the news. Both NBC and CBS sent their star anchors into the region and heavily promoted the banner "Live on the scene." So too did 24-hour news networks, FOX, CNN, and MSNBC. The media came, saw and reported. Everything.

They did such a great job that the fear of what's next loomed. What's next for the media once they have packed up and left? When the spotlights stopped have because the audience felt over saturated.

Of course, there will be a few journalists in the region to keep check on whether the United States keeps its pledge to the \$350 million aid package, or if any internal corruption that prevents that money from reaching those in needs. But if any story from

this to be made, it is sure not to be on the front page because the media thinks its audience is tired.

Already the New York Times reported that the famine in Darfur, Sudan had been shoved aside by the recent tsunami crisis. And soon, we expect the tsunami to be forgotten, or at least taking the back seat to politics unless the media keeps reminding the public of it.

It is important to consider the power of the news media. CBS's "60 Minutes" is notoriously effective in cracking down governmental wastes because it shines the spotlight where the government is too embarrassed to be honest. The media certainly has that power, but the real question is how will it use that power?

More than a year ago, an earthquake hit Bam, Iran with a 6.5 magnitude and leveled off 90 percent of the city. Since then, collapsed buildings still line the

streets. And because there was little media coverage following the event, "just \$17 million of the \$1 billion in foreign-aid pledges has come in," the Christian Science Monitor wrote this Jan. 5.

Yes, the president promised \$350 million, but it is Congress that will write the check. If Congress takes this pledge to the floor for debate, there is no telling how long before they agree.

It was very inspiring to hear the president's words and his colleagues in Washington. They all appealed to the heroic and ideal traits of the Americans. But the effect has worn out. It is time to match actions with words and the only way to know if words are kept is to have the media reminding them.

The Editorial is co-written by all editors of "The Kapi'o Newspress."



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SPEAK OUT

Do you think America has given enough in relief aid around the world?

Question and Photos: Berkeley Fowler



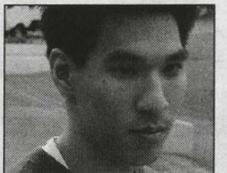
Yeah, I think they have. It seems to me whenever there is a world disaster, we bend over backwards to assist.

—Donna Lee



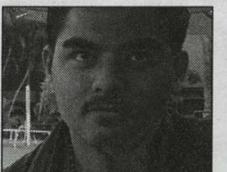
I think they do, but I haven't gone and seen the impact.

— Nicole Lam



Hard to say. America has a lot of power, they could give back more.

— Jason Tom



You can always give more. If people can give, keep on giving.

—Joshua Kanakole



Yes, I think we try to, they hold charity balls and fundraisers, as well as military help.

— Kyleigh Nakasone

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POLITICALLY CHALLENGED
 by Paul Kolbe



Africa needs a tsunami's worth of global aid

By Paul Kolbe
 NEWS EDITOR

It is said the dead are not forgotten. But if the dead were never acknowledged, then there is not much to forget. What the world has done is acknowledge the deaths of more than 225,000 people in the recent tsunami in South East Asia, while failing to acknowledge the deaths of over 3.8 million people in the Congo, 1 million or more in Rwanda, and 300,000-plus in the Darfur region of the Sudan.

The world has managed to raise \$5 billion in pledged donations for tsunami relief, but not even a fraction of that for wars raging through an entire continent. The war in the Congo has claimed more lives than any other conflict since World War II, half of them children. Over a thousand people a day die in this civil war that has lasted for six years. So where is the telethon? Where are the celebrity battles? I don't see George Clooney and Bill O'Reilly coming to blows over these victims.

I am not trying to diminish the needs of the tsunami victims, nor demean the contributions towards their relief. I even appreciate Clooney and O'Reilly putting aside their differences for the cause. What happened in South East Asia is a horrific tragedy, and it is a testament to global unity that so many countries have come together to lend aid. My question is: Why can we not do this in Africa?

Yes, the war there is complicated! Hutu tribes from neighboring Rwanda have used the Congo as a refuge from the wrath of the Tutsi tribes they massacred before being forced to flee. Nine countries surround the Congo, and many of them have been dragged into the fighting. There are so many different peoples and tribes and governments, that it's enough to make your head spin. It seems like a world away from us, with customs and people we could never understand. A place many could probably not even find on a map. Then again, most people had never heard of Afghanistan before a guy named Osama Bin Laden crashed two planes into the World Trade Center.

The world can and must overcome any obstacles that prevent aid from flowing into Africa. It is in our best interests to help the people of Africa. Not only out of basic human dignity, but out of security. The world clings on to notion that all terrorists are Arab, but the massacres raging in Africa are also a form of terrorism, and how long before a victim of these massacres blame the world for just letting it happen?

If we want to win the war on terror, we must help bring about a secure world!

This week in the funnies

A selection of comics from the national newstand



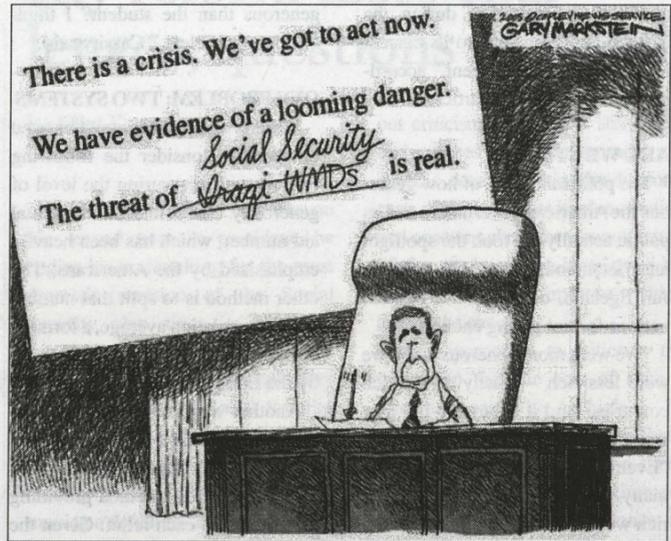
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Mike Kofe, THE DENVER POST, 4/20/05



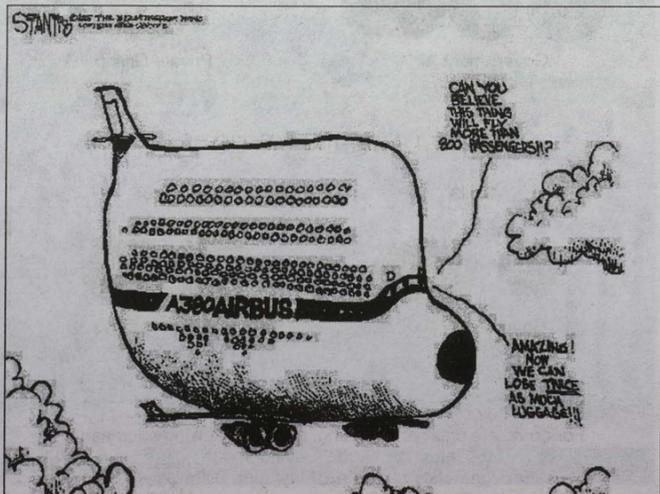
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Friends, can you spare loose change?

Southeast Asia's disasters raise questions about how generous Americans are.

By Vuong Phung
LAYOUT EDITOR

According to a 2001 poll by the Program on International Policy Attitudes at the University of Maryland, despite giving away billions of dollars away in aid, the U.S. government gives 20-plus times less than what its public largely perceives. The study found that the average American believes 24 percent of the national budget is spent on helping poor countries.

Statistically, the U.S. gave the most in the post-World War II era, as much as 2 percent of its gross national product, which was a figure of the nation's total trade income. That number declined to just 0.5 percent over the next two decades, and "fell precipitously during the Reagan administration to its current level of about 0.15 percent," according to a Boston Globe article.

ARE WE STINGY?

The political debate of how generous the American government and its public actually are took the spotlight late last month when U.N. official, Jan Egeland, criticized the western nations for not giving enough.

"We were more generous when we were less rich — many of the rich countries. And it is beyond me why we are so stingy really," he said. "Even Christmas time should remind many western countries at least how rich we've become."

Many U.S. officials and scholars disagreed. President Bush called Egeland "misguided and ill informed."

"Look around this campus, we are very generous," KCC political scientist, Dr. Joe Overton, said as he referred to Linda Fujikawa's fundraising for the tsunami victims which brought in about \$2,000.

The administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, Ambassador Andrew Natsios, said that Americans had contributed "a lot of money."

Speaking to PBS News Hour, he said, "while there have been some controversies over this, the statistics show...the United States gave 40 percent of all government assistance for international humanitarian aid for all countries in the world."

Yet the Center for Global Development says this aid package equates to about 2 cents per American per day.

"How much it is per American

seems to me to be irrelevant," Natsios said, "How much we give should not be based on how many people live in America or in Europe."

According to him, the U.S. has given the largest donations to the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Committee for the Red Cross, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The U.S. government also supplied aid through non-monetary ways, such as by providing airlifts so goods can reach rough terrains via its military infrastructure.

History professor Brian Cassidy disagreed. He said a donor's "level of resources must be factored in."

"If a poor, struggling student gives \$10 and Bill Gates gives \$10,000, does that make Bill 100 times more generous than the student? I think the answer is clear," Cassidy said.

ONE PROBLEM: TWO SYSTEMS

While which system could be used universally, consider the following two ways of measuring the level of generosity. One is to count the actual aid number, which has been heavily emphasized by the Americans. The other method is to split that number for the population average, a formula that had been used for about 55 years by the European nations.

Another way to look at these two different systems is to see the dollar-for-dollar method providing the content and the GNP method providing the context to each relief. Given the Asian tsunami disaster as the backdrop, the first system showed the U.S. government gave \$350 million in aid, and the second system was used to gauge their effort or attitude toward the event, which was about 1 cent per American per day.

Compiled in the May/June 2004 issue of "Foreign Policy" magazine, the aid given by the U.S. government in 2003 averaged about 13 cents per person per day while private contributions accounted for about 5 cents. The publication's study also contradicted Bush's recent claim that Americans are more generous through private donation channels as the report cited "public giving dwarfs private giving in all countries surveyed."

Overall, the publication ranked the U.S. as 7th on the list of the top 21 rich countries that helped the poor, upped from 20th in 2003, but still behind smaller nations such as Denmark, the Netherlands and Canada.

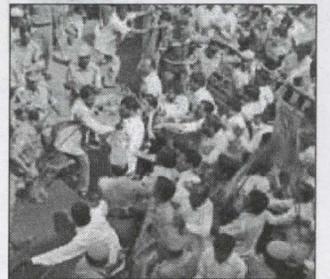
RANKING THE RICH 2004

The chart below compares government aid and private giving of seven countries on a daily per person basis.



For complete chart and ranking, see the following sources:
Center for Global Development;
Foreign Policy magazine, May/June 2004 issue

RECENT SNAPSHOTS OF EVENTS AROUND THE GLOBE



BBC

China recently mourned the death of former Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang. Ziyang, 88, was hailed for his efforts in helping to pioneer reforms that launched China's economic boom, but was later expelled from power following the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests. Highly respected by students, Ziyang was removed from power after opposing the use of military force against the protesters. Ziyang had lived under house arrest for the last 15 years leading up to his death.

In an attempt to prevent rocket fire on Israeli communities, around 3,000-armed Palestinian police were deployed across the northern Gaza Strip. The deployment comes after Israel and the Palestinians renewed security coordination earlier this week, raising hopes that the two sides have found a way to end more than four years of bloody conflicts.

At least 21 people are dead and dozens more are wounded after a couple of attacks in Baghdad. The first occurred when a car bomb exploded outside a Shiite mosque in Baghdad, where worshippers were celebrating a major Muslim holiday. The second happened at the wedding of a Shiite couple south of the capitol. The attacks seem to be in response to a recording by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, Iraq's most feared terror leader, who denounced Shiites in an attempt to create division ahead of the Jan. 30 elections.

Commanders in India have accused Pakistani forces of firing mortars into a village in Kashmir. Pakistan has denied these allegations, although it is the second time in a week that such accusations have been made. Though a ceasefire has been in place since November 2003, Pakistani separatists have been fighting Indian rule in Kashmir since 1989, as both sides claim the territory.

While Iran tops America's list as being a "potential trouble-spot" due to suspicions that they are building nuclear weapons, Iranian leaders, who reject contentions of such arms programs, said they do not believe that U.S. forces will risk a "lunatic" attack on their country. Although Iranian President Mohammad Khatami said Iran was fully prepared to defend itself against such an attack, he did not believe that the U.S. would mount such an offensive because they are already overstretched in Iraq.

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Charity:

Continued from page 1

know in this time of despair, sorrow, and sadness that people care."

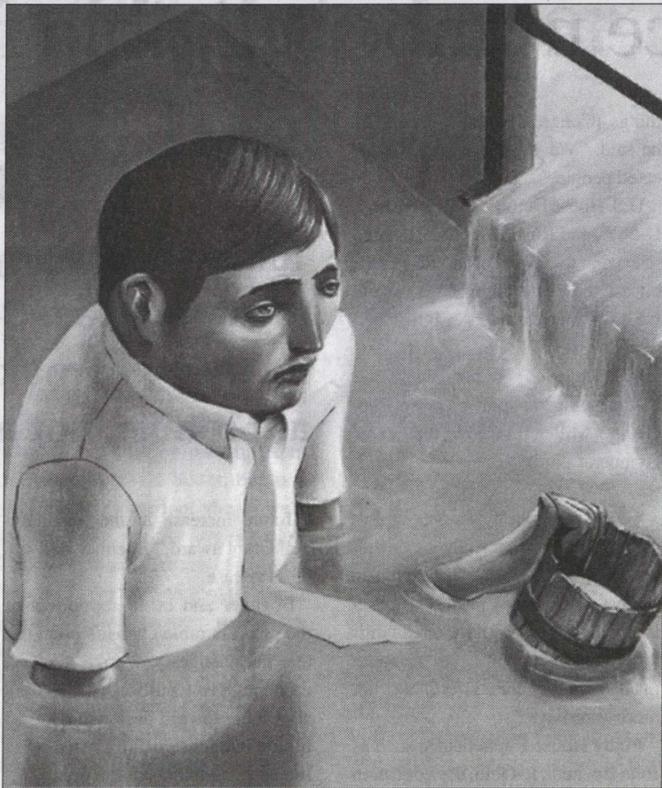
Other relief efforts were also made through the American Red Cross collection drive on campus. The drive, coordinated by Linda Fujikawa, was an effort to raise money through the International Café. In the first three days alone they raised over \$2,231 from faculty, staff and students at the collection table set up at KCC's cafeteria.

"I think it's good to donate. It helps them, because we can't go to Thailand. But I would prefer to donate clothing, food items and medicine instead of money," said KCC student Sunny Hsu.

According to the Fujikawas, a professor and her husband donated \$1,000 to the Disaster Relief Fund. Although the International Café hosted the project, there were times when volunteers consisted of faculty and staff members. Volunteers spent their free time helping to assist in gathering the donations and even gave out complimentary items to those who donated.

Volunteer and faculty member, Bruce Ryan Nakamura, gave donors a free handwriting analysis, while program director for dental assisting, Sheila Kitamura handed out complimentary toothbrushes to those who donated.

"I was moved because I have friends from Indonesia and Thailand who have lost loved ones



in this tragedy," said Kitamura. "The numbers are just mind-boggling. The images that I see on the news everyday are so heartbreaking. And up until participating in this as a volunteer, all I could do was pray."

Although the relief efforts will wrap up by the end of January, Linda Fujikawa said it won't just stop there. As an ongoing effort to show widespread awareness of the situation, she plans to continue an aloha table through the International Café. In addition, the 17th Annual International Festival will

be dedicated to the memory of victims of the tsunami. The festival will be centered around the theme "Humanity," which will help to raise international awareness about natural disasters and world culture.

"It is unfortunate to have such a devastating tragedy," said Linda Fujikawa. "However, tragedy sometimes brings the world together. There's hope for humanity. It is in each of you, one person to person. Gratitude and respect for all. Thank you to everyone who had contributed so far in so many ways."

GLOBAL OPINIONS BY THE NUMBERS

47%

of 21,953 people questioned now see U.S. influence in the world a largely negative, and view Americans negatively as well

None

of the countries polled supported contributing their troops to Iraq.

58%

of people and 16 out of 21 countries said Bush's reelection to the White House made the world more dangerous.

Source: BBC News

President's Social Security reform faces challenges, questions on need

By Clint Kaneoka
EDITOR

As George W. Bush embarks on his second term as president, he begins his undertaking for the most dramatic revision of the Social Security plan since its inception nearly 70 years ago.

Although many young people may not see the issue of Social Security as being in need of imminent fixing, the system's Board of Trustees has recently warned that they will begin running a deficit by 2018, and will be completely out of money by 2042, when workers now in their mid-20s begin to retire. To avert such a predicament, the Bush administration has proposed a radical plan to help resolve this problem.

The Bush plan calls for the formation of personal retirement accounts, which would allow younger workers to privately invest a portion of their Social Security taxes into diversified, government-approved funds. While these personal accounts would be voluntary, and those choosing to not to participate could still draw the same benefits as they have in previous years, the president believes that this new system would bring more financial comfort and stability to the growing number of retired Americans.

"Personal accounts give younger workers the opportunity to receive higher benefits than the current system can afford to pay, and provide ownership, choice, and the opportunity for workers to build a nest egg for their retirement and to pass it on to their spouses or their children" said Bush in his "Vision for Social Security" on the Whitehouse Web site.

Furthermore, Bush has cited some alarming statistics that illustrate the need for Social Security reform. According to Bush, today's 30-year-old worker will face a 27 percent benefit cut by the time they reach retirement age, yet will pay over 50 percent more in Social Security taxes.

But Bush's plan has not gone with-

out criticism. While it is still in the early phases of its development and specific details remain cloudy, forecasts of the cost of its implementation and concerns about the tenuous nature of the stock market have provided ample ammunition for those wanting to stop the changes.

Most worrisome to critics is the projection that the cost of such a transition could be as high as \$2 trillion over time. Along with these high costs, many also remain skeptical of allowing their retirement income to hang in the balance of how well their picks perform in the stock market.

"I don't know much about Social Security, but I do know that I don't want a stock market crash to leave me broke when I am too old to work," said Stacey Urata, an art major at KCC. "For \$2 trillion, couldn't they think up something that would be more guaranteed?"

Yet, the Bush administration remains steadfast in its belief that the privatization of Social Security is the best and most cost effective way to go.

"Doing nothing to fix our Social Security system will cost us, as well as our children and grandchildren, an estimated \$10.4 trillion, according to Social Security Trustees," said Bush. "The longer we wait to take action, the more difficult and expensive the changes will be."

Moreover, while questions loom as to whether the stock market is too volatile for such an investment, proponents of the change sight that history has proven that the stock market has consistently increased over the long term. With an average annual return rate of 7.56 percent gained through stocks, this is a far cry from the 1-2 percent that Social Security offers.

Additionally, the president has pointed out that even during the Great Depression, stocks still grew at a rate of about 3 percent, making the worst case scenario still more profitable than the current Social Security plan.

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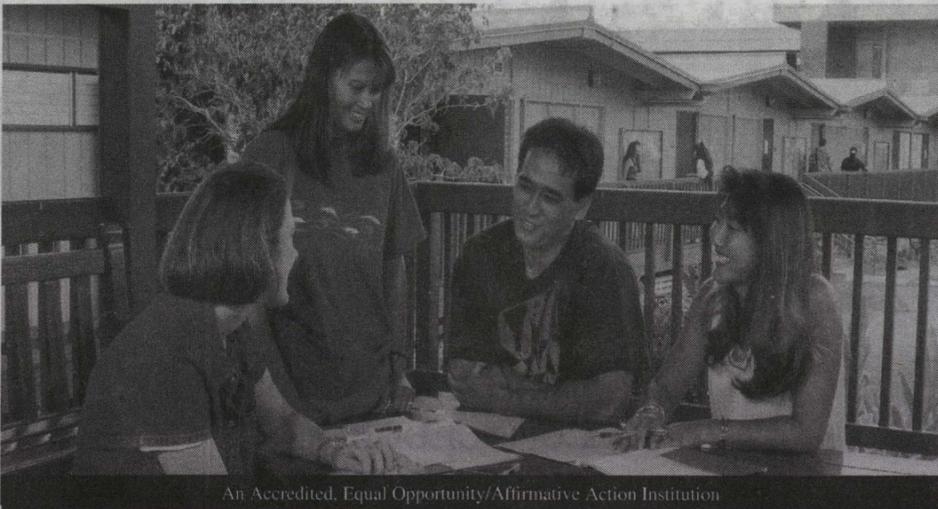


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New tax tables reduce number eligible for grants

By Jesly Mathew
OKLAHOMA DAILY (U. OKLAHOMA)

(U-WIRE) NORMAN, Okla. — Over the holidays, college students received a different kind of gift from Congress — new rules which will eliminate or greatly reduce the amount of financial aid received from federal Pell Grants for the 2005-2006 school year.

On Dec. 23, two days before Christmas, the U.S. Department of Education set the new state and local tax tables to be used in calculating eligibility for Pell Grants. About 89,000 applicants eligible for a Pell Grant under current tax tables will lose their grants using the new tables, and an additional 1.3 million students could see a Pell Grant reduction anywhere from \$100 to \$300, according to the American Council on Education.

Unlike a loan, a Pell Grant does not have to be repaid. The Pell Grant program is the most highly funded federal financial aid source for college students.

The University of Oklahoma Financial Aid office has applied the

updated tax table changes to predict how many students here will be affected by the change.

Out of about 4,600 students who receive the grant each year, "152 would lose it entirely, and approximately 3,000 students would have their awards reduced by \$100 to \$300. The total loss to the university would be \$350,000," said Pam McConahay, director of Compliance, Training and Lender Relations.

Students are losing their Pell Grants because of the way eligibility for financial aid is calculated. The formula is based on the expected family contribution, which determines how much a family can contribute to tuition. The formula takes into account the family's income and subtracts the taxes the family pays each year. The new tax tables may reflect tax data from 2002, when taxes were lower, so families are now paying higher state taxes, but they won't get credit for it when applying for Pell Grants.

Eric Holderby, University College freshman, said he believes it should be a priority for the government to provide funding for education.

"I think education is one of the top

things [Congress] should fund for," he said. "We want a nation of educated people."

U.S. House Democrats Tim Bishop, D-N.Y., and Rush Holt, D-N.J., have reacted to the eligibility cuts by introducing the Restoring College Access for All Americans Act, a bill which would restore funding to students affected by the new tax tables. The bill is being co-sponsored by Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., the senior Democrat on the education committee.

"With this bill, we are trying to prevent Republicans from raising the price of college," Miller said in a press release on the bill. "Tuition is already far too high for most families. Congress should be trying to make college more affordable, not more expensive."

Many House Republicans, such as John Boehner, R-Ohio, the Education Committee chairman, are opposed to the bill.

"The Democrats' bill would cheat taxpayers and poor students alike if it were ever enacted. It would wrongly add hundreds of millions of dollars to the current Pell Grant budget shortfall and further delay any hopes for

Tuition is already far too high for most families. Congress should be trying to make college more affordable, not more expensive.

a future increase in the maximum Pell Grant award," Boehner said in a press release.

Boehner and other supporters of the new tax table changes point out that the changes will save the government \$300 million, which will contribute toward decreasing the \$3 billion budget shortfall caused by an increased demand for the grant.

Those opposed to the tables' changes are concerned that the tax rates used are not indicative of current tax increases and that the maximum awarded amount can not adequately provide for students' education.

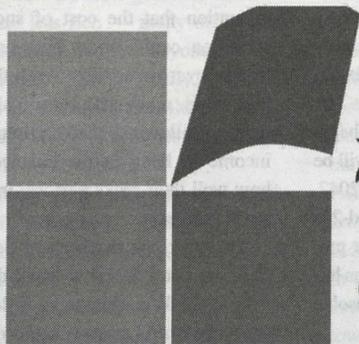
The addition of partisan politics to the issues of federal funding has fur-

ther complicated the legislation.

The tax tables were set to be updated last year, but an amendment to the budget sponsored by Sen. Jon Corzine, D-N.J., moved to block the update of the tax tables for this school year. This November, however, lawmakers did not approve the Corzine amendment, leading to the recent cuts in student eligibility.

"If it's cutting people's funding, then it can't be fair in some way," said Todd Arnold, political science sophomore.

The maximum award granted has been frozen at \$4,050 for the 2005-2006 school year.



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'Smallville' blends super powers with teen angst

By Paul Kolbe
 NEWS EDITOR

Like most kids, I grew up idolizing Superman. His powers, his goodness, it all seemed like the way it was supposed to be. What a man was supposed to be. But along the way something changed. I became more aware of the world around me, and if you grew aware during the 80s, you realized the world was no comic book. It was the height of the self-absorption of the masses. The Cold War and Reaganomics had every American looking out for number one as a state of mind. A goody-too-shoe like Superman, or anyone like him, was impossible to relate to. I began to gravitate to Batman, who seemed more realistic. He was human, vengeful and his violent methods suited the atmosphere of the time.

Recently, something has awoken my long lost love for Superman, and that something is "Smallville." Not only is "Smallville" the best comic book-based show ever made, it is also the best show on T.V.

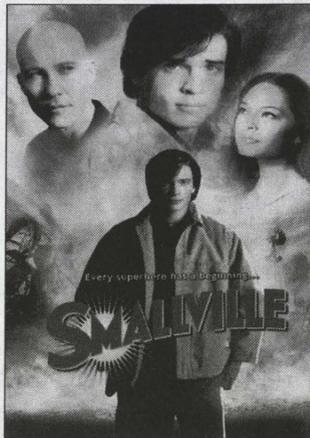
Part primetime soap, part "X-Files," "Smallville" manages to balance the line between superb special effects, and stories and characters which envelop you. This is due in no small part to the incredible cast of actors.

Miles Millar and Alfred Gough, who created the series, have managed to assemble a cast so convincing, that putting others in the roles for the upcoming Superman V movie seems ludicrous. Tom Welling as Clark Kent almost inhabits the role by playing Kent not as some Eagle Scout, but as a young man scared of the powers he possesses, and the urges he has to misuse them. Unsure of his destiny, and why he was sent to Earth, Kent uses his powers to help a people he could easily conquer, and he knows it.

Michael Rosenbaum plays Lex Luther, and while we know he will become Superman's nemesis in Metropolis, in "Smallville" he plays Kent's friend, and a man who fights for his own destiny to be like his father, the vicious Lionel Luther played by John Glover.

Watching the dynamics between Luther and Kent is so much more interesting since we know what will eventually happen. Despite this, the audience may find themselves rooting for Luther, hoping he can overcome the influences around him, and somehow turn out on the good side.

The fact that fans know what eventually will happen is what makes the show so addictive. We know Kent doesn't end up with Lana Lang, played by Kristin Kreuk, yet we can't help but smile



as they bungle their way through teen crushes and love – one of the many influences which shapes the soon to be Superman. And through it all Kent makes the right choices, despite the potential to do otherwise.

Maybe the world is again mimicking the era of the 80s, and we need a non-morally ambiguous hero, or perhaps Kent's inherent goodness is what gets fans so lost in the show. While Bruce Wayne may remind of us of who we are, Clark Kent reminds us who we truly could be. We relate to Batman but want to be Superman.

"Smallville" Season 4 airs each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on The WB. Seasons 1-3 are available on DVD.

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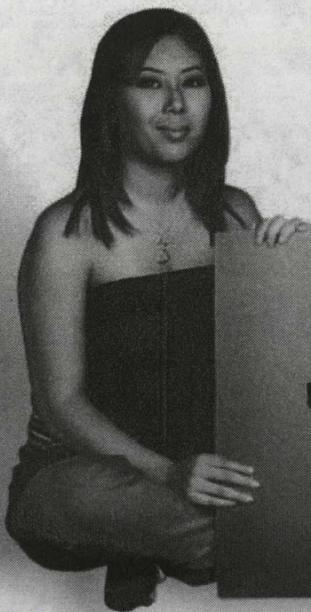
Many companies are looking for seasonal employees for the upcoming holidays. Check out some of the following websites:

www.Careers.heco.com– Hawaiian Electric Company; clerical positions now open

Check out the following websites for more job opportunities for UH students.

www.sece.its.hawaii.edu (UH username and password required for registration to access information)

For more information contact the Job Placement Office.



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Kapolei:

Continued from page 1

West Oahu to see first-hand how the community is evolving and the challenges it's facing. Kapolei represents an exciting new direction for Oahu, and I expect that a stronger presence by the administration will help us realize our plans to encourage more business growth in that region."

The state has also been adding to the push for Kapolei's development by recently opening up three schools and a library for use by residents. Furthermore, it has already created or relocated over 1,500 government jobs, and has plans to construct a \$95 million family court and youth detention center which would add another 600 government jobs, along with hundreds of additional private ones.

Also scheduled for the near future is the development of large shopping center. According to developers, the shopping mall would be an open-air center with retailers, restaurants, and entertainment venues on a scale

The last time a new city was built here was Honolulu, so we expect it to grow gradually. This is an ongoing process that doesn't happen overnight

similar to that of Kahala Mall.

Currently, officials see Kapolei growing by 3,000 homes by 2010, and increasing by 30,000 in population by 2020.

"This is a long range plan," said McMurdo. "The last time a new city was built here was Honolulu, so we expect it to grow gradually. This is an ongoing process that doesn't happen overnight."

Warning:

Continued from page 1

"This is what scares us the most," said John Cummings of Oahu Civil Defense Agency. "A tsunami coming from the Big Island would only give us 25-30 minutes to get out of harms way. This could be disastrous in an area like Waikiki, which takes 3 hours to evacuate."

In 1949, Hawaii constructed the Pacific Tsunami Warning System, the best in the Pacific to date. Unfortunately this system is only really effective in the case of an offshore tsunami.

The warning system monitors ocean height and tide surges and will send information to stations throughout the Pacific via satel-

lite. Although the system is accurate enough to tell when a tsunami will hit, it is not accurate enough to determine the exact size of the wave.

When a wave is detected, the Oahu Civil Defense Agency will sound an alarm - the same sound that we hear when they test the system on the first working day of the month. The first siren will last for three minutes and will denote a three hour warning until impact. It is the state's responsibility to direct everyone out of the evacuation area indicated in the yellow pages.

"It is really important that everyone familiarizes themselves with these maps," said Cummings. "If you or your house is in an evacuation zone you have to get out."

After the wave hits, power will

be disconnected and essentials such as food and water will be few and far between. As is the case in South Asia, knowing where to go to get out of harms way is only half the battle, the next struggle is being able to survive after the crisis.

"It is the responsibility of everyone in Hawaii to have a 5-day survival kit including food and water," said Cummings. "The most important thing to keep with you is a radio since the phone lines, including cell phones, will be down and we will be broadcasting instructions over the airways."

To learn more about how you can prepare yourself for a Natural Disaster you can visit the Oahu Civil Defense Agency Web site at www.honolulu.gov/ocda/planning.

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