

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT, TAKE BACK THEIR LIVES

By Garrison

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people get away with sexual assault – typically the victim is too scared to tell anyone incident or the person told doesn't believe of the encounter.

ent called "Take Back the Night" encourage victims to stand up for themselves by someone or using self-defense techniques.

are resources out there if victims need someone other than a police officer or a social about an assault. The Sexual Assault Center can be reached at 503-640-5311.

o a 24-hour hotline that goes to any ER or ment agency to provide advocacy for sur- hours a day, and we offer free counseling," Nelson, volunteer program manager for "We are confidential; whatever you share is private, and all resources are free."

ing to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National "One in six women and one in 33 men victims of forcible rape in their lifetime. ge women are four times more likely to be assaulted."

o two minutes, someone in America is assaulted. Approximately 73 percent of rape now their assailant," and – perhaps the sad- of all – "only 6 percent of rapists will ever y in jail."

omestic Violence Resource Center located gton County serves the Portland metropol- y providing counseling to people who have ed domestic violence. It can be reached at 352.

ices are not offered 24 hours a day like that ual Assault Resource Center, but the orga- good for getting a personal counselor.



ABOVE: Women light candles in honor of those who have been victims of sexual assault.

LEFT: A brother and sister share a moment of peace after the "Take Back the Night" march.

BELOW: A mother attending the demonstration shares her candlelight with her child.



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On average, Marcus enrolls in about three classes each term, anywhere from 9 to 12 credits. For a student taking 12 credits, tuition costs an upward of \$744 without adding in student fees. Upon the onset of the tuition boost, he will pay anywhere from \$20 to \$40 more to go to school.

"Some people may think, 'Well, \$40 is not a lot of money,' but for me, that is almost a week's worth of gas," he said. "It's practically a quarter of my monthly transportation budget."

The increase is part of Clackamas' plan to fix projected budget deficits that have been plaguing administration conversations since the end of last year.

"It is part of what we are doing to address our budget issues," said Baldwin van der Bijl, vice president of instructional services. "It is one of the things we are doing to generate revenue."

Truesdell was unavailable for comment last week, though at the February board meeting she expressed her feelings that the increase was best for Clackamas, which would help the school to provide more options and benefits for its students.

At the board meeting this past Wednesday, the proposed budget for the 2008-2009 school year was laid on the table for examination. According to a packet prepared by the Budget Committee, the raise in tuition will produce \$675,000 more a year.

In spite of concerns brought up in the February meeting, the board unanimously agreed on the increase at the March meeting.

"I'm not sure if they realize what a difference this will have on students like me," Marcus said. "Last time I checked, there were complaints circling about enrollment issues – does raising tuition really make people want to come here?"

The question of whether the rise will impact enrollment was not thoroughly discussed at any of the board meetings. The fact that Clackamas will remain the cheapest option in the Metro area was the selling point.

Nonetheless, the budget memo provided by the committee blamed parts of the financial problem on last year's 5 percent decrease in enrollment. With the country in recession, there is a high chance that the percentage will slip again, as community colleges around the state suffer plummeting student enrollment, according to the Board of Education.

The budget, which will be approved sometime in May, is still undergoing changes. Students are invited to speak out at Truesdell's fireside chats. The next one will be held April 16 at 2 p.m. and 22 at noon.

Yet, it appears that the change in tuition cost is set in stone, since it has been authorized by the board, which leaves many wondering where the student advocates were in the budget process. Associated Student Government President Tim Lussier did not respond to e-mails or phone calls left by *The Print* regarding the subject.

"Decisions like this never hit home to the people who are involved in the decision-making," Marcus said. "Most of them had the backing to go to college. Students who work hard to make the money to go to school often are the ones who are forgotten, and the people who are supposed to speak up for us don't ever have something to say because it doesn't really affect them."