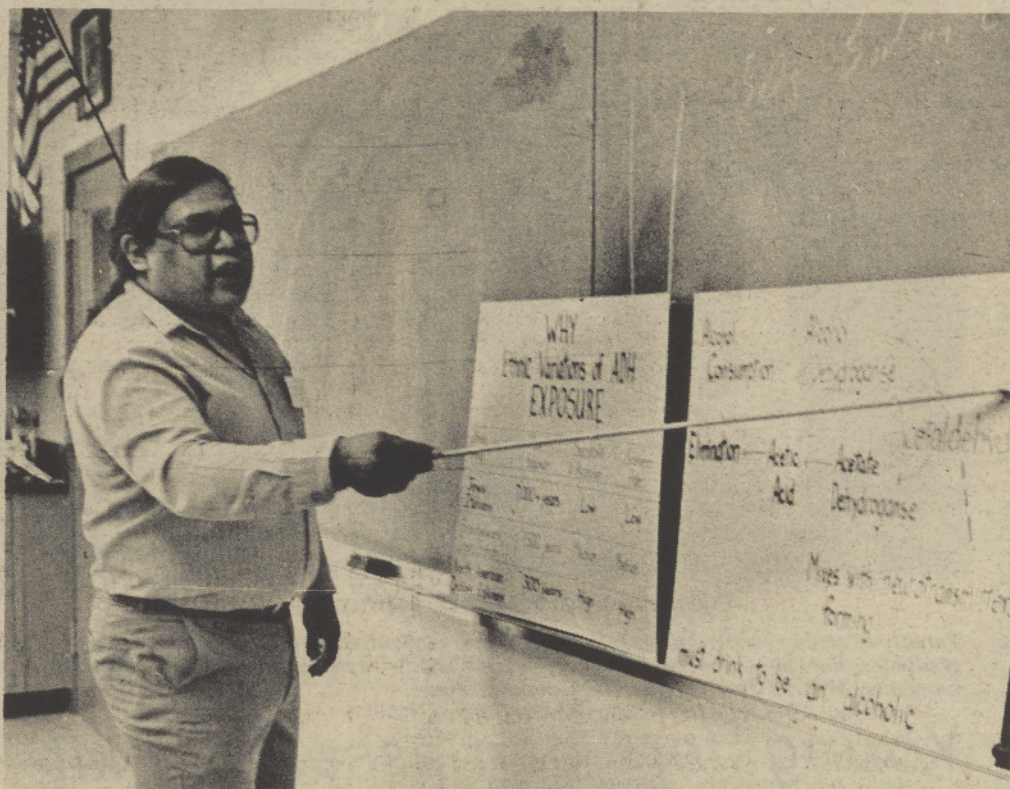


You don't need to drink to be liked



Willie Fuentes points out reasons for ethnic variations causing alcoholism to be predominate in one group and not another. Native Americans have been exposed to alcohol for only a short time Fuentes explained, not yet establishing a physical means of coping with its effects nor an immunity to the disease of alcoholism.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk



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Adult volunteers are tested hourly on an intoxilyzer to determine blood alcohol level. Gloria Alire blows into the machine.

The story of a drunken driver killing and injuring innocent people in a motor vehicle accident is not a new one. There is no assurance "that you will be here tomorrow," Oregon State Police district training officer Dennis Dotson emphasized while speaking to students during Alcohol Awareness Day, March 19.

The all-day workshop aimed at high school and Jr. High students and their involvement with drugs and alcohol brought experts before the students to show them the danger of abuse.

Six goals were outlined for the Awareness Clinic. They included: To discourage students from driving while intoxicated; To discourage students from riding in a car with an intoxicated driver; To encourage alternatives to drinking; To inform students of the effects of alcohol; To encourage students to get help

if they have an alcohol or drug abuse problem; and, To encourage a community-school alcohol intervention system for teens that provides treatment and follow-up.

Workshops attended by students focused on problems they sometimes have to deal with. Some topics were decision making, results of drunk driving, effects of alcohol and drug abuse on athletes, susceptibility to alcohol among native Americans and effects of alcoholism on the family.

Four adult community members volunteered to participate in an experiment conducted for students by Oregon State Police Representatives. The volunteers drank liquor throughout the day under the strict supervision of individual coaches. They were

given Intoxilyzer tests and coordination tests hourly.

By the end of the day students could see the physical effects of alcohol consumption. They decided for themselves that these people were not physically or mentally fit to drive a car.

Throughout the day workshop leaders and speakers emphasized to students that "you don't need to drink to be liked," as former Trailblazer basketball player Kermit Washington told students. He stressed to them that they must believe in themselves and they must know who their real friends are. Friends are the ones that care about you.

Students learned through Awareness Day that many people do care about them. Supplying them with the facts about alcohol abuse is one of the ways the 509-J district and the community showed that they really do care.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Results of tests conducted throughout the day on adult volunteers are posted for students. These results informed students of the effects of alcohol consumption during this controlled experiment. Taking note are Connie Johnson (front) and Jerry Polk.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Answering a series of questions such as "do you take a drink to feel more comfortable," helps a person determine whether or not he or she has a drinking problem. Reatha Johnson answers questions during workshop.



Former Trailblazer basketball player Kermit Washington speaks to students during workshop discussing the effects of drugs and alcohol on the athlete.