

Students hear
from official
who is ...



A Clark College student receives a pin during Secretary of State Sam Reed's speech to students about the importance of voting.

MAN WITH A MESSAGE



Photos by N. SCOTT TRIMBLE/The Columbian

Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed spoke with Clark College students in the Penguin Union Building lounge on Friday. He stressed the importance of voting and shared details of the state's electoral system.

Secretary of State Sam Reed encourages young people to vote

By **HOWARD BUCK**
Columbian staff writer

Since 18-year-olds won the right to vote in 1971, much effort has been made to boost voting turnout in the U.S., with mixed results.

Many young people remain on the sideline, despite high enthusiasm during campaign season.

On Friday, Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed stopped at Clark College, near the end of his weeklong 28-campus road trip intended to break that trend.

He partnered with students for Washington's

third annual College Civics Week, designed to promote civic responsibility and voter education. Along the way, students organized discussion panels, voter-registration drives, barbecues, pancake feeds and classroom visits. There even was a game show, "Are You Smarter than Sam Reed?"

"We hope to capitalize on the remarkable spirit of this generation," Reed, A Republican, said in an advance statement. "They're dedicated. They're savvy. They're civically engaged."

Time will tell, when voters weigh in during the state's Aug. 19 primary and Nov. 4 general election.