Students assist with Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF

The children's fund will give half of its Halloween donations to help survivors of Hurricane Katrina

BY MATT CHABAN FREELANCE REPORTER

The rainy Oregon weather did not deter trick-or-treaters from traversing Eugene on Monday night for a hallowed American tradition.

A handful of University student groups seized Halloween as an opportunity for community service.

Alpha Phi Omega, Presidential Student Scholars Association, Clark Honors College Student Association and the Druids took part in this year's Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, which has raised more than \$127 million for the United Nations Children's Fund since 1950, according to the United States

Fund for UNICEF, which organizes the program. The volunteers trick-or-treated for donations instead of candy, which was donated to UNICEF.

"It's something fun, a nice alternative to being a glutton and stuffing yourself with candy," senior Alletta Brenner said. "I certainly think it's a good thing for kids to do, to give them a broader perspective on the world."

This year is a first for Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF because 50 percent of all funds will go to help survivors of Hurricane Katrina. Never before has the United Nations given aid to the United States, but when Secretary General Kofi Annan offered support earlier this year, the United States obliged.

Druids President Annette Maready, a junior, had mixed feelings about the decision.

"With the giving to the (Red) Cross and other U.S. aid programs, I wish more of the money was going to foreign causes. But at the same time, it's good people are getting help who need it," Maready said.

The sight of the University students excited most Eugeneans once they recovered from the initial shock of college-age kids at their door.

"Come on Val, be better than that," Eugene resident Dan Close told his wife when she did not give much from a special bowl the couple had set aside for UNICEF.

"It's a nice way for older kids to be out and not be inappropriate," Val Close said.

As the students wound their way along a trail of porch lights, the rain began again, harder than usual.

"It's spooky," freshman Jessica Frazier pointed out.

"With costumes, it's definitely complicated," added her companion, freshman Rocio Petersen who was dressed as Minnie Mouse but had left the ears in her residence hall room so her hood would fit.

One woman saved pennies for a few months, enough to nearly fill one of the paperback-sized collection boxes, said senior Sarah Koski, copresident of the PSSA.

"Our arms were getting sore by the end of the night," she said. "A lot of people were unprepared for UNICEF, but they went and emptied out their pockets."

Just down the street, Alpha Phi Omega members were making their way through the east University neighborhood. The group has trick-or-treated for canned food in the past but opted for UNICEF this year because the cans grew too heavy and cumbersome, senior Heidi Rivinus said.

Rivinus, who planned the Alpha Phi Omega event, got the idea from activities she did with a group in high school. She said she especially likes that Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF helps a more worldwide cause, something her fellow students agreed with.

"I love a good cause, and if I can't go trick-or-treat for candy, I'll go for money," sophomore Gwyneth Gilkeson said.

IN BRIEF

ASUO president runs for neighborhood council

ASUO President Adam Walsh is set to become the new chairman of the West University Neighbors at its meeting tonight.

The group will hold elections, and Walsh, currently a WUN board member, is the only candidate for the office.

The WUN charter states that 20 people, including the board, must be present to carry out official business, such as voting. If not enough people show up at tonight's meeting, the WUN will have to hold the election later.

"We want to get a good turnout for the elections," Walsh said. "It's important for people to choose who the new neighborhood leaders will be."

Walsh said he hopes to bring more students to the organization and make it a place where residents can discuss issues and learn about the neighborhood and the city.

"I want to have people come in, like the chief of police and the mayor, and give people a better idea of how the city runs," Walsh said. "There's a lot of information to be had."

Current chairman Drix Rixmann has confidence in Walsh's ability to lead the WUN after working with him on the board. Rixmann said Walsh successfully mediated a disagreement with community activist Zach Vishanoff over the West University Park at last month's meeting.

"I watched Adam, how he handled that situation with Zach," Rixmann said. "Who else would you want for the job?"

The WUN will also elect eight other positions: two vice-chairs, a secretary and five at-large board members.

The WUN will be setting its agenda for the coming year, looking at issues such as the West University Park, neighborhood security and a neighborhood cleanup.

Julia Augustus from the Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity is organizing a cleanup day for Nov. 12th and will speak at the meeting about her plans.

The meeting will be tonight at 7 p.m. in the Sloat Room of the Atrium Building at West 10th Avenue and Olive Street. All neighborhood residents can vote in the election.

-Chris Hagan

Police squash would-be riot near campus Saturday

More than 200 people threatened to riot in a campus-area neighborhood and at least one object was thrown at police before officers broke up the gathering Saturday night, according to Eugene police.

At about 11 p.m., a crowd gathered at the intersection of East 17th Avenue and Mill Street, and some people were chanting for a riot, according to a Eugene Police Department press release. Officers dispersed the crowd. Nobody was injured. No arrests were made.

On Saturday, 13 officers on bicycles and two traffic enforcement officers on motorcycles took part in patrols in the West University neighborhood. The patrols were in response to past riots in the neighborhood, including one on Halloween in 1998.

Also on Saturday, officers discovered a person suffering from severe alcohol poisoning in the South University neighborhood.

On Friday night, officers issued 90 citations, most were alcohol related.

— Jared Paben

Nike co-founder awarded by UO College of Business

The University has honored one of its most successful alumni, Nike cofounder Phil Knight, with the first Bowerman Innovation Award, presented by the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business.

Knight was presented with the award, named after the late Bill Bowerman, Knight's business partner and a legendary Oregon track coach, during the annual Visionaries Awards Luncheon at Portland's Governor Hotel on Wednesday.

Knight, who ran track under

Bowerman, graduated with a degree in business in 1959. He founded Blue Ribbon Sports with Bowerman in 1962, at first selling shoes out of his station wagon during track meets.

Blue Ribbon Sports became Nike in 1972 and has since become one of the world's largest distributors of sportswear.

Although the University has honored business leaders with the award since 1984, this is the first time the coach's name has been attached.

According to the news release, Bowerman is considered a visionary in the track world. He created the first textured shoe sole using his wife's waffle iron, then added wedged heels and cushioned mid-soles. Many of his designs became standard for sportswear and shoes. Knight said he is honored to receive an award named after his former coach.

"Bill was a tireless innovator," Knight said in the news release. "His dedication and passion has been a lifelong inspiration to me."

-Kelly Brown

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