

Oregon State beats Ducks in Civil War Blood Drive

The OSU Beavers win an annual competition that allows donors to vote for their favorite university

BY EMILY SMITH
NEWS REPORTER

The Beavers may have lost this year's Civil War, and the team's marching band may have lost the Civil War flag football game, but Oregon State University can boast about its victory over the University of Oregon in the fourth-annual Civil War Blood Drive.

The annual competition ended with a final score of 2,673 donor votes for the Beavers and 2,220 for the Ducks.

While the total number of votes was fairly close, a total of 971 students gave on behalf of OSU, compared with 442 for the University.

Lane Memorial Blood Bank teamed up with American Red Cross and alumni associations of the two dueling universities to organize and conduct the statewide blood drive in which participants vote for either the Ducks or the Beavers when they give blood.

The Civil War Blood Drive comes at a crucial time of year. During the holidays, regular donors are often out of town and fewer people are able to donate with the coming influenza season, Lane Memorial

Blood Bank Community Affairs Coordinator Kristi Henderson said.

"It's really nice we can use the competition and spirit from the game to get new donors," she said, adding that it's the most successful blood drive on campus every year.

This year, 50 people in Eugene gave on behalf of the Beavers, and four people in Corvallis gave on behalf of the Ducks. That was disappointing for Red Cross Manager of Communication and Marketing and former University student Clare Matthias.

The Civil War Blood Drive is the largest blood drive in the Northwest, she said. The American Association of Blood Banks gave representatives from the University, OSU, the American Red Cross and the Lane Memorial Blood Bank plaques in October during a conference in Seattle. The awards were for the organizations' efforts in the 2004 blood drive.

The AABB is an organization that helps blood banks advance the industry of transfusion, Matthias said.

The award was for merit in an education category, recognizing an organization's outstanding efforts, she said.

Director of Alumni Programs Ronnel Curry accepted the award on behalf of the University.

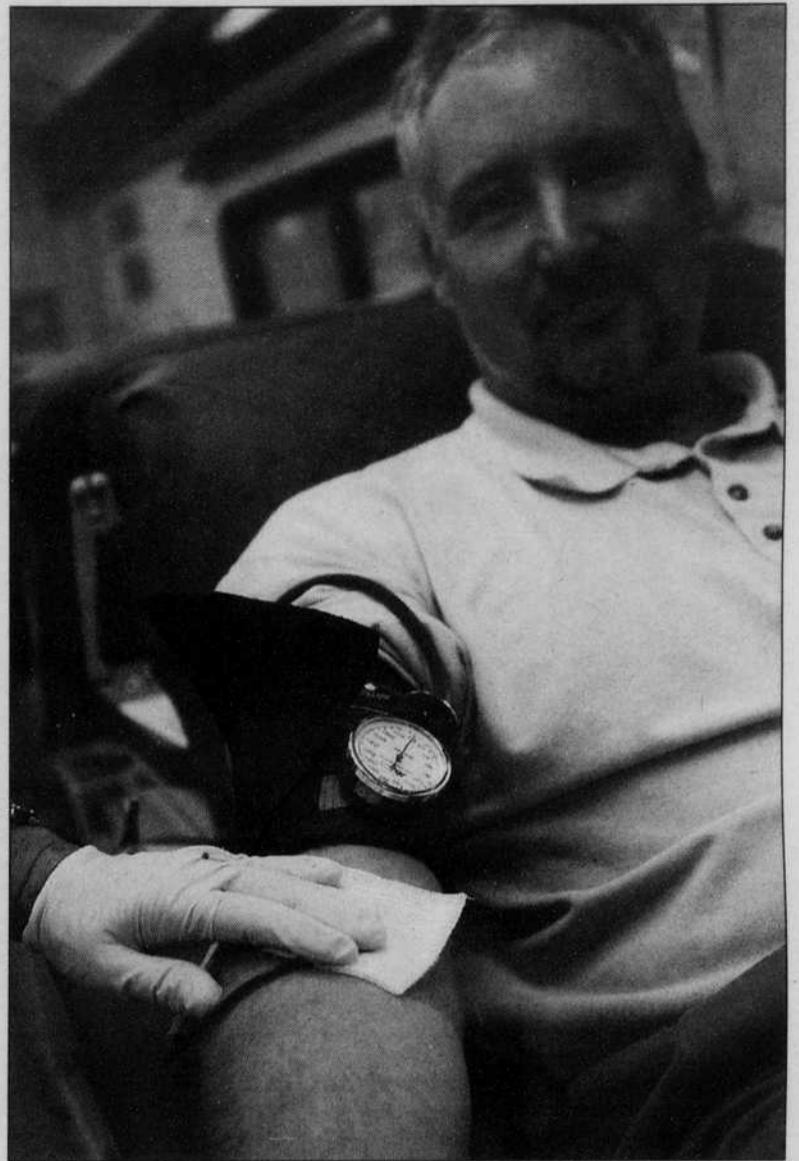
Although the drive is over, Lane Memorial Blood Bank is looking for more donors to help the bank keep its blood supply level sufficient. Matthias said supplies of the uncommon B negative and O negative blood types are usually low.

Hospitals in the Northwest are constantly filled with premature babies, accident victims, cancer and surgery patients and other ill and injured people who, without transfusions, will die. When a person donates his or her blood, the blood is separated into red cells, platelets and plasma. That means one unit of blood could ultimately save three lives.

According to the American Red Cross' Pacific Northwest Regional Blood Services Web site, donors must be 16 years old or older, healthy and weigh at least 110 pounds.

Prior to donating, the Red Cross urges donors to get a good night's sleep, eat a meal that contains iron-rich foods such as red meat, fish, poultry, beans, raisins or prunes, and drink extra water and fluids to replace the amount that will be donated. It warns against consuming caffeine and fatty foods.

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TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTO EDITOR

Mark McCulloch, assistant director of information systems for the Business Affairs Office, donates to the Lane Memorial Blood Bank.

Fan behavior: Some were removed two hours prior to kickoff, police say

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Kerns, who was in charge of EPD patrols at the stadium during the game.

Police began removing people from the stadium two hours before the game started, Kerns said.

"That has never happened before," he said.

The Student Senate recently proposed a "pro-classy advertising campaign" and other measures to dissuade students from participating in unruly fan behavior. In a letter to University President Dave Frohnmayer, the Senate recommended he start with an advertising campaign and, if the problems with unruly fans persist

or become worse, implement more severe measures. Those measures include revoking tickets for violators, fining violators, increasing security and pushing for increased coverage in the Emerald and on campus radio station KWVA.

Officials in Frohnmayer's office and in the Athletics Department could not be reached for comment on the proposals Tuesday because they didn't return phone calls or were out of town.

After the USC game, people asked whether the Eugene police planned to increase patrols at football games. Police patrols at University sporting events are authorized and funded by

the University, Delf said.

So far this year, the University has not authorized an increase in police patrolling at games, Kerns said.

At the Civil War game, people were cited for alcohol offenses, offensive behavior and assault, which "is more common (at football games) than any of us realize," Kerns said.

Kerns also said students account for only a small percentage of people at Autzen Stadium and are not the only people causing problems.

Many people witness illegal behavior at games but don't report it because it is inconvenient and people think it should be tolerated, Kerns said.

"The nature of big sporting events is highly emotionally charged," he said. "There's a lot of heavy drinking and the assumption is that it should be tolerated."

Authorities are considering making a telephone line available next season for people to report unruly behavior, Kerns said.

University freshman Jennifer Collins was stepped on by a crowd of students rushing to the field moments after the game ended.

Collins said she was standing near the aisle in the 10th row, when the mob, screaming "just push through," forced her onto her stomach and

stepped on her.

She said she was not able to stand again until the mob reached the field and someone helped her up. The incident caused bruising on her legs, hips and face. Collins' friend, who was also caught in the mob, twisted her ankle.

Kerns encourages people who witness offensive behavior at games to report it to authorities immediately.

"If people reported it more, we would have more influence on inappropriate fan behavior," he said.

Contact the crime, health and safety reporter at kgagnon@dailymerald.com

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