

WL falls second to OC's total of 17,236

■ EMMALIE COX

Staff Reporter

It's the oldest rivalry west of the Mississippi, West Linn vs Oregon City. West Linn dominated on the football field, but lost when it came to collecting the most cans during the annual Canned Food Drive competition.

Last year, for the second time in many years, WLHS collected more cans than OCHS and the Associated Student Body officers made a goal to repeat. However, coming into the first week, there wasn't much chance of that. The number of cans collected was lower than expected, and by the end of the drive a total of 15,360 cans were collected. Oregon City slid past with 17,276 cans.

This goal seemed harder to reach considering there was one less week this year to donate. Last year, the drive was postponed a week due to the placement of Thanksgiving break. At the beginning of the final week, Oregon City claimed to have collected 7,000 cans, while West Linn counted nearly 2,000.

"The biggest reason for the number being so low is because not a lot of people contributed," Jake Fogle,

involved in a competition to see which team could collect the most cans. Choices for prizes were one Winter Ball



Associated Student Body officers organize and count cans according to weight in ounces. The cans were boxed and the were collected by members of the Elks Lodge for gift baskets which will be provided to families in West Linn and Oregon City. Photo by Malia Chong

junior ASB representative, said. "We [were] collecting less and less cans due to little involvement from the students."

Students had the opportunity to form teams to collect cans, and were

ticket for each member of the team, a pizza party at school and special prize bags.

The five teams in the competition were Todd Jones's sixth period Oregon History and Issues class, Jake Fogle's group, Ben Morrow's team, Team Righteous and the Junior Class Council. Fogle's group placed first, with Morrow's team second and Jones' class third.

This year, in hopes of encouraging students to donate, ASB held a verbal auction in which students bid cans to win hot dates with juniors and seniors which included a limo ride and free lunch at Lil' Cooperstown.

Students originally up for auction were Morrow, Erin Jameson, Justin Monahan, Amy Holt, Rosie Dickson and Charlie Steele, seniors, along with Josh Oltman and Sara Sebastian, juniors. Morrow and Jameson were replaced at the last minute by Mitch Gaulke, junior. Travis Schutzler, freshman, won the date with him by bidding 150 cans. Taylor Kolasinski,

senior, won the date with Jameson's replacement, Amber Arrigotti, junior.

The top bidder, Ethan Connolly, senior, paid 500 cans for a date with Dickson who gave it to Owen Bridge, senior, as a birthday gift. Jacob Gianuzzi, sophomore, bid 10 cans for Monahan. Jake Jetton, sophomore, won a date with Holt for 185 cans. Connor McGuire, senior, won a date with Steele for 175 cans. Hannah Schmitz, freshman, bid 110 cans for Oltman and Charles Corbett won a date with Sebastian with 400 cans.

ASB officers collected the cans and arranged them in boxes that were picked up by Elks Lodge members. The Elks volunteers then organize the donations to make up gift baskets of full dinners which include turkeys. The baskets are distributed to families in Oregon City and West Linn who would otherwise be without holiday dinners.

Students sponsor Rwandans

Itafari in Rwanda

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Last year's "Blended Colors Fashion Show" hosted by Ali Super and Danielle Meyer, seniors, featured Butera in order to raise awareness about Rwanda. They also raised \$4,200.

An advisory board which includes Keir Pearson, the screenwriter of *Hotel Rwanda*, a

film that reenacts the genocide of Rwanda. The efforts made by the exclusively volunteer staff range from awareness to partnership programs and individual fundraising. Their most popular "Buy a Brick" program supplies one child with a school uniform, which is mandatory, or over a month of school fees for a \$25 contribution.

Volunteer opportunities are endless, however. The "Pay It Forward" event is a chance for an individual to sponsor a brunch or lunch for friends and neighbors that raises awareness and gives them the opportunity to donate or host an event themselves.

The time to act is now according to foundation president, Victoria Trabosh. When 20% of children die before the age of five and 65,000 households are headed by children in Rwanda, getting involved is important to the survival of the country. Help today by visiting www.itaafari.org.

■ LEXI WELP & MARY WOOD

Staff Reporters

During October, two accidents occurred involving the crosswalk in front of the school. On Oct. 4, Sue Bradley, special projects secretary, was rear ended by a student after stopping to let Michelle Olson, guidance counselor, cross the street.

Then, on Oct. 29, Gregory McMurtrie, sophomore, was hit while crossing the street during the evening to attend Mock Trial practice. After traveling 10 yards, McMurtrie incurred some minor injuries to his ankle and is still in the process of healing. The school is now taking action to make the crosswalks safer for students.

"Safety is a big concern," Rob Holstrom, assistant principal, said. After the accidents, the Building Safety Committee decided to purchase light-up signs

to promote visibility at the crosswalks in front of the school and near the senior parking lot. Waist-high plastic poles with reflectors will also be placed in the median before and after the crosswalks. The dates of these installations are still uncertain.

"It depends on how quickly they can get them," Holstrom said. "The city has to install them."

The administration is also working to inform students about student safety and driver courtesy. An e-mail was sent in early November to the student body, and information about the events was also included in the parent newsletter. The goal of the e-mail was to make students aware of the dangers of carelessly using crosswalks.

Students are also concerned about crosswalk safety, and the amount of

authority they need to take for their actions when crossing a busy road. "Although it's the driver's responsibility, students need to look out for their safety," Haitham Abdallah, senior, said.

"Just because you're at a crosswalk, it doesn't mean you're safe," Holstrom said. "You have to use common sense."

The state of Oregon suggests that drivers should not pass a car stopped at a crosswalk or block a crosswalk. They should also be cautious during the evening.

Holstrom advises pedestrians not to assume a car will stop for them and to continue to use crosswalks safely by making sure all cars have stopped before crossing in a crosswalk. Drivers should be aware of their surroundings and acknowledge speed limits.



Cars pass by the site of two accidents that occurred in October. As a result of the collisions, the Building Safety Committee is taking measures to improve crosswalk safety. Photo by Calley Lathrop

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