

Clackamas hosts a day of competition and hotrods

In a race against the clock, automotive teams test their skills

DIANA SCRIVNER
Associate News Editor

Students looked on as 20 high school contestants repaired 10 new "bugged" Ford cars in the lower courtyard during the 51st annual Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills "hands-on" Competition last Friday.

The competition, hosted by Clackamas' automotive department, has been held at Clackamas for many years.

"It's been a tradition we've had since the 70's," said Ray Conklin, automotive department chairman. "It's good publicity and we need the practice."

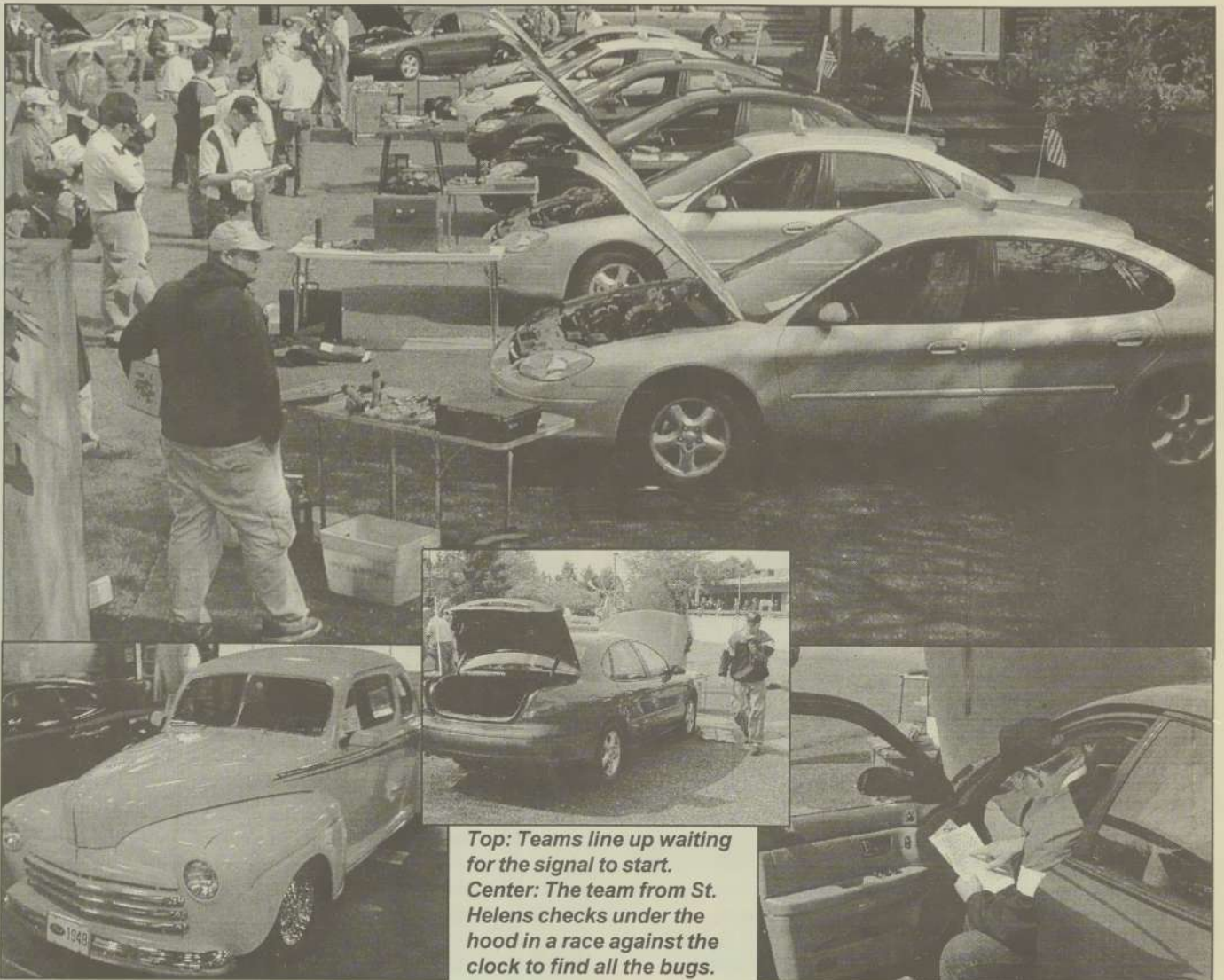
At 10 a.m., the high school seniors from schools throughout Oregon began to de-bug the cars, which had been planted with identical malfunctions. Each team was given 90 minutes to find and fix as many of the malfunctions as possible.

Clackamas auto service students served as team judges. Their role was to give good parts to the team in exchange for the bad parts. George Warren, who has been part of the event since 1957, trained them for 45 minutes before the event on the competition rules and regulations, so that no team would have an unfair advantage.

The team finding the most bugs in the shortest amount of time was the winner.

"The emphasis is on quality," said Conklin.

The winners of the competition were Tim DeBoer and Scott Ussing from Vale High School,



Top: Teams line up waiting for the signal to start. Center: The team from St. Helens checks under the hood in a race against the clock to find all the bugs.

PHOTOS BY JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

Team St. Helens does one last check for problems.

Clackamas hosted a hot-rod show open for student and staff to vote for the best roadster.

who finished in 27 minutes and found all of the bugs.

Vale High School, instructed by Merle Saunders, has won this event 13 times since 1986. They also have won the national event three times in the past 10 years.

As the winning team, the Vale students received expense-paid trips to the national (50-state) competition in Washington D.C. in June, plus \$500 spending money.

They also each received two-year, "full-ride" scholarships to Mt. Hood Community College's Ford Training program; a Craftsman Tool box set; and a multimedia CD ROM package.

Vale High school had previously won the award for the written part of the competition which was held in February and qualified them for Friday's hands-on event.

"His students consistently are

achieving high scores on the test," said Conklin.

Approximately 15 schools from across Oregon participated in the February written examination. At that time, one (two-person) team from each of the top ten schools was chosen to compete in the Clackamas hands on competition.

The names of all schools competing last Friday were entered in a drawing to receive a free

training car from Ford for a year. Vale was drawn randomly and won that prize too.

Concurrently with the auto skills competition, Clackamas hosted a hot-rod show in the main garage of Barlow. It was open for students and staff to vote on which car they thought was the best. The winning hot-rod was a 32 Ford Roadster, owned by Keith Strohecher of Portland.

ASG holds first success dinner for child-care recipients, fund-raisers

MAGGIE JIRASEK
Staff Writer

A success dinner for Associated Student Government members, Foundation board members and child-care recipients and their children will be held May 19, 6-8 p.m., in the Gregory Forum.

"We want to encourage child-care recipients and other people who are listening, and we want them to get the feeling that they can be successful," explained Glorianne Muggli, ASG officer for child-care and vice president-elect. "It's also a thank you to the Foundation board members who raise all the money being

used for child-care grants."

This is the first ASG success dinner. Entertainment as well as food will be provided.

"The children are going to have a little party, we are going to think of some games to entertain them; for the adults, there should be some musical entertainment," Muggli said. "We have corn dogs for the kids and marinated chicken as well as some vegetarian alternatives to offer," Muggli continued.

Approximately four speakers will address the attendees, including 'Punky' Scott, a Foundation board member; Brian Fuentez, ASG president-elect; and two child care recipients.

ASG members are hoping for

a nice turnout and good attendance.

"Hopefully it will turn out the way we wanted it to and we will have a really nice program," Muggli finished. "If it turns out, we will probably do it again, next year."

The Visitor by Liesl Muggli and Maggie Jirasek



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