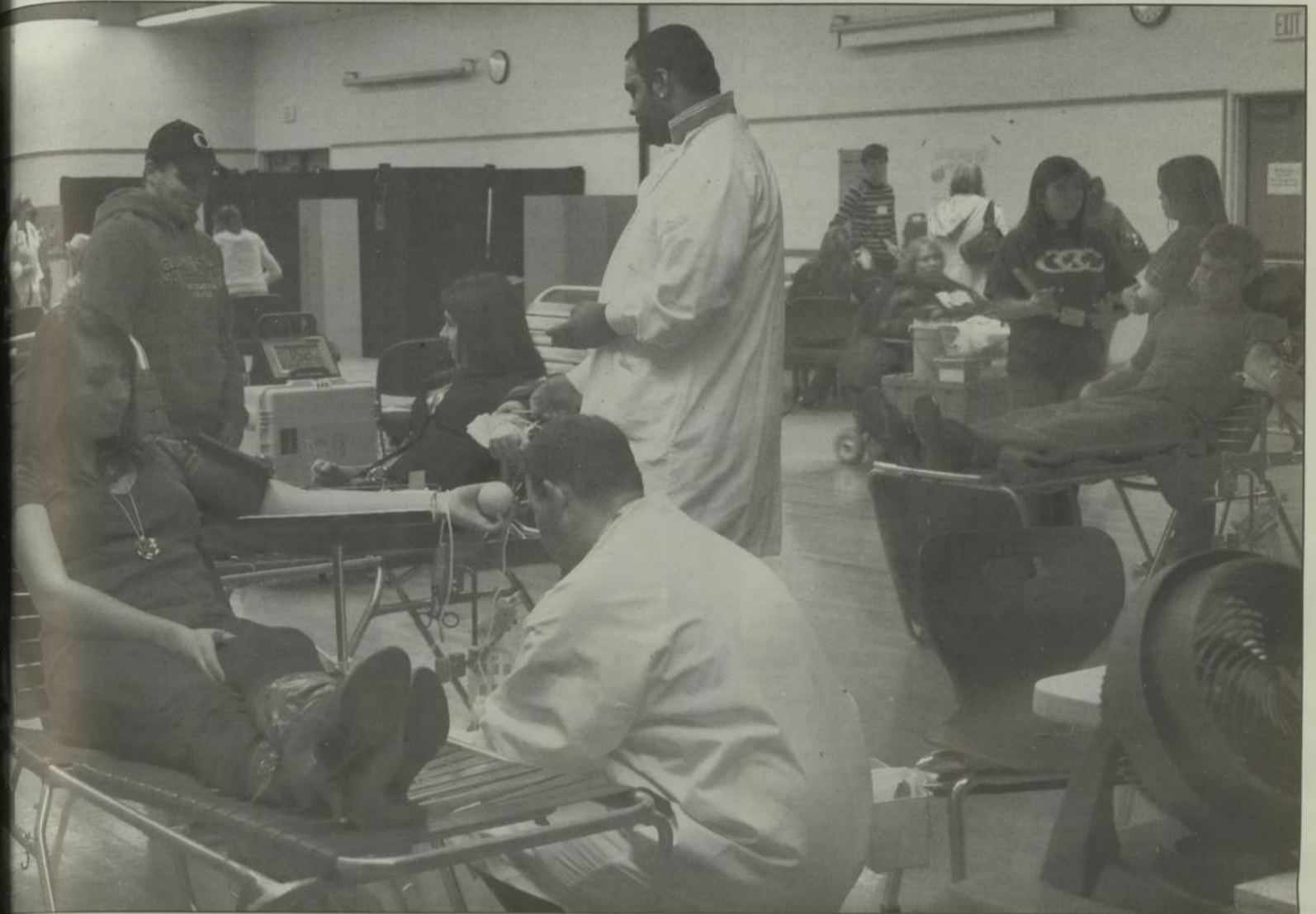


# Donations flood college with blood



Jessica Foster Clackamas Print

American Red Cross workers drew blood from Clackamas student donors at the last American Red Cross Blood Drive on campus, Oct. 27, 2009. The American Red Cross expected 84 donors, but 94 turned out for the event. This term, the projected goal is 104 donors.

**John Hurlburt**  
Editor in Chief

Record amount of blood donated on Clackamas grounds during the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Oct. 27 and 28, 2009. The American Red Cross expected 84 donors, but 94 turned out for the event. This term, the projected goal is 104 donors.

four individuals donated blood during Clackamas' Blood Drive on Oct. 27 and 28, 2009. The American Red Cross expected 84 donors, but 94 turned out for the event. This term, the projected goal is 104 donors.

amount of blood collected was enough to prompt the American Red Cross, to raise the goal from 84 people to 104 people to donate.

goals are set a year in advance but Clackamas' high number of donors prompted an increase. His reason for doing so is simple.

student government at Clackamas Community College] set a goal on their last drive to continue to reach for greater success, said Shockley.

Tracy, ASG public relations coordinator for awareness, said high turnout from Student Government's recent success, sees a future in Clackamas blood drive.

is very stoked. We are pleased with what we accomplished," commented Tracy. "Clackamas is a very giving college and we're confident we will reach our next goal."

recent success means the next blood drive will have an increased capability for handling more students, including a bed for students donating blood and one extra person donating "double

reds." The American Red Cross must raise 5,000 units of life-saving donated blood a week in order to keep up with demand from area hospitals. According to Shockley, colleges are very important to reaching these demands because often lifetime donors can be made from the experience. "Colleges are an important place for students to have the opportunity to give blood. Donors in college who experience the blood donation process for the first time are more likely to do it again," Shockley stated.

Jonathan King, a Clackamas student who has donated blood previously, said the experience wasn't really unpleasant and doesn't leave giving blood in the future out of the questions. King's reasons for giving blood in the first place seem straight forward. "I felt like it would be good to do," King said, adding, "I was bored, and it was something to do."

Although most asked said donating blood was an overall positive experience, not everyone will leave the linen-covered American Red Cross donation bed feeling great. In fact, one bad day can scare some donors from ever coming back. Student Brandon Bradach says he used to give blood until he experienced the potential downside to his good intentions. "It felt like the needle was scraping the inside of the vein," Bradach said.

Bradach mentioned that he never informed the person taking his blood of the pain, which he admitted may have led to an extension of the pain. Even though some individuals have gone through a bad time while giving their blood away,

many local colleges and high schools have been donating this resource that money can't create in increasing proportions. Shockley did not comment as to why more people are donating blood. However, enrollment has recently skyrocketed at higher learning institutions statewide which may be a factor in why these institutions are bleeding more for the common good lately.

Individuals can donate blood in two ways. The first and more traditional way is to draw blood out of a person and put it into a bag to be shipped to the blood bank and tested. The blood taken from this method is called "whole blood," and the process takes just a few minutes. Extracting "double reds" is the second way to donate blood. With this method blood is taken from a person, the red blood cells are separated from the white blood cells and then the white blood cells are put back in the body. This method yields a red blood cell concentrate that would leave vampires salivating.

Donating double reds gives twice as many life-saving red blood cells as whole blood does while leaving the donor feeling less drained. The extraction process, however, takes longer. Pumping out a pint of blood for someone else to use isn't for everyone. For a myriad of reasons some cannot or will not donate blood, but even if a person is incapable of donating blood, Tracy says, there are still plenty of opportunities for them to help during the blood drives.

On campus volunteers will

be needed in order to run support roles for the drive. A minimum of an hour is required to volunteer but those interested can volunteer as many hours as they like. To learn more about volunteering during a blood drive or giving

blood, contact ASG in their office in the Community Center, room 152.

Clackamas' upcoming blood drive for winter term will be held Jan. 27 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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