

# Keizer holds Turkey Dash

By **DEREK WILEY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

More than 750 runners and walkers registered for Keizer's fifth annual Turkey Dash 5K but 645 of those braved the cold wind and rain on Thanksgiving morning to finish the race.

"The wind was crazy so I was worried we wouldn't get the turnout because of weather but it was great," said Connie Dingeman who directed the race with Stephani Logan. "I was pleasantly surprised. Overall, it went really well."

Josh Dempsey, of Salem, won in 16 minutes and 38 seconds.

Ben Handrich, 17:13, and

Evan Gonzalez, 18:31, took second and third, respectively.

Tonya Lutz was the first female to cross the finish line. She placed fourth in 18:50.

Marcus Ramirez (19:13), Tom Dempsey (19:20), Andy Goemaere (19:52), Florida Man (20:15), Mariko Tokoyoda (20:24) and Kolton Schaap (20:36) rounded out the top 10.

The event, put on by the Keizer Chamber of Commerce, was a benefit for Simply Birthdays, a non-profit run by former Whiteaker Middle School principal Laura Perez that provides birthdays to children living in local homeless shelters.



A: Keizer's fifth annual Turkey Dash 5K started in the Lowe's parking lot at Keizer Station on Thursday, Nov. 24.  
B: A pair of dinosaurs rounded out the field of 645 runners and walkers.  
C: Anne, Cameron and Jon Harrington were in Thanksgiving spirit as they ran the Turkey Dash.  
D: Josh and Tom Dempsey placed first and sixth in the 5K.

KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

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