

# Westlane starve-a-thon raise

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This, as every true-green Westlane fan is well aware, was the week of the starve-a-thon. Westlane's 48-hour marathon fast, which we staged to indicate our magnanimous support for the United Appeal, and where we raised about \$1,500.

Not everyone in the big double gym last weekend, however, was a starver. On hand were such notables as our MPP, John Clement, and the chief administrators of our

school. Mr. Noble and Mr. Dorst. Also, we were honored by the presence of a lady, Mrs. Ola Mannuel, who was sufficiently motivated to teach starvers a mini-lesson on Yoga.

Furthermore, there were many parents on hand at different times, in capacities as chaperones (for which services we are greatly indebted) and spectators. Last, and probably least, a well-fed student carrying his invention, the note-pad, was roaming about, collecting useless details and taking

endless notes on long interviews.

Friday night, the starve-a-thon got off a few minutes late because the junior boys' basketball team was occupying the gymnasium in the process of playing their first exhibition game. But, the people finally got all set up, and the long weekend began.

I noticed that optimism and high spirits were all over that first evening, and virtually everyone with whom I spoke felt they could go all the way. The television was turned

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## s \$1,500 for United Appeal

to the "Brady Bunch" (surprising how such shows attract large high school audiences!), "Elvis" Mateyk and a few others were starting a sing-song, or a song-sing, and there was a sprinkling of card games, monopoly, and the like. Just an average Friday night out with the gang, for some.

When I arrived Saturday morning, the TV was spouting forth animated adventures, to the squealing delight of our adolescent three-year olds. (My favorite was 'Scooby-

Doo, Where Are You?') I was informed there had been some dancing, a lot of pillow fighting, and very little sleeping during the night. In fact, only two people I found said they had had enough sleep. Also, a lot of people claimed the gym had been very cold.

Sunday, of course, was the big day. I expected cannibalism to start somewhere around noon but, apparently, I underestimated my fellow students. However, there was a lot of weakness. Many people were still in their sleeping bags. Some were just sitting around dreaming of that one taboo — food. Boredom was starting to set in, in some cases. Quite a number of people reported having lost weight — for instance, the person we all know as Snowbear lost 10 pounds! Sunday afternoon there were a few watching the football games, and a few playing guitars, but the gym in general had a rather solemn atmosphere. I felt everywhere that hunger was eating away (that's a nasty metaphor!) at will power, but I honestly admire the aura of grim determination to succeed which battled it and was just as omnipresent — and succeed they did!

Although I don't have the exact figures, I believe almost 90 people started, and close to 70 finished. And we have that \$1,500 in pledges for the United Appeal. Now is

a good time to thank Theresa Johnson and her staff for a job well done.

The Saturday afternoon of the starve-a-thon was slightly marred by some bad news from Oshawa. As it happens, our valiant soccer team won its opening game, and then, with little or no rest in between, lost their next. I heard that the team we beat went on to beat the team that beat us. Does that mean something?

Remembrance Day at Westlane was recognized by a well-received assembly. Two interesting things happened there. The first was Mark Kudlac, 11 years old and a Grade 6 student at Greendale, whom we invited to speak briefly. This young student prepared an absolutely incredible speech for us, and his delivery was utterly unbelievable. I don't think I've ever heard such an effective speech in my whole life. Credit for bringing Mark in must go to assembly committee chairman Tom Woodward. Tom also is responsible for the little pantomime play which we put on at that assembly. Judging from student and staff reaction, the play was also very good. Peter Hendershot, Marilyn Maxim, Tim Booth, Ron Kronstein and Ross Hallam did the main parts, and deserve recognition.

Let me remind everyone of one thing: Joe Sparty is coming.