

Support for Snowflake 5k anything but chilly

By Drew Lambert
Contributing Writer

More than 400 participants took part in the fifth annual Snowflake 5k last Saturday at Shelby Bottoms Park.

The race, which benefited Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee, included members of Girls On the Run, a club for girls age 8 to 13-years-old designed to encourage positive mental and physical development.

Carla Snodgrass, director of Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee, said, "This was a great turnout."

Along with the Kinnard, Clayton & Beveridge law firm acting as a primary sponsor for

the event this year, Americhoice United Healthcare, Pinnacle Financial Partners, the Tennessee Titans, and others also supported the event.

"It takes lots of great volunteers. We had over 50 volunteers help us this year to make it happen," said Snodgrass. "We plan to do this every year, so if anyone wants to volunteer next year, they just need to call us and we'll be ready for them."

To find out more information about the Snowflake 5k run or about Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee, visit www.pcat.org or call 615-383-0994.



Members of the 'Girls On the Run' mentoring program take their opening strides in the Snowflake 5k. last Saturday at Shelby Bottoms Park. Photo by Drew Lambert

State collections fall below estimates

State tax collections fell below budgeted estimates in November, for the fourth consecutive month of the fiscal year that began on July 1, 2009.

Finance & Administration Commissioner Dave Goetz Monday announced state revenue collections for November were \$708.2 million, which is

0.52 percent below November 2008 collections. November collections reflect consumer spending in October.

"November is the 18th consecutive month in which sales tax collections have experienced negative growth," Goetz said. "If there's a bright spot, it's worth noting that the growth rate for sales tax collections in November, while still negative, fared slightly better

than the month before, when it was negative 7.8 percent."

"It's important to remember we won't see how after-Thanksgiving retail sales performed until this time next month, when we've collected revenues for November spending."

November collections were \$13.5 million less than the budgeted estimate.

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