

Introducing the Behrend Olympics

by Daniel J. Stasiewski
staff writer

Behrend students won't have to turn on NBC to find the Winter Olympics next year. The Student Government Association will hold the first Behrend Winter Olympic Games on Jan. 18 and 19. The proceeds from the event will go to THON, a 48-hour dance marathon held at University Park. Money raised from THON is donated to the Four Diamonds Fund, which assists children with cancer.

The Behrend Winter Olympics will consist of opening ceremonies, eight events, and closing ceremonies. The events include: torch run, snow show race, sled-pull, anything that slides race, fastest snowman-making contest, snowball throwing contest, and sack races. One of Erie's newest radio stations, 93.9 FM The Planet, will do a remote broadcast from the event.

"We see it as a good, fun way of getting a lot of students involved, showing school spirit, and raising money for an important cause," said

Jason Snyder, SGA's public relation chairman. SGA hopes to get as many students and organizations as possible to sign up for the event.

The competing teams will consist of five members, with medals being awarded to the winners of each event. Additionally, there will be an overall team champion and each of the top three teams will receive prizes.



A free breakfast, outdoor barbecue, free shirts, and hot chocolate will all be provided to registering teams. Free long-sleeve shirts will be given to teams upon registration.

Teams not wishing to participate in the actual games can sign up for a fundraising team. Fundraising teams will be awarded points based on the amount of money collected for THON. Teams can be coed and they

are allowed to sign up for both the games and the fundraising. Organizations are able to have more than one team involved.

SGA is looking for sponsors to provide food and prizes for the event. Prizes could range from a limousine drive and dinner at the Olive Garden to a Peak n' Peck weekend. A Millcreek Mall shopping spree is another possible prize for a top team.

THON, also known as the IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, is the world's largest student-run charity. The 48-hour dance marathon is held in University Park's Recreation. The Four Diamonds Fund gives assistance to families whose children are treated for cancer at Penn State University's Children's Hospital. In 2001, 650 Penn State students danced in the marathon and the campuses raised more than \$3.6 million for the fund.

Team registration will take place the weeks of Nov. 12-16 and Dec. 3-7. Tables will be set up outside of Bruno from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for teams interested in signing-up. Registration is free.

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~Photo Gallery~



PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY

Katie Leary, president of the Panhellenic Council, performs on Bruno's stage Wednesday during Greek Sing. The event was one of few held during Greek Week, which began Monday. Next week, be on the lookout for a more in-depth look at the week's events.



PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE

The Ying Quartet performed Tuesday in the second-to-the-last Music at Noon: The Logan Wintergarden Series of the semester.

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