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Women's Basketball head coach.
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Mike Sharkey/THE BEHREND BEACON

By Chris Brown
copy editor

Minton Beddoes had a unique perspective on the outlook of the U.S. economy because of her personal experience; she was born and raised in the United Kingdom, attended graduate school in the United States, and has lived in the U.S. for the past 10 years while working in The Economist's Washington Editorial office. She pointed out that the view of an outsider looking in on the U.S. economy varies greatly compared to someone who has lived in the U.S. their whole. Most outsiders regard the U.S. as a "reckless debtor." Minton Beddoes believes the U.S. economy will remain globally dominant

but is fearful of possible long-term protectionism.

Minton Beddoes began her presentation by describing the four main trends in the current global economy. She said that currently, the global economy is defined by rapid technological expansion, increased globalization, an older population, and the end of inflation in developed economies. All these factors, said Minton Beddoes, have helped establish the sole global power in the world economy. For instance, only the U.S. has been able to take advantage of technology in the form of increased efficiency, and while the baby boomers are shifting demographics to a proportionally older population, this pales in comparison to other countries with lower fertility rates.

The prospects for the U.S. economy look good but weaknesses do exist. Minton Beddoes was positive about the short and mid-term prospects for the U.S. economy. She expressed her feelings that foreign investors are not likely to risk damaging U.S. dollar value by selling U.S. bonds, because they have invested so much in it already. Minton Beddoes said she thought

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Aquila's lecture specialties center on U.S. social and cultural history, and he has researched mainly recent American culture, the American West, American Indians, and American popular culture. He has written four books titled "Home Front Soldier: The Story of a G. I." and "His Italian-American Family During World War II", "Wanted Dead or Alive: The American West in Popular Culture", "That Old Time Rock and Roll: A Chronicle of An Era, 1954-63", and finally "The Iroquois Restoration: Iroquois Diplomacy on the Colonial Frontier, 1701-1754." He is currently working on his latest book called, "Crazy, Man, Crazy: The Birth of Rock & Roll and 1950's America," and expects to finish it this summer.

Aquila's expertise of various types of history do not stop at his passion for writing, as he has also been involved in the production of numerous documentaries that have aired on NPR. He has written, produced, and hosted these shows, and from 1998 to 2000 he engineered the public history series "Rock and Roll America," which was nominated for the illustrious Peabody award. It was aired on NPR and NPR Worldwide.

As part of his title as an OAH Distinguished Lecturer, Aquila has the opportunity to travel the country and give public speeches at many universities. He has lectured on subjects that include, but are not limited to, the American West, Native American History, rock and roll as history, and the role of music in the public memory of the tragedies of Sep. 11, 2001.

Aquila received his prior education from Bowling Green State University and Ohio State University, and now provides Behrend with quality lectures and education. By receiving this honor for a second time, he helps to show the adeptness of the Behrend teaching staff and the potency that the college has academically.

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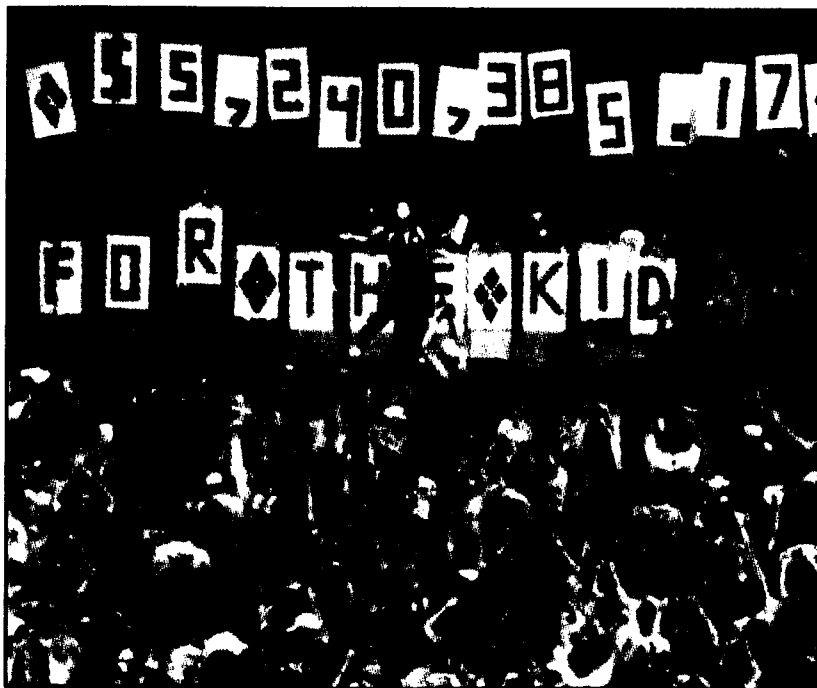
**Our offices are located downstairs
in the Reed Union Building.**

By Lenny Smith
assistant news editor

Penn State's Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon came to a close Sunday in the Bryce Jordan Center. The largest student-run philanthropy in the world raised a record \$5,240,385.17 this year for The Four Diamonds Fund.

According to the official THON website, "The mission of the Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon is to conquer pediatric cancer by providing outstanding emotional and financial support to the children, families, researchers, and staff of The Four Diamonds Fund."

Since 1972, The Four Diamonds Fund has helped children who were diagnosed with pediatric cancer at the Penn State Children's Hospital in Hershey, PA. About 90 new families are added annually to the 2000+ families that have already been helped by The Four Diamond Fund. The fund was established by Charles and Irma Millard. They established The Four Diamonds Fund after their son, Christopher, was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 11.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THON directors show the record-breaking total of \$5,240,385.17.

For 35 years, the students affiliated with THON have raised over \$46 million for children and families to help their fight against pediatric cancer. Students

fundraise throughout the entire year. The final amount fundraised is announced at the end of THON Weekend, a two day event where participants neither sleep nor eat, just dance. During the 46-hour event, organizers have numerous activities for the dancers to keep them busy and their minds off of sleeping. Activities include themed hours, live bands, pep rallies with the Penn State football team, and guest speakers like PSU alum and Miss Pennsylvania, Emily Wells.

Freshman Student Government Association Senator, Mike Mclean, was a dancer at THON this year. "I first became involved in THON when I was elected as an SGA Senator. You have to be involved with two committees and there was a THON committee."

A selection process was held at Behrend to choose who would represent the campus. Behrend's dancers included Juniors, Erin Kiesel and Daniel Frankel and Freshmen, Mclean and Vicky Straub.

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