

# The Capital Times

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## THON 2010 BREAKS ALL-TIME RECORD

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THON broke its all time record this year, raising \$7,838,054.36 for the Four Diamonds Families, of which Penn State Harrisburg students raised \$11,400.

The totals were revealed during the last moments of the 46-hour dance marathon held in the Bryce Jordan Center at University Park. As the kids who benefit from the Four Diamonds fund brought out the placards, the BJC erupted with the jubilant applause of the tired dancers, the appreciative families, and the amazed bystanders.

The excitement level was kept aloft throughout the event, as the dancers and crowds were aided by giant rubber balls, water guns, frequent joint cheers, never-ending music (ranging from classic dance tunes to Ke\$ha and Rihanna), and live entertainment.

Various live bands joined the fray, cheering on both the dancers and the cause in between sets. Perhaps the least expected was the Deacons of Dixieland, a polka/bluegrass band headed by Penn State's own president, Graham Spanier.

"Get those feet shuffling!" Spanier cheered at the dancers, leading into his versions of "The Pennsylvania Polka" (the state song of Pennsylvania) and "Ob La Di, Ob La Da" by the Beatles.

Halfway through the event, the famed Pep Rally invited stars of Penn State's sports teams to keep the dancers' spirit alive with their own dance routines. The Penn State football team put on a rousing hip-hop dance performance, as did the Men's Gymnastics Team, completing seemingly impossible flips to liven the crowd during the 28<sup>th</sup> hour.

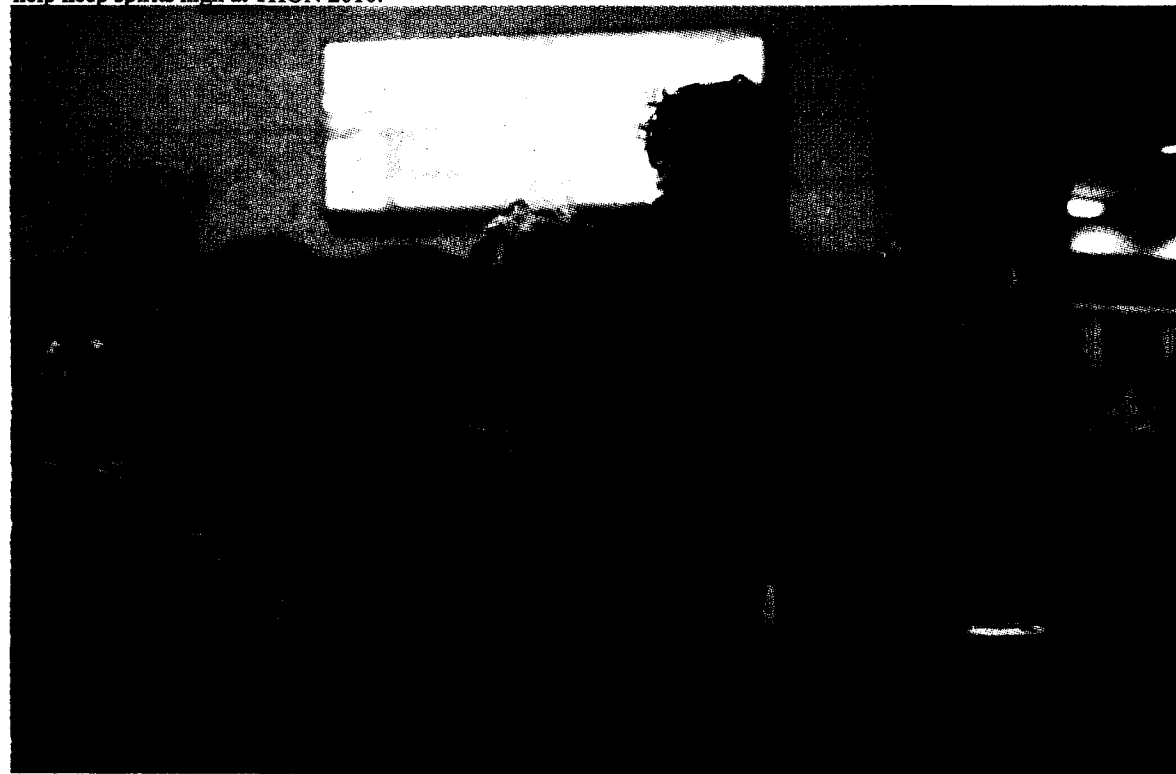
The families of dancers were also in full force, handing down care packages to their tired



Photos by Jenna DeNoyelles/ The Capital Times

Top: TJ Legel and Tori Haney represented Penn State Harrisburg on the THON dance floor this year, helping THON break its all-time fundraising record.

Bottom: SGA Vice President Micah Victoria joined members of Lion Ambassadors and The Blue and White Society to help keep spirits high at THON 2010.



friends and relatives well into the 40<sup>th</sup> hour. Sushi, chocolate, chewing gum, cameras, and even deodorant made their way to the floor. Closing in on the end of the event, dancers were also given a mail, sent by their families and

friends who could not attend. Penn State Harrisburg also showed up to support the Capital Campus' two dancers, Tori Haney and TJ Legel. They got the chance after raising the most money out of all the campus'

canning students. "We canned a lot. Plenty more than the others," Legel said.

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