

## Bigger, newer housing offer excites some but not others

BY KEVIN MOMPLAISIR  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, March 19, 2008, members of the Mont Alto council approved the plans for off-campus student housing on Slab Town Road, which is only a block from campus. This development came about when the students that needed housing increased. When there are not enough rooms available, students are placed on a waiting list. This year there have been a lot of Penn State students with out housing. The only tool given to students that find themselves without housing is an outdated off-campus list that was last updated in July 2007.

Most apartments in the area are unaffordable unless one is able to find three or more people to divide the price of rent. The construction of this new townhouse complex is necessary with all of the students that can't find housing. It will bring housing to 100 students around the Spring of 2009.

Even with the good of this new housing, there are some outraged members of the community. To some residents of the area, Penn State students party, make loud noises, and act in a disorderly way. Incidents like last year's riot on Verdier Street where students walked through yards, urinated, carried baseball bats and golf clubs make residents wary. The community is worried that they will lose their peaceful way of life. In order to keep the community happy, residents shouldn't make this complex Mont Alto Hall #2!

## THON begins another year to help battle childhood cancer

BY JULIA RITCHEY  
Editor-in-chief

*THON is a year-long event. THON is soliciting. THON is canning. THON is people. THON is dancing. THON is pain. THON is the children. Most of all, though, THON is seeing real heroes.*

Since 1972, The Four Diamonds Fund has helped over 2,000 families receive financial and emotional help. The Four Diamonds Fund benefits the pediatric cancer center of Hershey's Penn State Medical Center. The fund was started in memory of Christopher Millard.

The name Four Diamonds figuratively represents the traits that Christopher believed could help him beat cancer. In a story that Christopher wrote shortly before he died at the age of 14, he wrote a noble tale about a knight who defeated a villain by collecting four diamonds during his challenges. The traits he described in his story are courage, wisdom, honesty, and strength. The tale still inspires children today fighting cancer.

The money that goes to THON goes toward a number of crucial supports. The three main components of the fund are the medical expenses and treatment support for the families, the medical support team, and the research support.

Hershey Medical Center focuses on the needs of the patients in a unique way with the help of The Four Diamonds Fund. With a medical team of pediatric oncologists, social workers, pediatric oncology nurse specialists, psychologists, child life specialists, nutritionists, pediatric cancer researchers, and even

music therapists, the Hershey Medical Center is able to provide, with the help of The Four Diamonds Fund, optimum treatment to its patients.

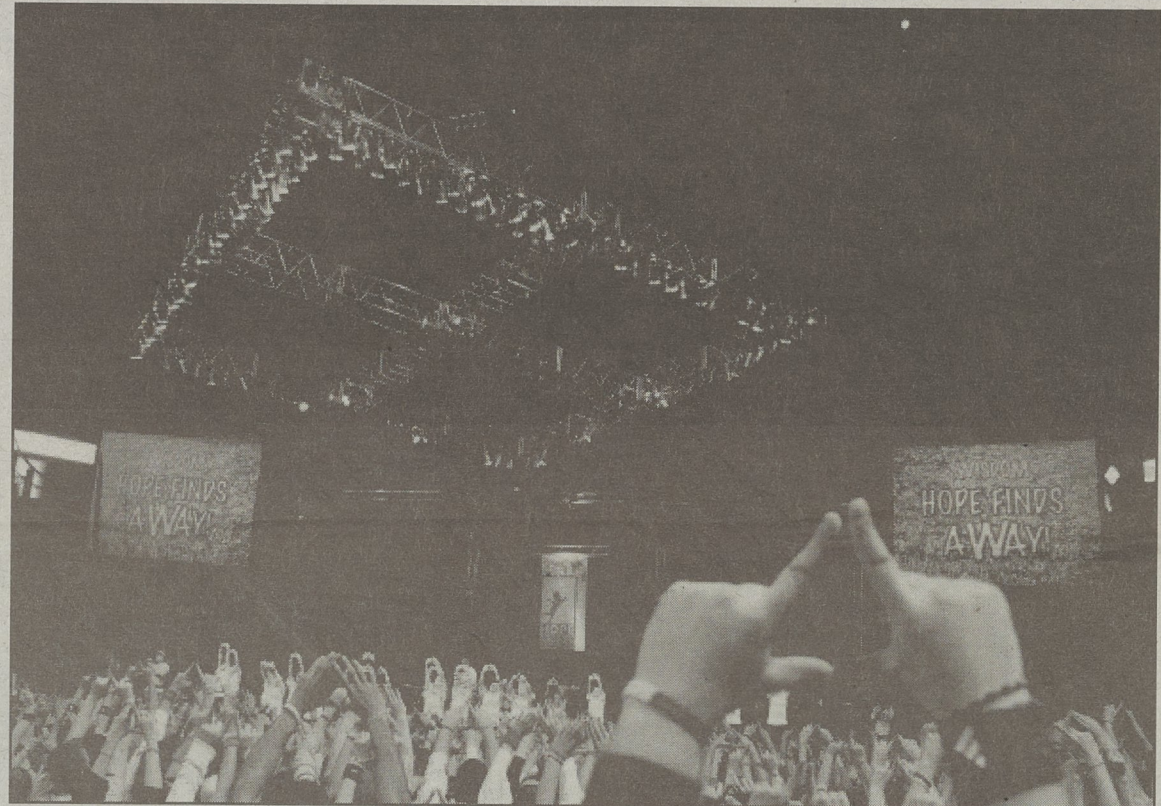
This year's THON at Mont Alto is already starting collecting money to go to this year's grand total. Last year, THON raised over \$6.6 mil-

Chambersburg, Walmart in campus. In February 2009, Carisle, and Hershey's THON will have canteen tables set-up to nourish the blood donors.

While canning, THON members wear Penn State garb, signs, and they carry cans for the money.

In addition to canning and fundraising, Mont Alto's THON hosts a blood drive on

Four Diamonds has a mission to help conquer childhood cancer, and with continuing support, the dream of finding a cure will one day become a reality.



thon.org

Mont Alto's THON raises money from October 1–February 20 for children battling cancer. The funds benefit The Four Diamonds Fund at Hershey's Penn State Medical Center. Here dancers at THON 2008 are making a diamond with their hands to represent the four diamonds— strength, honesty, wisdom, and courage.

## Welcome back, Nittany pride!

*The Fourth Wall* is seeking writers for all sections. All students are welcome regardless of major. Also, we are seeking photographers and artists. To make this paper a success, we need students to participate by writing their opinions, concerns, and comments. If you are interested, contact Julia Ritchey at [jer5121@psu.edu](mailto:jer5121@psu.edu).

lion for the kids. Mont Alto THON raises money through events such as Halo 3 Tournaments, Mr. Mont Alto, Root Beer Pong, Date Auction, Toga Party, and other events.

Aside from fundraisers here at Mont Alto, the group goes canning all around central Pennsylvania. This year's canning weekends are October 10- 12, November 7 - 9, January 23 - 25, and February 13 -15. Canning locations that one can see Penn State THON members at include Gander Mountain in Chambersburg, Walmart in