



# The Lion's Eye

## “Dig Pink”

### Volleyball Matches To Raise Money for Breast Cancer Research

Special to The Lion's Eye

In support of the fight against breast cancer, the Penn State Brandywine women's volleyball team will host a “Dig Pink” fundraiser on campus, Saturday, Oct. 1, with matches against Pennsylvania College of Technology, Penn State Hazleton and Penn State Schuylkill.

The team is encouraging all guests to help them achieve a “pink out”--think “white out” at Beaver Stadium--by wearing pink. T-shirts will be sold at the event. All donations will benefit the Side-Out Foundation, which awards grants to medical research organizations and entities dedicated to providing compassionate support to breast cancer

patients and their families, according to its website. The team hopes to raise \$500 in donations.

“This is a great opportunity for our

four schools to come together to support an important cause,” said Brandywine's Sports Information Coordinator and Head Volleyball Coach Melissa Algeo.

The games will be played in the Penn State Brandywine gymnasium, at 25 Yearsley Mill Road in Media, and will begin at 12 and 2 p.m.

For more information or to donate, visit [http://www.side-out.org/application/ous/fundraising\\_page/45952](http://www.side-out.org/application/ous/fundraising_page/45952) or contact Melissa Algeo at 610-892-1470.



## Remembering Dr. Markley

The campus community is invited to attend a memorial service held for Dr. Arnold Markley on Friday, September 30 at 3:00PM in the Tomezko Lounge. Markley passed away in June after a valiant battle with leukemia.



# Brandywine SGA To Vote on THON Funding

## Loss of SGA monies for CCSG strike a heavy blow to Brandywine THON

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As part of the new structuring of the Penn State Brandywine Student Government Association plan, President Steve Iatesta and his administrative board have brought to the table a proposal which would cut all SGA funding to the campus chapter of THON, thereby making it nearly impossible for THON to attend mandatory Council of Commonwealth Student Governments (CCSG) meetings held at University Park.

Iatesta says that his board is looking to be fair and equitable to all clubs and organizations on campus, and that by continuing to pay THON's way to CCSG meetings, of which there are 6 per academic year, he is offering a privilege to THON that he cannot offer other clubs and organizations on campus. The average cost to SGA for THON to come along to the University Park meetings runs around \$100 per trip.

While other Penn State clubs and organizations do not have to attend CCSG weekends, the meetings are mandatory for satellite campus SGAs and for satellite campus THON organizations. If members of branch campus THON organizations do not attend CCSG, the chapter loses valuable points that influence the number of dancers they receive each year as well as other participation privileges.

Traditionally, SGA has always built THON into their budget and overall CCSG travel plan, but Iatesta says that this is something he no longer feels is fair to do. Instead, he has

proposed several possible options, which he will go over when his board votes on this issue on Wednesday October 5.

Dr. Matthew Shupp, Director of Student Affairs and adviser to the campus SGA, understands the gravity of this situation, but says that ultimately, it is up the SGA to vote on the final decision.

“As an advisor I cannot dictate what they do. I can advise them and help them but if I dictate it takes away from the learning process.”

SGA's Director of Public Relations, Aimee Ralph, says that this situation is still undecided.

“SGA will take a vote on October 5th, if the majority votes ‘yes’ to continue funding THON, then it is full speed ahead and THON can begin fundraising for the kids.”

Shupp says that if SGA votes to end funding to THON, there are options that SGA has to assist THON in what to do next as an organization.

These options are:

1. THON can pay for CCSG weekends on their own.
2. THON chairs can do community service through SGA and get \$25 for compensation for every 4 hours of community service earned.
3. Have the overall(s) of THON become a senator on the SGA board.
4. THON can apply to the Student Activities Fund for monies.



PSU Brandywine THON members, including current THON overalls Alexis Cicala (upper left, blue shirt) and Amanda Rasley (lower right, blue shirt, kneeling) take time from their 46 hours of dancing at the 2011 THON event to grab a picture with just one of many children who benefit from the donations given yearly to The Four Diamonds Fund at Hershey Medical Center. (photo courtesy PSU Brandywine THON)

Each of these choices may seem feasible, says THON co-overall Alexis Cicala, however, none of them are really viable selections. “THON's primary purpose is to raise money for The Four Diamonds Fund at Hershey Medical Center, and so, according to the THON Rule Book, all fundraisers must be approved by the THON organization at University Park, and approved fundraiser monies must go to The Four Diamonds Fund. The same goes for money that is donated to THON. So THON really has no budget and has always relied on SGA support,” says Cicala.

THON members also spend countless hours doing community service by way of canning weekends, but according to the SGA Community Service option, the service must not be Penn State related, and membership is already overwhelmed with their service to THON. It is also a conflict of interest for THON overalls to become entrenched within SGA, plus it may not be something that THON administrators can fit into their already busy schedules. Finally, SAF funding is generally only granted for activities to serve a large group of students.

“As a rule, SAF gives money to programs for the whole student body, not just the travel expenses for one student needing to go to University Park for a meeting, so THON cannot bank on SAF approval of such a request,” Cicala says.

The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon is a yearlong effort to raise funds and awareness for the fight against pediatric cancer. Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$78 million for The Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital. THON 2012 will take place from February 17th - 19th, in Penn State's Bryce Jordan Center. Penn State Brandywine's THON chapter raised over \$13,000 for the Four Diamonds Fund last year in their fundraising efforts. Fundraising for THON across the Commonwealth officially starts Friday, September 30.



Brandywine SGA President Steve Iatesta has proposed a plan to eliminate SGA funding to the campus THON organization, which will go to vote on Wednesday October 5. (photo courtesy Steve Iatesta)