

The Daily Collegian

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Andrew Dunheimer/Collegian

Morale captains lead the Bryce Jordan Center in the 2010 THON line dance. The dance was performed 42 times throughout the 46 hours of THON. The line dance is meant to stretch the dancers as they stand and dance for almost two days straight. Line dances from past years were also showcased on Sunday morning.

\$7,838,054.36

Sometimes it hosts Penn State basketball games, and sometimes it hosts Bruce Springsteen. But for one weekend a year, the Bryce Jordan Center is transformed.

For 46 hours, the best show in town is free.

The world's largest student-run philanthropy isn't about the fundraising total or the lyrics to the line dance. It's about the fight against pediatric cancer. It's about Four Diamonds Fund families and their journeys, their stories.

For 46 hours, their struggles become Penn State's reason to dance.

Forget the February cold. In here, grown men

sport fuzzy pink hats and children with squirt guns dart between dancers, bouncing beach balls under a hanging diamond. The Bryce Jordan Center is a carnival.

For 46 hours, the outside world is better left outside.

Here, dancers celebrate life. They draw strength from the boy who pledges to kick cancer's butt, and they carry on the fight of the girl who tried but lost her battle. In here, they laugh as much as they cry, they cheer as hard as they listen and they dance as long as they can stand.

For 46 hours, love belongs here.

THE ENTIRE 46 HOURS, Page 11.