Students launch Innoblue

By Kathleen Loughran **COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER**

At the launch party for Innoblue, State College Mayor Elizabeth Goreham said she was impressed by the student-run organization.

Goreham, along with about 50 other people, attended the Saturday evening kick-off party for Innoblue at the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house, 220 N. Burrowes Rd.

Innoblue "starts and supports student ventures and ideas from a civic perspective and a business perspective," said Innoblue member Jon Tornetta, who works closely with founder David Adewumi.

"These are individuals who are college students, but they're already adults," Goreham said. "These are people who are going to make a difference... Our town really needs to embrace it.'

Goreham isn't the only person embracing Innoblue.

Schreyer Honors College Dean Christian Brady, Weebly cofounder David Rusenko and Vice for Information Technology Kevin Morooney are some of the organization's advis-

Innoblue operates under three parts: think, labs and create.

BlueTHINK falls under the "think" category, and is designed to help Penn State student entrepreneurs.

With BlueTHINK, students can seek advice from other stu- four partners — Happy Valley

"These are individuals who are college students, but they're already adults. These are people who are going to make a difference..."

> **Elizabeth Goreham** State College mayor

dent consultants and adult mentors through weekly dinners and demonstration days, Tornetta (junior-science) said.

You can kind of classify us as a catalyst," he said. "We're trying to get these ideas and turn them

into a reality." After the organization has been brought together and the idea for the company has been formed, students can use Innoblue labs to bring their ideas

to fruition, Tornetta said. "Labs is empowering — giving people the resources physically to develop their idea," he said. "Students can take what they learn in class and apply it to real businesses.

Under the "create" aspect of Innoblue's mission is Redbrick Production, which assists students in print, web and video pro-

"Create is about filling in that gap," said Zach Johnston (sophomore-advertising), who is in charge of the create aspect of Innoblue.

But Innoblue is not working

The organization currently has

Communications, Cooley LLP, Weebly and Media Temple.

To begin Innoblue's presentation, David Weekly, founding director of Hacker Dojo, spoke over video chat about the importance of innovation and organizations like Innoblue.

Though Innoblue just held its launch party, the organization is already working with student

companies, including Viewcubed. "We're going to be a media conglomerator - bring YouTube, Facebook and Twitter together to tell a story," Chief Technical Officer Zach Gotsch (senior-computer science) said.

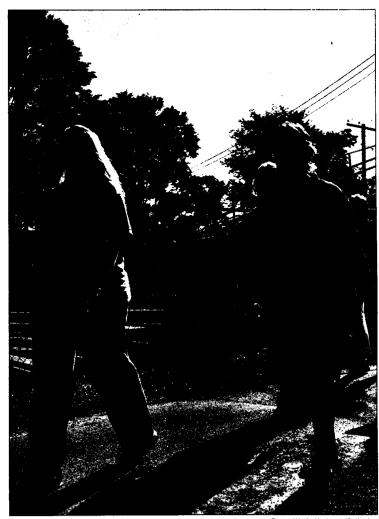
"David is an excellent resource in keeping us on track and on focus, and getting us to set goals on what we want done."

Innoblue Director of Finance Drew Mohoric said the launch party was "a good stepping stone." 'We've definitely made a lot of

progress for the four or five months we've been working on it," Mohoric (junior-accounting) said.

'We're really proud of it."

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Nicole Monica, director of Communication for Mount Nittnay Medical **Center,** walks with other women during Friday's Diabetes Health Walk. The walk was sponsored by the Mount Nittany Medical Center.

Walkers take steps toward healthy living

By Katrina Wehr

COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Grange Fair campers awoke to the sound of footsteps Friday morning as participants kicked off the first-ever Diabetes Health Walk, sponsored by the Mount Nittany Medical Center.

Beginning at 9 a.m., walkers met at the grandstands of the County Grange Centre Encampment and Fair to set off on the mile-long Diabetes Walk Health Path and to receive their "passports" — pamphlets used to log the number of miles walked each day of the fair.

After walking at least a mile. participants took their passports to the Mount Nittany Medical Center booth to get them stamped.

This Thursday, those who collected stamps each day of fair week will be recognized and awarded a prize for their achievecise to their day, said Amy Leffard, nurse and certified diabetes educator at Mount Nittany Medical Center.

'We're trying to encourage people to live a healthy lifestyle and prevent diabetes and continue to

exercise at home," she said. Signs with different diabetes health facts were posted along the

walking route to keep walkers motivated, but Kate Mulberger, a participant from Bellefonte, did not need extra motivation.

Her son was diagnosed with diabetes as a child, and Mulberger and her family were walking in support of the cause. She said she was proud of

accomplishing the mile-long walk, adding that she plans to continue walking each day for the remainder of the fair.

"It was very easy," Mulberger said. "We're going to go for another loop."

For Nichole Monica, director of communications at Mount Nittany Medical Center, the goal of the event is to inspire people and help them with the first step toward a healthier lifestyle.

You can tell people what to do to be healthier every day," Monica said. "But to actually show them is a different story."

While she hopes all participants ment. The purpose of the event will continue with an exercise rouwas to show people how easy it tine of their own, the fact that can be to add 30 minutes of exermany tried it at the fair made the

event worthwhile, Monica said. "We hope that when they take the RVs back home, they can figure out how to work some exercise into their regular days," she said. "But they still made the choice to try, and we're proud of them for that."

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'Special interest' groups on the rise

By Megan Rogers

COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Some students just can't get enough of THON — something Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon officials say is evidenced by the rise of special interest groups.

Most of the members of the newest THON organization — Help Every Angel Live (HEAL) were previously involved with THON committees, Executive Director Danielle Krueger said. But that alone wasn't enough to fulfill their passion for THON.

"Being in a committee is awesome, but we all just wanted more THON," Krueger (seniorelementary education) said.

The group is working to obtain university recognition and is looking into fundraisers like raffles and sales, she said.

HEAL isn't the only special interest group on campus, and Executive Overall expects to see an increase in formed Pillar, after they missed means tomorrow in Italian, she these independent groups since THON is no longer just for committee members or greek students, said Adam Fountaine, a member of independent THON group, FOTO.

The name FOTO pays the small group atmosphere. respects to Fountaine's brother,

atric cancer, Fountaine (seniorhistory) said.

His brother just recently graduated medical school and is working in a pediatric oncology ward, he said.

"Our main emphasis that we try to drive home is that we're not THON. At least one of their just an organization — it's a cause that's important to all of us," Fountaime said.

THON 2011 will be FOTO's second time participating in THON, he said. Last year the group raised \$4,100.

host some fundraisers, like a possible pancake dinner, a three-onthree basketball tournament and color wars, Fountaine said.

plans on increasing their fundraising efforts this THON benefit concert.

season. Director the involvement fairs and still wanted a way to get involved. Greenberg said he hopes the group — which has about 40 to expand, while still maintaining

Tom, who recovered from pedi- Everyone knows each other's names in the group," he said. "It's a tight-knit group of people, and we'd like to keep it that

Pillar recruits heavily in East

Halls because its members want to get freshmen involved in dancers each year is a freshman, Greenberg said.

In the past, Pillar has participated in many of THON's organized fundraisers — like the THON 5K - but Greenberg said Pillar is hoping to try some inde-This year FOTO is looking to pendent fundraisers this year. He said the group is talking about doing a fundraiser with Rita's Water Ice, 119 E. Beaver Ave. They are also looking to collabo-Special interest group Pillar rate with other special interest THON organizations to host a

Family relations is a big focus During their freshman year, for special interest group Ben Domani, Executive Chairwoman Committee Greenberg and about 20 friends Elise Rodgers said. Domani

> "We are here to give the kids a tomorrow who might not have had one without THON," active members — can continue Rodgers (senior-early childhood education) said.

"You really get a tight feel. To e-mail reporter: mer5200@psu.edu



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