

Shands For Kids



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Dance Marathon Breaks a Record to Make Miracles Happen



Nearly \$12,000 came in following the event, raising the total to over \$319,000.

was a wonderful surprise," said David Gray, overall chair for Dance Marathon 2005. "It is a testament to the hard work hundreds of students have poured into the event, fundraising and the many months of pre-events."

Students from 54 UF organizations participated in the largest event of its kind in the Southeast, including 16 organizations that participated for the first time. From the first countdown to celebrate standing at 9 a.m. on Saturday to the final countdown of sitting on Sunday at 6 p.m., more than 40 entertainers, including the Florida State University Circus and UF's Dazzlers, entertained dancers and visitors.

Each year, the event grows – this year, 50 more dancers were allowed on the floor – and as the event grows there is always more food, more diverse entertainment and more fun, especially when the music starts for the line dance that is performed throughout the event. "The line dance keeps me going throughout the night," said Kim Berger, a four-year dancer. "It is one of the most memorable parts of the 32 hours."

There was also not a shortage on food as dancers were treated to 3,900 inches of subs, 3,000 chicken wings, smoothies, cotton candy, pizza, and much more from Gainesville's finest restaurants.

And as the event came to a close, organizations were given awards for fundraising and participation in

Dance Marathon-related events throughout the year. Kappa Delta and Kappa Sigma won the Miracle Cup for the second consecutive year having raised more than \$50,000. Then, the final total was revealed by the Overall Team – a record-breaking total of \$307,764.82 for Children's Miracle Network. Thank you to all those who contributed to the success of Dance Marathon at UF 2005.

All photos courtesy of Photography35



Albert and Alberta at the 2005 Dance Marathon.



Dancers and DM volunteers create the "CMN" on the O'Dome floor.



The Bright triplets make an appearance and remind participants why they are dancing.

This is a periodic publication produced and funded by the Children's Miracle Network at Shands Children's Hospital at the University of Florida. The purpose of this publication is to inform our readers of the latest developments, improvements and advances at Shands Children's Hospital, the Children's Miracle Network and our SAFE KIDS program. For further information, please call (352) 265-7953 or 1-800-284-6472. Or check out our website at www.shandskids.org

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