

Flyers Fundraiser for Penn's Center for Brain Injury & Repair at the Wachovia Center: March 18

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To mark Brain Injury Awareness Month, the Penn neurosurgery department is hosting a benefit night at the Philadelphia Flyers vs. Thrashers hockey game on Tuesday, March 18. The event will promote brain injury awareness and raise funds to support research at the Penn Center for Brain Injury and Repair.

The night will include the opportunity for zamboni rides, a featured focus on our party on the big screen, informational tabling on the concourse and a photo opportunity for the Penn group with Flyers alumni who have experience with brain injury. Autographed Flyers memorabilia will also be raffled off prior to the event.

Serious head injury (traumatic brain injury) is a leading cause of death and disability in the United States. It often affects people in the prime of their lives.

- Brain injury is suffered by someone in America, usually a young person, every 15 seconds
- Each year, approximately 100,000 people die from a traumatic brain injury and 500,000 more are permanently disabled
- Annually 80,000 people experience the onset of long-term disability following a severe brain injury
- Approximately 5.3 million Americans—more than 2% of the US population—are living with a disability that results from brain injury
- The cost of treating, rehabilitating and caring for the victims of traumatic brain injury costs the US approximately \$30 billion each year

Today there are no treatments available to halt the progressive damage initiated by brain trauma. Yet, there is hope, based largely on exciting, groundbreaking research at the Penn Center for Brain Injury and Repair at UPHS.

The Center for Brain Injury and Repair is the longest-standing and most respected center for head injury in the US. For more than 30 years, scientists, engineers and clinicians have collaborated to study the causes, effects and management of traumatic brain injury, both in the laboratory and in the patient

care setting. Charitable contributions to the center's work are vital to keeping the research moving forward.

Tickets to the Flyers fundraiser are \$40. Raffle tickets for autographed Flyers memorabilia are \$5 for 5. \$15 from each ticket sale and all proceeds from the raffle go directly towards research at the Penn Center for Brain Injury and Repair.

Contact Robin Armstrong at robin@mail.med.upenn.edu or (215) 746-4727 for tickets or more information. Tickets to the game and raffle tickets will also be available at a table on the mezzanine level of HUP during Patient Safety Awareness Week, March 3-9, 2008.

—Department of Neurosurgery