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Boston University Medical Center

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NEWS

For Immediate Release
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TELEVISION AND RADIO PERSONALITIES TO LEND SUPPORT
TO THE TWELFTH ANNUAL HUNTINGTON'S HOOPATHON
APRIL 25, 1991

Boston, Mass.--Local television and radio personalities--including WCVB-TV's Jim Boyd, Brian Leary, Mike Dowling and Mark Rosenthal; WBZ-TV's Bob Lobel; WNEV-TV's Harvey Leonard and Peter Henderson; and Paul (Tank) Sferruzza of WBCN-FM--will "travel" to the 12th Annual Huntington's Disease Hoopathon to "dribble," "shoot," "swish," and "slam dunk some three-pointers" to help raise money for Huntington's disease research and patient care.

The 24-hour-long event, sponsored by the Massachusetts Chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America (MA/HDSA) and Boston University Medical Center (BUMC), will begin on Thursday, April 25, at 6:00 a.m. and continue day and night until 6:00 a.m. the next morning at the Solomon Carter Fuller Mental Health Center Gymnasium, 85 East Newton Street, Boston.

Local celebrities will compete between noon and 3:30 p.m. Also participating in the event will be staff from the University Hospital (UH), Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM), the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, HDSA and teams from colleges, hospitals and nursing homes in the Boston area.

The MA/HDSA was established at BUMC in 1969 through the combined efforts of Robert G. Feldman, M.D., the chief of the Department of Neurology at UH and a professor of neurology at BUSM, and Majorie Guthrie, the founder of the national organization and the widow of folksinger/songwriter Woody Guthrie, who died of Huntington's disease in 1967.

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Huntington's Disease is a hereditary disorder that results in the degeneration of the body's nervous system, and is characterized by involuntary movements or rigidity. To date, no cure has been found for the disease.

Medical services are offered at UH's neurological referral center.

In addition to research, proceeds from this year's Hoopathon will fund a summer camp for Huntington's patients.