

# 'The Great Tailgate' Saturday

## An Ounce of Prevention

BY CAROL ANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

PLYMOUTH — Sisters Jennifer Houin and Jessica Oliver have been on a mission for the past four years.

Having lost both of their grandmothers to breast cancer, they became determined starting in 2003 to raise enough money to create a resource center at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center to provide educational resources as well as a physical and emotional support to help those diagnosed with the disease.

This Saturday night will mark the fifth event organized to keep the dollars coming in. Houin said they have raised a total of \$118,000 so far. In the beginning, they deposited the proceeds in a designated account, but decided that placing the funds in the Marshall County Community Foundation would bring the greatest

return.

This year's event entitled "The Great Tailgate Against Breast Cancer" will be held in the parking lot of Christos's Banquet Center. Houin said Dan Barden of the Grand Rental Station has been a supporter from the beginning and has offered to donate all the tables, chairs and accessories for this year's event.

The event, starting at 6 p.m., will feature "tailgate" type foods and an auction.

Houin said, "I keep asking for auction item donations whenever I see someone I know in a store."

She also personally called 198 individuals and businesses who have donated in the past.

Houin said they were even able to raise \$1,600 last year from a dozen homemade cookies. This year, they have already lined up a variety of sports collectibles from NASCAR to the Cubs, according to Houin.



Sisters Jennifer Houin and Jessica Oliver stand in front of a 42-inch Magnavox digital LCD flat HD TV and other items that will be offered at the event Saturday.

Some door prizes include an overnight stay at Cushing Manor in South Bend, a Peyton Manning autographed jersey, a Vera Bradley handbag and more.

Entertainment for the

evening will be the music of "Red Alert."

Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door. For more information contact Jennifer Houin at 800-781-0342 or Jessica Oliver at 574-930-1404.

# 'Ounce' fundraiser a success

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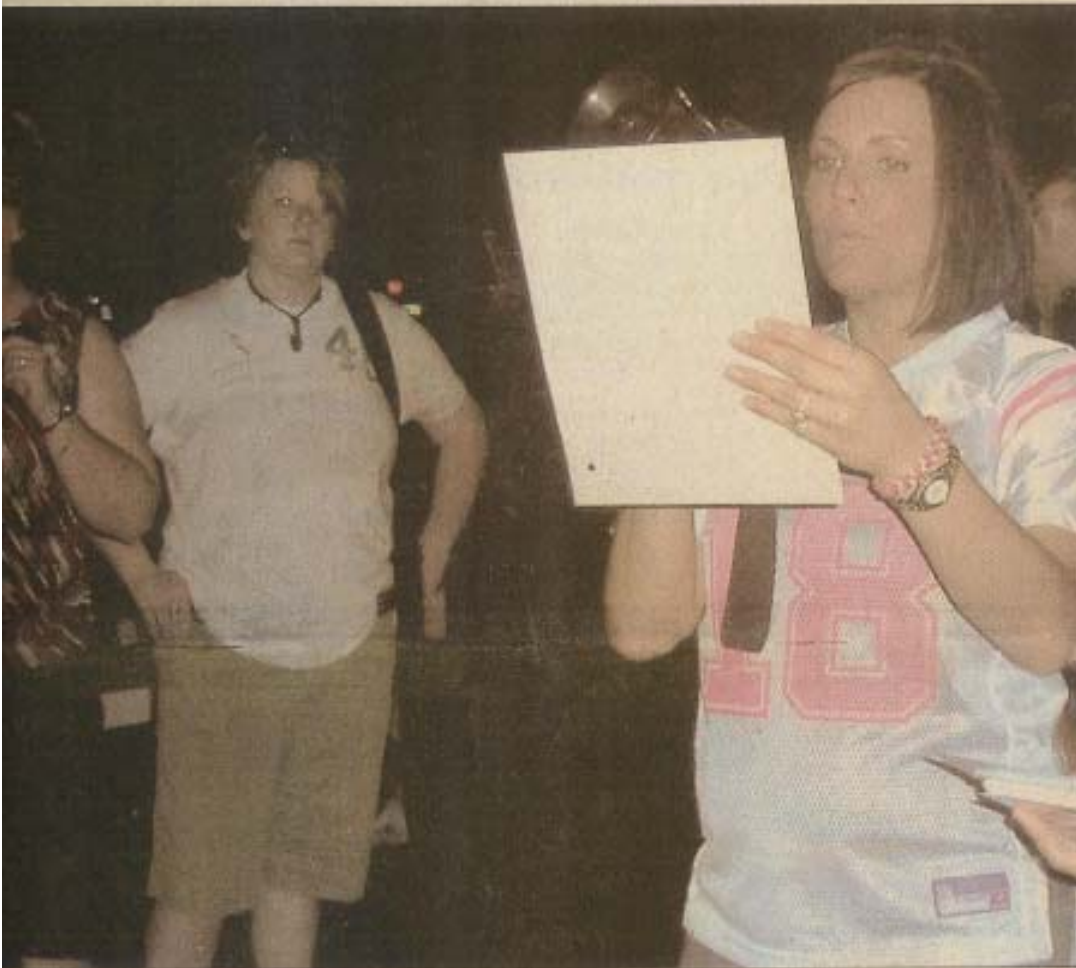
PLYMOUTH — Auctioneer Mike Berger wasn't about to let items go at the "Ounce of Prevention" Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser on Oct. 6 until he got the nod from audience members agreeing to his suggested bid amounts.

Even after the 24 donated items in the live auction were gone, Berger started auctioning off "nothing" as he asked the audience to make a monetary donation.

Berger was a part of the fifth annual event organized by sisters Jessica Oliver and Jennifer Houin. The proceeds from the fundraisers each year are put into an account in the Marshall County Community Foundation. The goal is to build a center specifically for breast cancer related issues at the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Plymouth.

Among the items that were auctioned off was a signed picture of Tiger Woods at the 2005 Master's Championship, a signed football from Notre Dame's Brady Quinn, a football signed by both Quinn and Charlie Weiss, pictures of golfer Payne Stewart and an

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