



PSI



PARTHENON

ALPHA ZETA DELTA ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Remarks From The #1

The 1999-2000 school year has finally come to an end, also concluding a great year in Alpha Zeta Delta. We ended on a great note, by initiating a spring pledge class of 8. During the course of this year we saw increased numbers, increased service and philanthropy, and an even stronger sense of brotherhood. It's amazing to think of how far we have come, but never losing focus of what we will accomplish in the future.

On April 1 we held our first campus-wide philanthropy. It was a paintball tournament with the proceeds going to the Walter Payton Foundation. We were able to raise a considerable amount of money for the charity and laid the groundwork for this to become an annual event. 5 man teams from other fraternities and student organizations competed for a \$300 cash prize. The event ran smoothly and we even had a nice article written about it in the Daily Illini as you can see by the inserted photocopy.

We also formed the Parent's Club, which will help us gain support from our families. On Mom's Weekend we held our first Parent's Club event and cooked up quite a banquet

for the mothers. Next year we will hold a more formal Father's Weekend barbecue prior to the football game.

We will start next year with over 30 brothers. There is already excitement about our rush in the fall, and I know the brothers will work extremely hard to continue our current success. Many of the members on the Executive Committee will be new to

this summer. I know we didn't play particularly well last year, however we've got some new recruits and I think "total domination" will be seen as a good description after we're done. Also, this summer is the 159th annual convention. We will know soon enough if we are, in fact, a Founder's Trophy finalist. I hope to see some of you there.

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their leadership roles, but I'm confident that they are prepared to take Alpha Zeta Delta to the next step. We have a lot of things planned for next semester and next year.

We look forward to helping with the Buell Scholarship and using it as a platform for our rush efforts. Our social calendar is already full and we want to increase participation in community volunteering.

But, before all that happens we especially look forward to the annual Alumni vs. Active softball game

In closing, I want to thank all the alumni that came down for the latest initiation. You were a great boost of confidence for the undergraduates and we look forward to your presence next year. If you would like to contact me, please email me at gbscott@uiuc.edu. It's a very exciting time right now to be an AZD Chi Psi, and I hope you feel the same way.

Y.I.T.B.,
Glen Scott '01

MY TURN

When I first heard about the upcoming initiation, I thought to myself that I'd like to go, but it was a bad time—I simply had too much going on to make it down to Champaign. Then my brother-in-law (also a Chi Psi) called from Tennessee to say he was going and to lay on the guilt. Sufficiently humbled, I grudgingly agreed to make time in my busy schedule.

I remember the original AZD Lodge on Second street, and I've seen the ugly blue behemoth that replaced it. That apartment building serves as a permanent reminder of how things change and how there's no going back.

I had heard that the new generation of Chi Psi gentlemen had made some progress and that they were now occupying the old Crow house, but armed with my nostalgia and the still-fresh memory of the unceremonious destruction of the original Lodge, I was expecting to be saddened and discouraged.

My first thought upon entering the new Lodge was, "wait a minute... I thought they leveled this place!" For a split second, I thought I was back on Second street. It stands to reason, I suppose. Both buildings were constructed in 1921 with the same materials and the same purpose in mind. Nevertheless, I was flabbergasted by how two differently shaped buildings could inspire the exact same look and feel. Then, of course, I got the grand tour and I discovered some more interesting things. The young men living in this new Lodge have made some significant improvements to this place. Chi Psi pictures and plaques which were somehow rescued from Second street now proudly adorn the halls of Chi Psi once again. Structural changes have been made to comply with fire codes. Wires have been run to bring internet access to the rooms. One of the recent pledge classes built what I consider to be one of the finest bars I've ever seen in the basement. Initiation class paddles from almost every class

hang in order on the wall. The ones that are missing have been located and those responsible (myself included) will be duly chastised (I'll bring it in—I promise).

As wonderful as the new Lodge is, though, it pales in comparison with what I discovered next: more highly motivated, intelligent, industrious and talented men than I have ever seen in one Lodge. And get this—they also know how to have a good time!

I learned that every pledge class for the last two years has been larger than any class my generation ever managed to bring in. I learned that the Lodge just pulled together a well run and very well attended paintball philanthropy event, which not only brought high visibility to Chi Psi, it also actually made money which was donated to the Walter Payton foundation.

Then I participated in the most organized and respectful initiation I have ever witnessed. While I am honor-bound not to discuss it in this article, I can say that these guys really know what it means to be a Chi Psi.

Finally, I learned something so shocking, so incredible, so amazing that I nearly passed out. Not only did this new generation accomplish all of these wonderful and unexpected things... they tell me they actually got some help from an involved and dedicated group of alumni. That's right, folks, Alpha Zeta Delta of Chi Psi actually has some alumni who care and get involved! Imagine that!

Now I finally understand what these incredible young men already seem to know. Chi Psi is not merely a lifetime commitment. Chi Psi is an honor and a privilege that lasts a lifetime. I realize as I read back over my words that I am not able to properly convey the wonderful transformation that has occurred within our fraternity. It's something you'll just have to see for yourself.

Marc Raiser, '91

July 22	Buell Scholarship BBQ
August 2-5	National Convention
August 23.....	Classes Resume
August 25.....	Buell Finalist Interviews
August 26.....	Buell Scholarship Banquet at the Lodge
September 16	Alumni Reunion
September 17	Articles for Fall Parthenon Due
December 1-2.....	Initiation
December 16.....	Winter Break

Fighting Illini Home Football

Date	Opponent	Event
September 2	Middle Tennessee State	Illini Street Fest
September 16	California	Varsity "T" Day
September 23	Michigan	Foundation Day
October 14	Iowa	Homecoming
November 4	Indiana	
November 11	Ohio State	Salute to Education

#1 Todd Fouts	630-208-6459
#2 Craig Schallmo	708-535-3909
#3 Tim Toner	773-788-0908
#4 Jim McElwee	708-479-4389
Chi Psi National	708-283-1480

Trustees:	
Events	Chris Pounds 773-404-9148
Buell	Steve McFarlin 708-445-9811
Rush	Randy Mason 317-865-0153
	David St. Peter

And Now A Word From Meathouse

When the H.A. Bestor Award was presented to me at our Founders Day Banquet last month, I was really taken by surprise. In a state of shock, I stumbled through an acceptance speech which, to be quite honest, I don't really even remember. So to make up for my scattered thoughts at the banquet, I submit this article.

First of all, I'm very honored and humbled to have been presented with this award. It means so much to me to be deemed worthy enough to receive it in the eyes of so many people who I respect so greatly.

However, I believe that the award should be viewed as much a testament to the outstanding work of all the actives as it is a personal recognition. Many before me have accomplished great things, but due to the state of the Alpha, did not receive the recognition that they deserved.

Had it not been for Craig Schallmo's tremendous leadership (and creative fund-raising), Zeta Delta would never have survived the sale of the Lodge. If not for Randy Mason's tremendous work ethic and vision, Zeta Delta could have been dead in the water long before I ever came to the University of Illinois. Without the hard work and dedication of brothers who I do not have the pleasure of knowing, including Steve Behm, Scott Irvin, Jeff Grim, and Jim Bridgewater, we most certainly would have had nothing to celebrate on May 20. And of course, we are all indebted to Todd Fouts for his ability to find inspiration and motivation throughout some of the lowest points in Zeta Delta history, for such a long period of time. The accomplishments that we have enjoyed recently would never



have been possible without the service of these dedicated brothers.

That said, the progress that we have made here since I've pledged is indescribable. This is something that I take great pride in, as I hope each and every brother does. We are poised to be a leading fraternity on this campus once again, and a leading Alpha in Chi Psi. But we are at a crossroads. Momentum can shift faster than one might think. The younger brothers must realize this, and every one of them must dedicate themselves to Chi Psi in order to make sure that it does not happen.

This past year, we initiated sixteen new brothers, and these men especially must realize this fact. Their aspirations for the Lodge are incredible, and their motivation just as much so. To these new brothers I would say that it is imperative that you keep your focus. It is easy to get distracted in college if you allow yourself to do so. Between maintaining your grades, a social life, and other extracurricular activities, motivated pledges have often turned out to be sub-par brothers. Don't let this happen to you. Don't let it happen to *us*.

In closing, I want to sincerely thank the undergraduate brothers whom I have had the opportunity to work with these past few years. I've enjoyed being your #1, and I take great satisfaction in what we've accomplished. I hope you all share this feeling. I also want to thank the members of the Alumni Corporation Board, past and present. The Corporation has been nothing but a pillar of support for us, and this is much appreciated. I look forward to taking on my role as an alumnus, and seeing Alpha Zeta Delta rise to the elite status that she deserves.

YITB,
Matt Hess, '00



Information for Future Parthenons:

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Annual Dues and Donations:

Jim McElwee

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