



PARTHENON

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF ALPHA ZETA DELTA OF CHI PSI
MAY 2006

"...Brotherhood should more adequately prevail..."

From the Editor:

There comes a time in every alumni newsletter's life where it realizes some changes have to be made; a need to shake things up and get some fresh perspective overwhelms it. Also, there comes a time when the money dries up, when belts need to be tightened for the greater good but the basic purpose of our existence cannot change. Brothers, this is that time....the Parthenon's wallet is empty and its belt is down to the last notch.

That's why you're here, reading this on the internet. Join the alumni corporation as we take another step into the 21st century with our foray into web-publishing. Hopefully the transition will be a smooth one, and that eventually this will be as useful and informative as a paper and ink Parthenon. So keep your web browsers set on us every couple of weeks for a quick update and for the info and content that you

can't get on the Yahoo Group or the podcast.

As always, your submissions are not only greatly appreciated, but welcomed with open arms. The editor does reserve the right to make any changes for clarity, consistency, or content.

yitb,

Bill Novak '03



From the #1:

Spring is in full swing here in Champaign and the Lodge is in the middle of another great semester. The fall semester proved to be a fantastic one; we are glad to say that we initiated eleven great gentlemen into the bonds. This new initiate class has proven to be a strong one so far with many of them holding positions already and three of them moving in at the semester break. Many of them are also up for election for an exec position next semester. Last semester was also a good one for Lodge grades. The undergraduates are proud to announce that the Lodge GPA was 3.10 for the fall semester. This puts us above the All-Men's average and well above the Fraternity average, we are 15 out of over 40 fraternities on campus. Even more impressive is the GPA of our new initiates: 3.13.

Since it is spring we will soon have to say goodbye to another class of seniors. This year's graduating class has given a lot to the Lodge and has truly made it what it is now. Although we are losing many great leaders in this class, the Lodge is still full of many leaders that will keep working to achieve the vision that the graduating seniors worked toward. This class will be missed greatly and all Lodgers owe them a large round of clicks.

Although we are losing some great men, there is another strong class coming up behind them. We are currently in the middle of our pledge process, with 11 quality men looking forward to entering the bonds of Chi Psi. The past couple of semesters we have lost a number of pledges so our current pledge educator, Peter Schlichting, has worked to fix some problems with the pledge education program. His biggest improvement is adding a weekly bonding exercise along with the weekly pledge meeting. The pledges are responding greatly

to this and this is the closest pledge classes I have seen since entering the Lodge.

Not only have we been increasing in size, our social calendar has also been increasing. This semester has been the fullest since I have entered school. We have already had a few exchanges with sororities and are looking forward to formal in a few weeks. The Lodge has also been involved in many different philanthropies so far this year and many brothers donate their time to volunteer organizations. We are going to try and start a philanthropy of our own in the near future.

This semester is proving to be a good one for the Lodge and we have a lot to look forward to next year. With the current pledge class the Lodge should start the year with over 50 brothers for the first time in a very long time. We hope the Fall Rush will bring us another large group of gentlemen that will add to the promising future of the lodge.

We hope some alumni will get the opportunity to come back to Champaign and stop by the lodge and meet some of the new undergraduates. Our doors are always open, so please feel free to stop by.

Y.I.T.B.,

Kyle Churillo, '08



Chi Psi Musings:

I don't know if this is true for any of you, but it seems like these past few years I've been able to find less and less time to keep in touch with my fellow Brothers, many of whom I considered my best friends throughout my tenure at Illinois. Whether it be the demands of Professional school, the pressure of work, or the time constraints of family life, the time to catch up with one another seems to have gone by the wayside. In an age of cell phones, email, text messages, and instant messaging I know this seems impossible, but I'm also guessing many of you feel the same way.

Not anymore... I'm a changed man! This past week my schedule and the schedule of two Brothers whom I shared my time with at the Lodge finally aligned allowing us to make a long overdue trek out to sunny California. Heading into our journey, I was nervous that this trip would provide confirmation that the stresses of life had taxed our relationships to the point that we no longer shared the camaraderie we experienced in the Lodge. It turns out I was wrong. Very quickly the opposite became overwhelmingly apparent. As soon as our trip started I noticed us reverting back to the witty banter and inside jokes that I hadn't heard in years.

We were no longer the alumni reliving a collegiate dream of spring break on the west coast, but were three lifelong Brothers whose friendship perseveres despite the pressures of the "real world". The greater truths of our fraternity also quickly became visible. We may not see each other everyday, or even every year in many cases, but in simple ways we still share in each others lives. Throughout this

trip there were many moments when I knew that these gentlemen were and always will be unalienable and unalterable friends.

There was no singular poetic moment along our journey (despite what some of you may imagine laying on a beach with Brothers May and Novak to be like), but at the end I knew that Chi Psi had and is fulfilling the dream set forth by a young Philip Spencer so long ago. Chi Psi is not creating a group of men tied together simply through shared experience, but is creating men bonded together in lifelong friendship and brotherhood through the opportunities and ideals of an organization far greater than any one of us. So, if you haven't done so recently, take the five minutes out of your day and call up one of your Brothers just to see what's new. I guarantee you'll get a lot more out of it than a simple update on their lives!

Y.I.T.B.,

Neal Rushforth '03

P.S. I have a free week this July! Any takers?



Calendar of Events: Summer Time!

May 19, 2006: 8:00 pm to ??	Founders Day \$55/person \$110/couple	Quartino 626 N. State Street Chicago, IL www.quartinochicago.com
July 16, 2006: noon-5:00 pm	Alumni/Active Softball Picnic	White Buffalo Park Willow Springs, IL
August 5 (or 6), 2006	Golf Outing	TBD shortly

2006 Baseball Preview



by Nick Stevens

Spring is here, which means another baseball season is upon us. For what seems like an eternity, this would be the time baseball fans in Illinois would be building up hopes that this is the year their frustration would end and a World Series trophy would find its way to Chicago.

For many of us, including myself, this year is no different than the last 98 years. For White Sox fans, this is a year of holding and defending that trophy. For many Sox fans, this will also be the year of their beloved team no longer being second-fiddle in Chicago. As long as both teams weren't winning anything, Cubs fans could always gloat about the day games at beautiful Wrigley field, the festive atmosphere, the higher attendance numbers, the endless flowing Old Style. You get the picture.

But this year, none of that matters because the White Sox are the champs and nothing Cubs fans can say or do will change

that until the Cubs do the same. So can the Cubs do it this year? Can the White Sox make another run at the title? Here is a brief overview of all 30 teams along with some predictions (so you can throw them back in my face when I am completely wrong).

American League

Central Division

1. Cleveland Indians. The Tribe is very young and very talented. The offense is full of young studs like Grady Sizemore and Travis Hafner and should have no problem scoring runs. They lose last years AL ERA leader in Kevin Millwood and closer Bob Wickman is another year older and word is his offseason diet consisted entirely of cheesesteaks and stacks from Merry Ann's. I think the Tribe makes a run to the pennant this year, not unlike their run in *Major League*. Record 96-66.

2. Chicago White Sox. The Sox return much of the core of last year's championship team. Carl Everett, El Duque, and Aaron Rowand are out. Jim Thome, Javier Vazquez, and Brian Anderson are in. Will the Sox be able to handle being the favorite this time around? I'm thinking they fall just short, but I am a bitter, bitter Cubs fan. [Record 94-68.](#)

3. Minnesota Twins. I see the Central being a two-horse race this year with the Indians and White Sox, but the Twins may make it interesting. Johan Santana is the best starting pitcher in the AL, and that has to count for something. Also, Torii Hunter was in my NCAA pool, and he picked the Illini to make the title game, so he has that going for him. [Record 82-80.](#)

4. Detroit Tigers. The Tigers may have the most overpaid tandem of oft-hurt, aging stars in baseball with Ivan Rodriguez and Magglio Ordonez. They have some good young talent coming through, and may be a team to watch in a year or two, but not yet. [Record 75-87.](#)

5. KC Royals. If you are a Royals fan, it would probably be a good idea to just close your eyes and imagine its 1985 again. Maybe you can take solace in the fact that your outfield has the prettiest waterfalls in baseball. [Record 63-99.](#)

Eastern Division

1. New York Yankees. Imagine this: there are kindergartners that have never had the joy of seeing their Yankees win a World Series. George still has a payroll the size of the gross domestic product of Wisconsin, and the Yankees will coast to another division title. [Record 102-60.](#)

2. Toronto Blue Jays. The Blue Jays spent a lot of money this offseason on the likes of AJ Burnett, BJ Ryan, Troy Glaus, and Ben Molina. I say these moves pay off and give Canada something to be excited about again. [Record 90-72.](#)

3. Boston Red Sox. Another era of Red Sox futility may be upon us. I expect Curt Schilling to be putting ketchup in his sock again sometime around June to drum up excitement. He will probably write a letter to the New York Times about it. (I have an irrational and unexplainable dislike for the Red Sox, and I apologize to those that do not share my feelings here). [Record 88-74.](#)

4. Tampa Bay Devil Rays. This is the year the Rays climb out of last place, and reward the 728 people that still attend their games. [Record 75-87.](#)

5. Baltimore Orioles. For the second year in a row, the Orioles take on an ex-Cub that left Chicago to resounding boos. While Corey Patterson is not quite on the level of Sammy Sosa, a stat line of .220/15 hr/190 strikeouts would not be a surprise. [Record 70-92.](#)

Western Division

1. Oakland A's. Billy Beane might have assembled his most talented team yet with a payroll around \$60 million. Rich Harden will make a run at the Cy Young award. The A's return to the post-season. MC Hammer will be excited. [Record 96-66.](#)

2. Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. The team with the most ridiculous name in the history of sports will have another winning season and win the wild-card after losing the division title to the A's in the final weekend. I hear Enrico Pallazzo is scheduled to sing the national anthem on opening day. [Record 95-67.](#)

3. Texas Rangers. Great offense. Addition by subtraction by ridding themselves of Soriano. The problem is their pitching staff would probably give up 6 runs to my little league team. [Record 80-82.](#)

4. Seattle Mariners. Felix Hernandez might be the best young pitcher in baseball and Ichiro is the best hitter for average in the majors. Frank Costanza is still upset the Yankees traded Jay Buhner to the Mariners

all those years ago. He had a rocket for an arm! Sadly, Jay is no longer around to keep the Mariners out of the cellar. Record 79-83.

National League

Central Division

- 1. St. Louis Cardinals.** The Cardinals are likely to remain the class of the division. I would be a little concerned that they have this great new stadium, with all its new revenue streams, and still spent next to nothing this offseason. Record 95-67.
- 2. Milwaukee Brewers.** The Brew-Crew is the trendy pick to be this year's surprise team, and who am I to buck the trends? A solid starting pitching staff, with young talent all over the place. Prince Fielder may be the new Gorman Thomas, which is something we all need. Record 89-73.
- 3. Chicago Cubs.** Sadly, the Cubs will not follow the Sox, both Red and White, to end a long streak of futility this year. To the surprise of no one, Mark Prior and Kerry Wood are hurt. The Jacques Jones signing had to be one of the worst moves made this offseason. Dusty Baker will be on the hot seat for most of the year and the Cubs will fall short of the postseason. Hopefully I am wrong. Record 83-79.
- 4. Houston Astros.** After their pathetic showing in the World Series, the Astros will have to wait until May 1 to see if Roger Clemens will be returning for another season. I predict the Rocket retires and the Astros struggle. Record 78-84.
- 5. Pittsburgh Pirates.** The Pirates have an interesting young pitching staff, but will struggle again. The only bright spot will be seeing if the Cubs can somehow fleece them again at the trade deadline. Record 72-90.
- 6. Cincinnati Reds.** There is not much to say about the Reds. If Ken Griffey, Jr. can stay healthy again, he should have a nice year. But unless Joe Morgan comes out of the booth and Pete Rose is reinstated, I don't

think the Reds will be much of a threat. Record 67-95.

Eastern Division

- 1. Philadelphia Phillies.** I have predicted somebody other than the Braves for at least 5 years straight now. And I have been wrong every time. Until now. The Phillies are going to pull it out. Chase Utley will make a run at the MVP award and Ryan Howard will have a breakout season. Record 90-72.
- 2. New York Mets.** The Mets are doing their best Yankee impression with the additions of Billy Wagner, Carlos Delgado, Pedro Martinez, and Carlos Beltran over the last couple years. While Keith Hernandez will continue to be a successful beard dye salesman, the Mets will fall just short. Record 86-76.
- 3. Atlanta Braves.** I was in 5th grade the last time the Braves did not win this division. Much has changed since then. I have gone through puberty, graduated high school, college, and law school in this time. So it should be obvious that I will pick them to finish 3rd. The loss of "Rockin'" Lee Mazzone will hurt. Record 81-81.
- 4. Washington Nationals.** The Ex-Expos had a nice go of it last year, but will not keep that magic alive this season. Soriano will be a thorn in their side with his reluctance to play the outfield. And somehow MLB still owns the team, which makes absolutely no sense. Record 70-92.
- 5. Florida Marlins.** The life of a Florida Marlins fan must be quite the roller coaster. They seem to love going from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows as quickly as possible. I can't fault them though, they've won twice as many World Series in 13 years of existence as the city of Chicago has since 1917. Good work Chicago. Record 62-100.

Western Division

- 1. Los Angeles Dodgers.** It's not going to take many wins to take this division, so I

will go with the Dodgers. Eric Gagne is back, Nomar is playing first, and Kenny Lofton is roaming centerfield. Their fans that arrive in the 3rd inning and leave in the 6th should see some decent baseball. Record 86-76.

2. San Diego Padres. I think this division will only have one winning team, which is bad news for the Pad's. At least they get to live in San Diego. I hear there's a nice zoo there, and Ron Burgundy. Record 79-83

3. San Francisco Giants. Barry Bonds may be the most despised player in the majors and will be boo-ed incessantly everywhere he goes. That will have to have some sort of negative effect. Record 75-87.

4. Arizona Diamondbacks. The memories of a championship in the desert are distant.

The D'Backs will not be competitive and should thank the team below for keeping them out of the cellar. I still love them for ending the Yankees run of titles though. Record 65-97.

5. Colorado Rockies. The Rockies are so forgettable at this point that Matt Hess accidentally contracted them in his predictions last year. They need to realize that they will never have any pitching and return to the glory days of a lineup with 8 guys that can hit 30 homers a year. Paging Dante Bichette. At least they'd be interesting again. Record 60-102.

World Series: Indians over Cardinals