

ILLINOIS THETA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 10, 2007

edition #4

FRED Program: Kicking Ass, Taking Names

By: Ryan White

With another semester underway, it can only mean one thing; Fraternity Education is in full swing. This spring marked the induction of five new pledges, which include Steve Paul, Navin Kesari, Bryan Anderson, Brian Hayes, and Francisco Martinez.

All members of Pledge Class Iota are enthusiastic about joining, and seem particularly interested in the brotherhood that Phi Kappa Psi has to offer.

Several improvements to the system have been made this semester, with a strong emphasis on brotherhood and Illinois Theta history and tradition. For example, time has been set aside during each session for a "Favorite Phi Psi Moment" delivered by one of the brothers as well as viewing sessions of old lip sync, chapter videos, and guest speakers such as Brother Jon Aardsma who spoke to the pledges about Illinois Theta's colony years.

The hopes are that if a strong sense of tradition is instilled, the members will be more likely to exhibit loyalty and exuberance for their fraternity upon initiation. .

During each week, the pledges also interact with each other in various icebreakers, which help them open up and develop strong bonds within their class.

In addition to the famed membership matrix, the pledges are also required to earn their three dots, which are granted for any action that represents what it...
(Continued of Page 5).

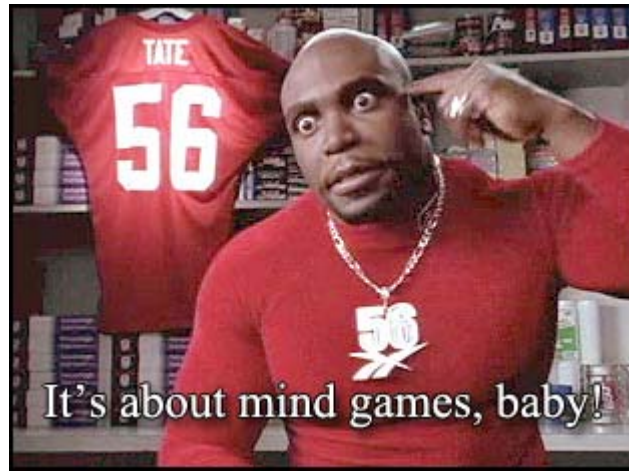
Da' Grades

By: Tim Johnson

It is with great pride that I relay the progress of the Scholarship Committee in the second semester of the 2006-2007 academic school year. With the implementation of a new Scholarship Policy, drafted by the Scholarship Committee with the guidance of several esteemed Alumni and senior active members of the Illinois Theta Chapter, we have seen interest in academic success greatly increase. The new policy has realistic goals for brothers on probation as well as guidelines to help brothers near the border succeed. In general, the policy requests that brothers attend at least two, two-hour study sessions per week, in addition to recording no less than ten study hours in a study log.

Unlike in the past, failure to meet expectations no longer means the denial of social events for the entire semester, rather, it is only expected that a member comply fully with the policy for the two weeks preceding a social event. This approach is meant to encourage brothers to get back on track at any time during the semester with progress immediately rewarded instead of past failures being perpetually punished. For brothers not on probation, but close to the criteria, it is mandated that they post a semester GPA higher than their cumulative, so that they are heading away from probation rather than sitting in a danger zone without oversight and guidance. (Continued on Page 5).

Letter From the Editor



Dear Devote Readers,

Welcome to the fourth edition of the newsletter of the Illinois Theta chapter of Phi Kappa Psi. Because it did not get through the first time, I will be using nearly the same address as I did last time so read it and DO IT. The biggest differences between this reign and the first two are regularity and feedback. We want YOUR feedback. We want to know what you like and don't like; what you want and don't want; and how you want and don't want your newsletter to look, feel, or sound. This is YOUR newsletter, so if you have any comments or concerns; suggestions or questions; rants or rave, PLEASE drop me a line at Manincognito00@gmail.com and tell me about it. To equate it as simple as possible, No Feedback=No more newsletters. Thank you, and enjoy.

Sincerely,

Matthew Johnson...24

Editor of the Phi Kappa Psi Newsletter

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

ILLINOIS THETA GP

Brothers,

There are many great events coming up for Illinois Theta. On March 10, 2007, our annual formal celebration will be at the Mayfield, which I anticipate to be a fantastic event as usual. In addition, planning is almost complete for our alumni dinner which is slated to be Friday, May 10th. In keeping with our goals, we have begun our process for accreditation, which is being spear-headed by Brother Ben Johnson and the Special Forces committee. Our plan is to have the paperwork completed by spring break so that we can personally take it back down to Indianapolis; a tradition which I hope will stick around for a long time. The results of our application will be announced at WWLS which is July 18-21 in Nashville.

In other news, as many of you already know, we just celebrated our 4th birthday as a chapter and 155th birthday as a fraternity so I would like to extend a big thank you to all that have put in time to make this chapter what it is today. Thank you for your support and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email me.

Fraternally,

Adam Boersma

President of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity

Illinois Theta Chapter

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

ALUMNI CORPORATION PRESIDENT

After a late Chicago Winter consisting of sub-zero temperatures and a few feet of snow, the weather is already turning for spring which could only mean two things: Tax season will soon be coming to a close and baseball season is almost here!

As the Illinois Theta Corporation continues building and establishing itself in the Phi Kappa Psi tradition, some of our brothers have been busy building their own families. Brett Roberts is now the proud father of Alexander Jonathan Roberts while Mario Aguilar is the proud father of Juan Carlos Aguilar. Congratulations to the both of you!

Phi Psi is part of a grass-roots letter writing campaign in support of federal legislation that will improve the Phi Kappa Psi / Greek Housing experience. Our organization is working with all other national fraternities and sororities to contact Congress and push for select bills to become law in 2007. We are asking all Greek students and alumni to write Congress in support of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act of 2007 (H.R. 643/S.638). The Act would erase a long-standing disparity in the law and allow educational foundations such as ours to use tax-deductible charitable contributions to make grants to our local house corporations for the purpose of improving existing not-for-profit student housing or building new housing. Passage of the Act would be a major benefit for all fraternity housing nationwide, as it would make it easier to fundraise for needed critical life safety enhancements and other infrastructure improvements needed to sustain Greek housing. While we do not have a house yet, the more barriers to entry we can eliminate in the long run, the sooner we can realize our long term goal for long term housing.

In the last newsletter you may remember our goal for improving our Chapter Scholarship Fund. Initiative 610 is in full swing with less than 3 years to go to raise enough funds to put us over \$10,000. If you would like to donate to our Chapter Scholarship Fund, you may do so by visiting the Endowment Fund's website at www.pkpfoundation.org. Please be sure you specify our Chapter as the one you are donating for when sending funds.

Finally, on behalf of the Illinois Theta Corporation's board of directors, I would like to wish each and every one of you a Happy Founder's Day! For 155 years, our beloved country has witnessed Phi Psi shape the world in many different ways. Best wishes for every one this year as we are building to the Chapter's 5-year anniversary next February.

Proud to be,

David John Haim
President, Illinois Theta Corporation
Illinois Theta '03



FRED Program: Kicking Ass, Taking Names (Continued from Page 1)

means to be a Phi Psi. This can include getting an A on a test, or helping a brother in need. Other requirements include three hours of philanthropy, organizing a dry chapter event, and participating in a constructive Tour of Chicago. This involves visiting sites that pertain to the history of our chapter and college, such as the Hull House, St. Francisco de Asis church, Union League Club, and Navy Pier, to name a few.

Academically, the pledges undergo homework assignments, quizzes, and an in class final to determine their ranking. A 70% average is also required for initiation.

Through these activities and various other requirements, the alumni of Illinois Theta can be assured that badge numbers 69-73 will become strong members. The fraternity education committee understands that a solid chapter relies on solid Brothers, which in turn begins with a solid Fraternity Education program.

Da' Grades

(Continued from Page 1)

In addition to the new policy, the Social Committee has a strong base with me as chair and members Paul Rockwood, and Bryan Egerton has stepped in more than once to host study hours, has taken it upon himself to offer advice to brothers, and has a genuine interest in the academic success of the Illinois Theta Chapter. I am pleased to report that my committee is working well and that the chapter has embraced the new policy. I look

forward to improved academics this semester, and an even greater showing next fall.

Rushing to Recruitment **By: Marc Kupfer**

Even with some miss communications and poor attendance early on during Rush this semester, Rush ended with great success. By the time inductions rolled around, we found ourselves the five great guys who make up our Iota pledge class. Along with meeting our new guys, we were able to co-host a dodge ball event with the business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi. A few issues I noticed this semester whilst planning Rush is that our name was not being publicized enough.

For Fall Rush 2007, I plan to host large scale events such as dodge ball and capture the flag, but also small things to get our name out like free lemonade stands. The exposure is the key because with four new dorms opening up on South campus, and the newly renovated dorms on West campus, we have much more ground to cover than ever before. The sea will be much larger this coming semester, so having the support and participation of every brother and as many Alumni as possible will be crucial. My goal is to make Fall Rush 2007 the biggest and the best pledge class of Illinois Theta to date.

Rush Spring 2007: The Other One

As many of you know, there are a few elite groups within the national fraternity as well as Illinois Theta. For example, the order of the SC requires the attendance of 7 GACs before you are even considered. In Illinois Theta, the "Black Sheep" require drunken idiocy to become a member. However, there is one group within Illinois Theta that only the most committed

men are able to meet its requirements to join. It takes an abundance of time and money and a lack of will power to join these gentlemen. Yes, I am talking about the one and only, Fat Man Club. They are recruiting, and prospective members

include Brother George Radka and Brother Cody Fessel. Below is a list of upcoming events for any interested members to check out

Gentlemen,

Attached is the Spring 07 Rush schedule for the illustrious "Fat Man" club of Phi Psi. Please plan on attending these events in your maroon, fat man sweater or your bright orange Adidas T-Shirt that we all bought to match Brother Swanson...

4/1/07- Pass out flyers at Inner Circle. I specifically will be hitting the Wendy's line and will be recruiting based on the number of double stacks ordered. Anything less than 3 is unacceptable.

4/10/07- Salad Bar Night. Remember, anyone who shows up tonight, we definitely don't want to give a bid to.

4/15/07- Pizza and Beer at Giordanos on Van Buren and Halsted. We will meet in the Auto Court to drive over to Giordanos. Once again, anyone found walking over to get pizza will receive a black ball.

4/16/07- Blast from the Past night. Make sure you bring your old high school pictures so we can talk about how skinny we use to be and how the ladies loved us (sorry Swanny, I'll let you borrow one of my pictures).

4/23/07- Weigh In. We specifically are looking for those in 300 + range so that Dumas and Velianoff aren't the lone fat men trying out to play the part of Fat Albert, Goldberg from Mighty Ducks, Fat Tony Gwynn, and Al Roker. However, 300+ is not a must as long as they can not longer see their feet, they qualify (The George Radka Rule).

4/30/06- Wings Night and pant inspection. What is a fat man rush without unlimited wings? Also on this night we will be inspecting all the potential's pants to verify that there is thinning material between their thighs...

4/31/06- Initiation. Remember to bring the unsalted butter, crisco and fried chicken for initiation...

Sincerely,

The Notorious BFG...

trivia corner

Test your knowledge of Illinois Theta history as well as Phi Kappa Psi History as a whole by trying to answer the following questions

1. Who sits at the head of the “Bastard Tree?”
2. Aside from English, what other language does Brother Ryan White speak?
3. Who was the first Phi Psi father of Illinois Theta?
4. What college will Illinois Iota be chartered at and which member of Illinois Theta currently attends school there?
5. Name 5 brothers who were not born in the United States.
6. What brothers were dubbed Beaker and Dr. Bunsen Honeydew?



7. Whose father is known to both colleagues and friends with a “Crazy” in front of his name? (Example: Crazy Matt Johnson)

See page 9 for the answers.

Stump the Sweus

Dear Sweus,

Being the first person ever to try to stump you is a great honor. I have thought long and hard about how to get you at your own game. I have looked into Phi Kappa Psi history, Illinois Theta history, and hell; I even took a peek at Lord of the Rings and Star Wars history. After much time wasted at work, I came up with an all star lineup of questions. First, what members of Phi Kappa Psi have been named to homecoming court (name and year please)? Second, who were the original members of Team Anonymous that won intramurals and went on to represent UIC as well as the location of the tournament? Finally, what was the name of Chapter Advisor Marc Dumas's dog? Good luck with trying to answer those, and one last request. Could you do it in Ewok?

Sincerely,

Double Vowel...

Dear DV,

Thank you for having the courage to challenge the Almighty Sweus. I will answer your questions with ease; however, I cannot do it in Ewok for they have a different alphabet. Instead, I will give you one of my favorite quotes which goes out to not only you but all that try to Stump the Sweus. "Do or do not, there is no try." Getting back to the task at hand, Brother Tom Wnukowski in 2003. . The original members of TA were Jon Aardsma, Nick Velianoff, Matt Majack (The mysterious 3rd roommate), Matt, and the sacred DJ.



The tourney was held in the Quad Cities, IL. Finally, the name of Marc's dog is Marley. Thanks for playing DV, but no mortal can stump me. Better luck next time.

Sincerely,

Sweus...

Do you have a question about Phi Kappa Psi that cannot be answered? Have you always wondered something about Phi Psi but have been too embarrassed to ask? Do you want to see just how much Matthew Swanson a.k.a. The Sweus actually knows? Well, here is your chance to stump the Sweus. That's right; every issue you will have the chance to pick Matt Swanson's brain about Phi Kappa Psi. You will be able to see if he knows as much as he claims or if he is just blowing hot air. Send your questions to Manincognito00@gmail.com by April 31st to STUMP THE SWEUS! He's Waiting!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Name: Bill Hoban

Badge number: 34

Officer/ chairman positions held: Historian, Webmaster

Year graduated: Fall 2005

Current status: Pursuing a MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering while working as a Graduate Assistant for the UIC Center for Literacy.

Some favorite memories in Phi Psi: Going to Cabo in December of '04 and getting a chance to bond with people from out chapter will meeting new brothers from across the country; B-team volleyball games

How Phi Psi helped me: Phi Psi helped me meet many great people. When I started at UIC, I didn't know anyone and many times would spend the day on campus without saying a word to anyone. After joining Phi Psi, it's become impossible to walk across campus without running into a bunch of people I know.

My Advice: Everyone in the chapter has unique talents and abilities. Try to find what yours are and then apply them to the chapter, so that everyone can benefit, and the chapter can improve.

If you would like to be the subject of our alumni spotlight section, please send the above information along with a picture of yourself to Manincognito00@gmail.com. Each article will feature one or two alumni on a first come, first serve basis. The deadline for submissions for Edition 4 is April 31st.

Trivial Answers and Back Door Domination Bloopers

1. Tom Wnukowski 2. Sign language 3. Technically, Chapter Advisor Marc Dumas. First Brother of Illinois Theta is Mario Aguilar 4. Northern Illinois University, Brother Mahir Mulasmajic 5. Maio Zhang, Senad Basic, Roger Tay, Mahir Mulasmajic, Aksh Gupta, and Jason Durnas 6. Brian Egerton (Beaker) and Brian Lewandowski (Dr. Bunsen Honeydew) 7. George's Dad Crazy George Radka
Jon Aardsma and Jeff Fuller were also on homecoming court in 2003, Mo also played for TA in the Quad Cities, and Mason, not Marley, was the dog's name.