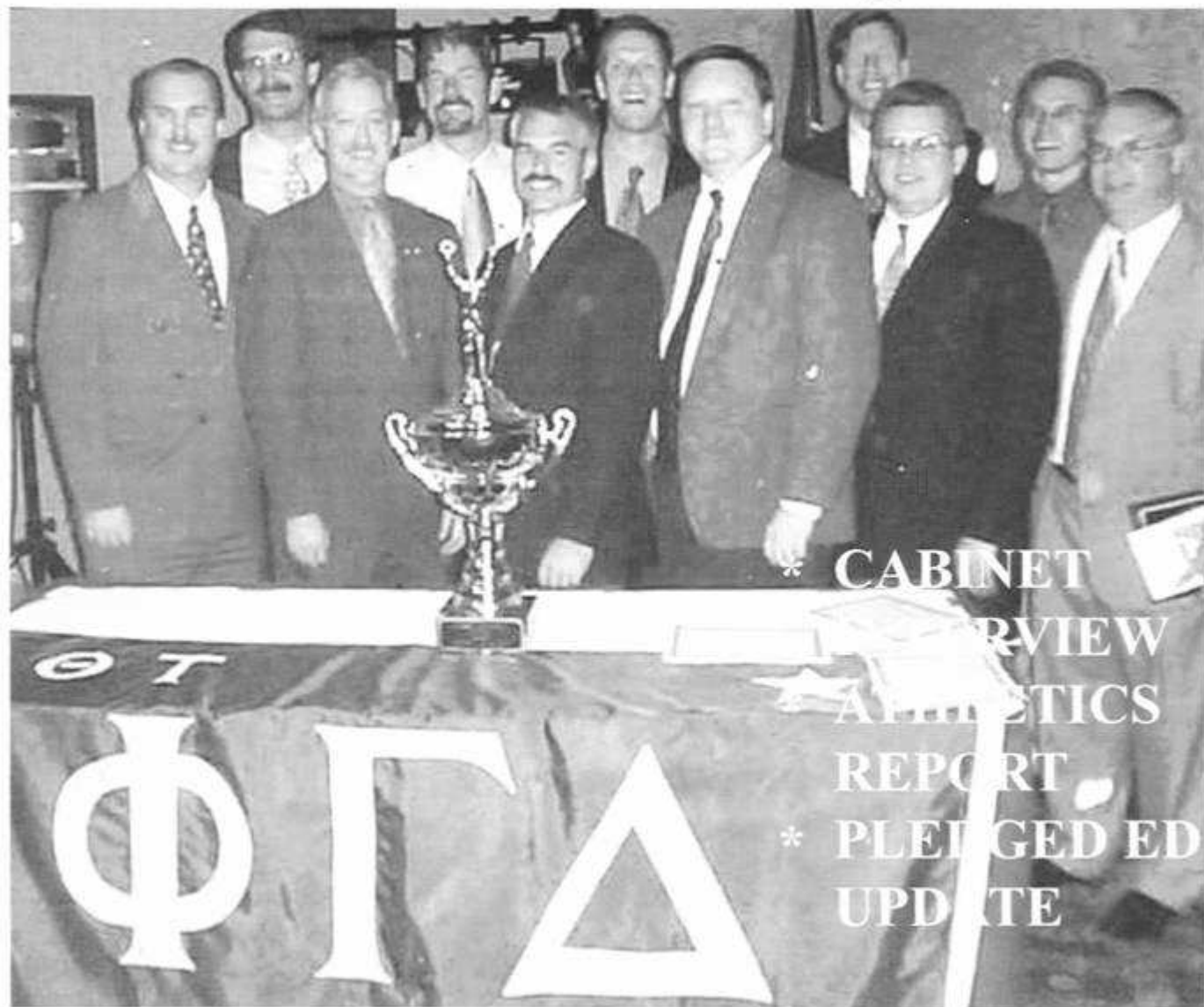


The Golden Eagle Fiji

A Publication of the Theta Tau Chapter of
Phi Gamma Delta

Volume 23 Issue 1
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Mighty Oaks Grow From Strong Roots...



* CABINET

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UPDATE

Graduate Announcements

Dianna and I are expecting again in February 2002. I recently received US Patent #6,265,667 B1 for a corrosion resistant coaxial cable design through my company, Belden Wire & Cable.

Perge'

-Jeffrey Miller '92

Just to let you know, Scott & Susan Stapleton had a baby girl on July 27. Her name is Sydney Alexis, weighing in at 7 lbs. 1 oz. and 19 inches long. Everyone is doing well!

Perge'!

-Scott Stapleton '93

Nancy and I have gotten engaged. We will be getting married next August when she finishes graduate school at University of Memphis.

-Jay Parker '00

Dear Brothers,

Wanted to update you and let you know my first year of Law School is over!!!! It's been a blast.

For this summer, I have been working at the New Hampshire Attorney General's office. If time permits, I may be able to spend the rest of the summer on Valuation Projects for MIT's development of hyper-architecture and a portion of the genome project.

Hope all is well your way! Maggie and Sam are doing great.

Take care,

-AJ Bahou '93

Perge'!

From the Treasurer's Desk..

Hello Graduates! The financial status of the fraternity for the Fall of 2001 is sound and secure. We had the money to support a great rush and anticipate having all the finances we need to compete in homecoming. We are already beginning to save money towards next year's insurance so that the future cabinet can get started off on sound financial ground. As always, any donations given to the chapter are greatly appreciated and will be used for any purpose you designate them for.

David Whitaker

Phi Gamma Delta
Spring 2001 GPA:

2.781

(Tops in Grades)

Grad Relations:

Kevin Collins (Chairman)

Fred Polacek

Stephen Frommel

This year's Flag Football team unmercifully defeated the Pikes 21-7 in a completely one-sided victory. Congratulations to the team for a great season. -KC

Open Cabinet Forum

What are your goals for the Fall 2001 semester; short term and long term?

Givens: Increase community services efforts within the area as well as continue the improvements that we have had over the last couple of semesters with our graduate relations.

Fulkerson: A very high priority goal for the fraternity is scholarship. We have recently raised the qualification for a pledge to become a brother from a 2.0 to a 2.25. Our second main goal is Pledge retention and education. We are trying to get some graduates involved in the pledge program.

What are your thoughts on the Fall '01 Rush and the resultant pledge class?

Philips: I think that Rush was very successful. We ended up having a pledge class of 23. This is probably one of the highest quality pledge classes that we have had in recent memory. Everyone is very enthusiastic about this pledge class.

Fulkerson: I think that we have a good variety of guys. We have guys that are willing to make this fraternity a better place

Where do you see the chapter in two years?

Whitaker: We will be achieving all of the goals that we have right now such as scholarship, but raising the level. They will have greater graduate relations and greater service. They will be doing even greater things than we are doing right now.

Philips: We have always had a decent reputation on campus but recently by pledging better men than ourselves, each pledge class has exemplified the five values more than the class before it. This was always important before, but now it has a larger focus amongst the newer brothers. The future of Phi Gam at Tech is looking very promising



Lee Moss, J. Philips, R. Fulkerson, K. Givens, D. Whitaker

Do you feel that the size of the chapter reduces the brotherhood?

Givens: It is hard to explain, but even though you are not able to hang out with every one of your brothers all the time, the time that you do get to spend with the chapter as a whole is always precious. It is always valuable and always cherished even if everyone is not there.

Philips: We have a really large group of diverse individuals, and just like with any family, conflicts do arise. But I have never seen a conflict last for more than a day or two. Both sides are always willing to make the first gesture to make amends. They say how can you do that with an 80-man chapter and I don't really know how we do it, but we do.

How do you feel that a leadership role has helped you for the future?

Fulkerson: Each one of my cabinet positions has taught me so much more than I could ever give back to the chapter. Obviously, you make mistakes, but that's part of the game. I think that I have learned more from the mistakes that I have made than from the successes I have had.

Givens: Being on cabinet has helped me learn to adjust to different situations and to be more flexible.

Weaver: Being on cabinet for two consecutive years, it does help you learn how to organize your time, be it scholarship, fraternity, or self. Being capable of mastering this feat does help set you apart as a leader, and will prove over time to be a useful asset in the "real world."

2001 THETA TAU CABINET

President – Ryan Fulkerson

Treasurer – David Whitaker

Recording Sec. – Todd Weaver

Cor. Sec. – Kevin Givens

Historian – Jake Phillips

PHI GAM ATHLETICS

Brothers,

Our intramural athletics teams are looking good for the upcoming year. We have some new pledges that will add to our All-Sports Trophy winning teams from last year. For those of you that have not been updated on the new format of the intramural sports, each team participates in a regular season of round robin games. After the completion of the round robin portion, each team is seeded in a single elimination tournament based on their performance in the season.

We are excited for the upcoming sports this year after going undefeated and finishing first in Flag Football and Soccer. We are returning five of six starters from last year's second place volleyball team, only losing Chris Weaver to graduation. Our championship softball team, which will be taking the field in the spring, only lost our pitcher and our shortstop, Jay Parker and Brad Jenkins respectively, to graduation. Although these positions are crucial to our success and we lost two important team leaders, we will fill these positions with some of our numerous athletes from the fraternity. The four-man golf team lost no members, but could take on some new players via the Beta Beta pledge class from this fall.

To find out how we finished last year in each respective sport, or to check on how we are doing now, please access our website at www.ttufiji.com. You can go through the "Brothers" menu and choose athletics or simply click on the quick link to the sport we are participating in now at the bottom of the welcome page. We look forward to seeing you soon, either at one of our sporting events or sometime in the future.

Your brother,
Michael J. LeMarbre
Athletics Chairman



Chad Kenney attempts a free throw while David Whitaker and Matt Osborne fight for a rebound versus Sigma Chi

FIJI SCOREBOARD:

Football-

W-Fiji (35) - Sigma Chi (7)
W-Fiji (21) - Beta (0)
W-Fiji (28) - AgSig (7)
W-Fiji (23) - ATO (6)
W-Fiji (14) - Sig Ep (14)
W-Fiji (21) - Pike (7)
W-Fiji (21) - TKE (14)

Flag Football Champs

Soccer-

W-Fiji (3) - Kappa Sig (0)
W-Fiji (3) - KA (0)
W-Fiji (4) - TKE (0)

Soccer Champs

Volleyball-

W-Fiji (2) - SAE (0)
W-Fiji (2) - AgSig (0)
W-Fiji (2) - ATO (0)

Next: Fiji -ΣΧ/TKE winner

PLEDGE ED'S NEW FOCUS

This year Theta Tau has put a bigger focus on pledge education. The Beta Beta pledge class has 23 members and was chosen very selectively. This year's pledge education committee consists of Mark Morgan, Brian Long, Justin Cumby, Seth Johnson, Jamie Griffin, and John Reinhardt. Retention, along with fraternity involvement, is our biggest goal. The pledge education committee believes that it is very possible to achieve 100% retention of the pledge class. The Fall 2001 pledge class:

Rob Young – President

Brandon Skiles – Treasurer

Jimmy Smith – Rec Sec

George Titsworth – Cor Sec

Taylor Redden – Historian

Brad Carter

Dave Clifford

Luke Coplin

Dan Frost

Tim Gamble

Ben Goddard

Matt Grimes

Matt Hayes

Brad Hodges

Brandon Jennings

Eric Nally

Blake Peevyhouse

Jason Riddle

Jorge Rojas

Paul Schrimsher

Brad Tursky

Chip Walton

Chase Weldon

This semester, the pledge education committee has decided to revamp the pledge program, making it more memorable, interesting, and overall fun. We have a number of new ideas that will be put into effect throughout the fall.

First, we are requiring all new pledges to complete a minimum of 12 study hours a week and 14 hours for all re-pledges. This semester, the chapter has raised the scholastic requirement for all pledges to make at least a 2.25 GPA to be admitted into brotherhood.

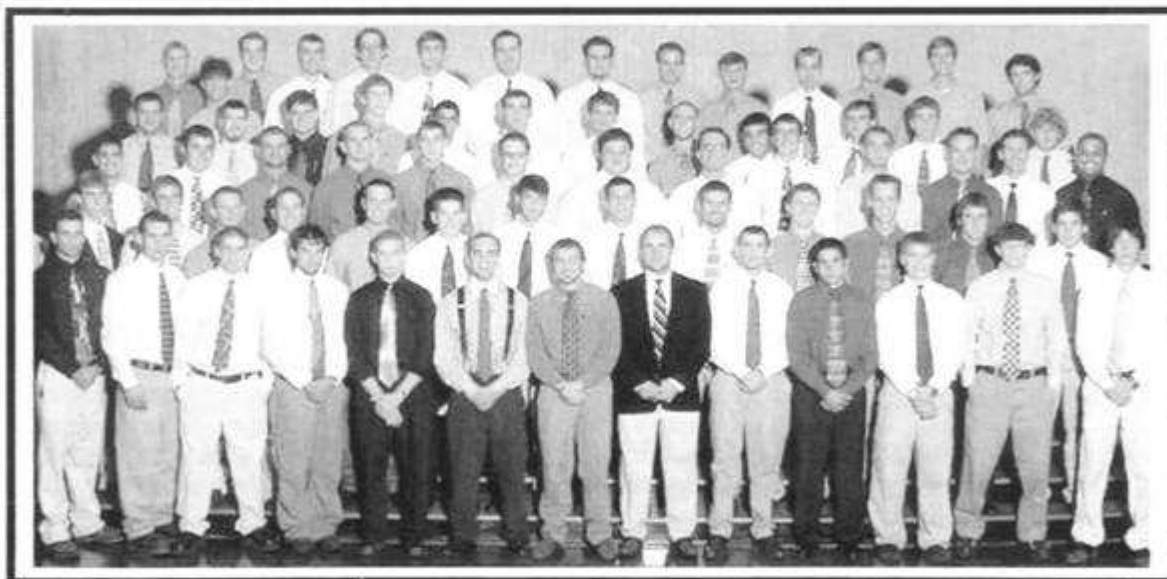
We are working on restructuring the big brother program. Each week the big brothers are required to spend at least one hour with their little brother to check on their grades and how they feel about the fraternity, school, and life in general. We have matched each little brother with their big brother based on personality and how well they work with each other. We have also planned for different events throughout the semester such as volleyball competitions, camping trips, and retreats. At the end of the semester we will give an award out to the best big brother/little brother team.

The new house improvement project that the pledge class is overseeing is remodeling the kitchen. They will be repainting the walls and cabinets. They will also be replacing the cabinet tops. It is scheduled to be completed before the end of the Fall semester.

Mark Morgan

Pledge Education Chairman

FALL 2000 FRATERNITY PHOTO



SCHOLARSHIP, FRATERNITY, SELF

Congratulations to the brothers who excelled in academics during the Spring 2001 semester. Keep up the good work.

Spring Dean's List

Adam Baggett
Brad Blackburn
Nick Bridges
Josh Bush
Logan Cardwell
Preston Cloud
Kevin Collins
Ross Denney
Justin Eckel
Chris Gill
Ryan Greer
Kenneth Hayes

Wes Hicks
Brad Jenkins
Bryan Kaylor
Michael LeMarbre
Scott Lockridge
Phillip Lutz
Chad Marshall
Stuart Minshew
Mark Morgan
Curt Russell
Zeke Shaver
Kevin Smart

Jon Thomas
John Warmath
Brent Waugh
David Whitaker

4.0 for Spring 2001

Kevin Collins
Chris Gill
Ryan Greer
Kenneth Hayes
Michael LeMarbre
Brent Waugh

FUNDRAISING

As a fundraiser this semester, the undergraduate brothers and pledges will be working at Nashville Predators hockey games in the concession stands. The chapter just finished working at Cookeville's Fall Fun Fest where we raised approximately \$750. We are always glad to have graduate brothers come and join us in the concession stands at the Predators games. Also, we are always looking for new fundraising events. Please contact the chapter if you know of any opportunities.

Jimmy Nelson '02
Fundraising Chairman



SERVICE

This year Theta Tau is again teaming up with Cookeville Housing Authority to serve as tutors for their after school program. We have re-established our connection with the Putnam County Habitat for Humanity, and are looking forward to helping build homes here in Cookeville. Our major Service project of the Fall semester is the annual "Make a Difference Day" on Oct 27, in which we work an entire day doing various projects. In years past we have done things like repairing the Genesis House to building a playground for the Tech nursery. We as the Theta Tau brothers of Phi Gamma Delta have emphasized the value of Community Service as we strive for the betterment of ourselves and the upward march of humanity.

-J.R. Gillette, Service Chairman

NOT FOR COLLEGE DAYS ALONE...

Dear Brothers of the Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta:

As a founding brother of the Theta Tau Chapter, I am extremely proud of your recent accomplishments! Keep up the good work. **Over 20 years ago** when Carl Martin, Lee Wray and I began dreaming about a "new and better" fraternity, organized and started the local colony, and brought home the "coffee cup" award from FIJI Academy. We could not imagine the fraternity being where it is now. Yeah, **we've had a lot of growing pains and ups and downs** (mostly ups) but we've persevered, **grown and met** the challenges head on. I would encourage/challenge each and all of **you collectively to strive for excellence** in scholarship, service, campus involvement, brotherhood, and **all you do** in and around the fraternity and Tennessee Tech. Your years in college are very, very fast and precious. They might well be the very best and most important years of your lives so **make every moment count**. In every thing you do, do it your best and **always strive for excellence**. I am confident and excited that we will soon have the Cheney Cup resting in our humble house! Maybe, in a few years, if things continue to go well, **numerous Cheney Cups and other cups** will be showcased in a new chapter house (can't you just picture it now?). If you remember one thing, remember this: men with strong **principles and character, working together and striving for common, excellent goals can accomplish great things**. I'm anticipating hearing more great things coming out of Theta Tau Land. Let's continue to fill our history book with chapters of excellence, success and glory. I hope I can make it to Homecoming (my 20th anniversary) and see you all. I'm very proud to be a FIJI! Perge!

-Russ Bradley,

Theta Tau Founder

Dear Graduate Brothers of the Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta:

Friendship, the basis of our brotherhood, draws us ever closer together as we enter this 2001-2002 academic year. We hope that this letter finds you safe and well. We, your undergraduate brothers, have enjoyed a revitalizing summer and are very excited about the upcoming year. Perhaps our rejuvenated enthusiasm will be contagious, and the epidemic will spread to you. After all, as you know, support from everyone is necessary for our chapter to thrive. And appreciation of this support is the basis for this letter. In the many years of Theta Tau, our graduates have illustrated the caliber of undergraduates in which we incorporate into this fraternity of gentlemen, this conglomeration of friendships. As we celebrated the Twentieth Anniversary Frank Norris Pig Dinner, this fact of high quality men associated together became clearly evident. And for your continued dedication and devotion to Theta Tau, we graciously thank you, from all of the brothers of this generation of Phi Gamma Delta. For the future, please continue to carry on as a Fiji should . . . with Friendship, Knowledge, Service, Morality, and Excellence. For even today, wise men still follow the star. You are still our guides as we become tomorrow's leaders for the undergraduates. You are always in our hearts and minds. If we can ever be of service to you, please let us contribute to your life; perhaps it will reflect your impact on our lives. The Under-Graduate Brothers of Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta

-Perge!

Graduate Relations Chairman
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