

## AKS / FKT

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# The Kellogg Spirit

The Official Alumni Newsletter Of AKS and FKT

October 2001

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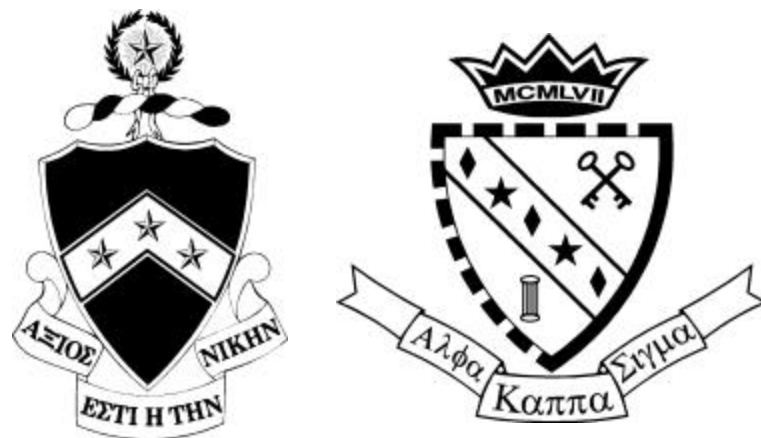
Brothers at the Phi Kappa Tau seal; Miami University, July 2001

Erik K. Griffin **Ek**

Last July, nine of our brothers from Delta Tau attended our national fraternity's Leadership Academy held at Phi Kappa Tau's birthplace, Miami University in Oxford, OH. This event is organized to provide leadership skills and qualities to the newer brothers of our fine fraternity. It is a time to learn the business that is our fraternity, meet brothers from chapters across the country, and learn the history created by four men on a humid college campus in 1906. Spanning approximately five days, it is all business all the time and attendees are kept very busy. While our biannual convention is a time to conduct business on a national level, it can alter itself into a vacation leading to wild stories and fun. Leadership Academy, while a fun and exciting trip, is not that way at all. It is conducted in a strict, timely, down-to-business manor. The week is alcohol-free (that does not mean that the alcohol was free, it means that there was none, period) and there is little time to be bored.

The typical day starts early with a breakfast near the campus dormitories where we stayed. Shortly after, the work of the week begins. Facilitators who led small groups of brothers called "chapters" would hold brief meetings to inform everyone of the days events. Facilitators also conducted workshops in the campus classrooms. These workshops were interactive educational sessions dealing with the wide variety of topics and issues we all deal with in day-to-day Greek life. Afternoon

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### Staff:

Erik K. Griffin: Alumni Advisor, Board of Governors  
Jeff Wheater: Vice President of Alumni Relations  
Steven Lennartz: Photography (Picture Monkey)  
Michael Hammerstrom: Facts & Research

Please respond to Jeff Wheater with comments, questions, changes of address, personal news, and ideas or leads regarding our brothers and the chapter. We are proud of our history and heritage, and look forward to hearing from you.

## Next Issue....

Brotherhood Night 2001

Pledge Class Beta Pi Initiation

Fall Sports Results

More Alumni In The News

# Alumni In The News

News About The Alumni..... For The Alumni

News About You.....

Under the direction of Jeff Wheeler, the title of Alumni Relations Chair has gone through some big changes. Fortunately, these changes have been for the better. Realizing the potential of solid alumni communications, Jeff has initiated some new programs and rewritten the book on what is to maintain a strong active/alumni relationship. The Kellogg Spirit is and has been the newsletter for Alpha Kappa Sigma and The Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, Delta Tau Chapter. In the spirit of bettering communications and meeting the needs of our alumni, this publication is now edited and published with you in mind. *Alumni In The News* will be the first reappearing section dedicated solely to our alumni. This section keeps all of our brothers up to date regarding the lives of our graduate members. This includes, and is not limited to: birth and marriage announcements, career achievements, hobbies, relocation announcements, health, personal issues, requests for assistance, etc. We will also be open to publishing editorials and opinions on matters that affect us all given that they are of reasonable length (for printing and budgetary reasons). In addition, because this is not a bound publication, we will be accepting print material to be inserted into the Kellogg Spirit prior to its mailing. In the world of advertising this is called an FSI (free standing insert). It can be a business card, flyer, or anything you can imagine. Most FSIs will be accepted considering they come with a donation that will help offset printing and shipping costs and benefit one of the chapter's current betterment funds (house fence fund, Hole In The Wall Gang, etc.). Finally, we can't let brothers know how you are doing unless you let US know how you are, so please call the house and give us the scoop.

## **Jorge Mena: El Kabong: Behind The Music**

After seven years of playing and recording some of Pasadena's most rockin' music, El Kabong calls it quits. Their last gig was at the Old Town Pub on St. Patrick's Day this year as a birthday/retirement gig for the guys in the band. They have a rather impressive CD plus the recent release of a 15 track greatest hits compilation called, appropriately, 'Bong Hits. Mena, A.K.A. Butch Magnum, still brings down the front porch every Founders' Day with Mario Olmos playing favorites like "Smokin' Joe."

## **Brian Smith: .....Celebrates 10 Non-Stop Years of FKT**

When talking about Smith, the words "above and beyond" come to mind (he is above the age of 28 and beyond the point of sanity). Pledging in Fall of 1991 (AΦ), Smith and his fellow pledge brothers have just celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Phi Taus. Smith has had one of the most rewarding fraternity experiences in the chapter, holding multiple Executive Board positions as an active including President, and he currently serves on the Board of Governors as Chapter Advisor. Our chapter would not be what is today if not for his pre and post graduate work. Smith has given his all since day one and we hope he continues to do so.

## **Corey Wilson: AKS Visionary And "Author?"**

Earlier this year, around the month of March, actives and alumni alike were treated to the beginnings of what will, some day, become the "great American novel." Corey Wilson is well into a work-in-progress that outlines his various childhood experiences, a book entitled, *Wild Flowers*. Wilson began writing the book over eight years ago with it starting as a simple idea that later turned into what he calls "an obsession." *Wild Flowers* takes you on the journey that is Corey's life, from odd situations that few writers could invent (remember, this is his real life), to the most personal moments an individual can have. Says Wilson, "I get choked up all the time writing certain parts or reflecting on the people in them who are no longer with us." Only a select few have had the privilege of reading the original drafts. In the early nineties, he shared it with

## Welcome to The 9th Annual Eddie Ryan Invitational Golf Tournament

- WHEN:** Saturday, November 3, 2001 Check-in at 8:00am, first tee time is 8:45
- WHERE:** Marshall Canyon Country Club  
6100 Stephens Ranch Rd, La Verne, CA 91750 909-593-3050  
Appropriate attire required: collared shirts, no cut-offs, etc.
- WHO:** AKS / Phi Kappa Tau Brothers (Alumni & Actives have priority).
- FORMAT:** SCRAMBLE (as in Matt Campbell) with a maximum of 10 teams of four.
- PRIZE:** *Immortality* for the winning team on the beautiful Eddie Ryan Trophy  
And...wearing the Eddie Ryan Jacket during the trophy presentation  
(At the Masters, they wear a green coat...we get Eddie Ryan's Blue Coat).
- COST:** \$50.00 which includes green fees, cart, bucket o' balls

### **DEADLINES:**

- o Please e-mail or call Jorge or Don to confirm ASAP.
- o Final date for accepting checks is **Oct. 18, 2001**

If we do not receive your check by October 18 we will assume you are not attending. And no whining that you don't have the funds, \$50 has not been a lot of money since Nixon was in the White House. Besides, that's probably about half of what you spent on the bounce house for your bratty little kid's last birthday party. Or if you're single, it's probably about what you would spend on some broad at the bar trying to get her drunk enough so that you actually look good to her. Last year we only had 20 people and of those only 12 were affiliated with the fraternity, so if we don't get a better response this tournament might go the way of the spotted owl, Kappa Sigma Phi, and Circle K.

**Trophy and Prize presentation immediately following the tournament at the course's bar, including prizes for closest to the pin and longest drive.**

After the tournament we will be going out for pizza and beer(s) at Warehouse Pizza in LaVerne. Invite your families.

### Questions ?

Jorge Mena at work (626) 535-5523  
butchmag@aol.com

Don Kennard at work (626) 852-6282  
dkennard@calportland.com

Make your check payable to Don Kennard and mail to:

4829 N Aldenville Ave  
Covina, CA 91722

## Leadership Academy 2001

*Continued from page 1.....*

events included multiple speakers who shed light on and gave a new perspective to our college and fraternal experience, and a campus tour Phi Tau style which took us through the long history that is ΦKT. After a heavy lunch there was usually time for one last workshop or chapter meeting, and then it was off to a different hall or building for a banquet/dinner/awards ceremony. While we complained regularly about the heat and humidity that blankets Oxford, we could not complain about the meals. We were fed three times a day proving Leadership Academy to be a place where weight, as well as knowledge, can be gained.

Delta Tau picked up a few honors that week at various awards ceremonies. Once again, we were handed the coveted Golden Dip-Stick award which goes to the chapter with the most man-miles traveled (distance times attendees) thanks to: Adam Brandos, Dee Hojjati, Jimmy Riordan, Jeff Wheater, Jeff Pearre, Erik Griffin, Steven Lennartz, Navid Mansourian, and Mark Engerbretson. The chapter also was commended with an Award For Administrative Excellence, for timely submittal of National reports, and Erik Griffin was recognized for volunteer work as a staff photographer for the event. In addition, a ΔT brother in attendance that was not recognized for contributing to Dip-Stick was honored. Dan Garcia was openly commended by our highest National Officers for organizing and coordinating the entire event. Brother Garcia is entering his second year as a Leadership Consultant or our National Fraternity and did an excellent job of overseeing the week's events. We would like to thank him again for a job well done.

Highlights of the week included a hypnotist show in which our brothers participated, speaker Will Keim who really brought clarity to some portions of our lives, and various workshops that brought new ideas and ways of thinking to the table with regards to our chapter. For me the highlight was to see ΔT actives sitting together during meals and walking from event to event talking about the things they learned and how to apply positive change to the chapter. Leadership Academy did its job this year because nine men from Pomona left to learn and returned with knowledge and inspiration.

Many of the things to come in our future will be related to this Academy experience. In the past we have sent a small handful of guys who came back with good things. The bias of being there with eight other brothers makes me say we came back with something great. To dream big, I would dare to imagine what would happen if our entire chapter could attend the next round. Personally, I think we should do everything in our power to ensure that every brother who wishes to attend gets the chance. Cheers to the brothers who made a difference and to those who help send them there.●

## Fall Rush 2001

*Continued from page 3.....*

rest of the week's events served as reaffirmation that they had made the right choice in Phi Kappa Tau. Friday night's Mocktail Luau showed a glimpse of the party-side of the chapter, and Saturday night's Preference Dinner showed a more serious, business-like side of the chapter. These events closed out a very successful rush week and anticipation grew in the actives for the following Thursday's installation.



*Brothers and guests at the roulette table on Casino Night.*

All in all, 32 bids were extended and 25 were accepted. Twenty-five eager men were installed to the fraternity on October 4<sup>th</sup>, and the growth of the chapter is very imminent. The actives definitely reaped the rewards of their hard work and perseverance of the previous week, and the sky's the limit for this chapter.●

## The Rush Week To End All Rush Weeks

*Mariano Lagdameo, Bn*

Motivation and expectations ran high for the Phi Taus to begin the 2001-2002 school year and they were definitely apparent during Fall Rush Week. The week was kicked off with the chapter dinner and meeting during that Sunday night where the brothers formulated their game plan for the upcoming week.

The first event of the Fall Rush Week was an on-campus barbecue/Monday Night Football in the quad at Cal Poly. There was a great turnout for this event with between 15 to 20 rushees and about 25 brothers attending. All in attendance enjoyed free rush burgers, hot dogs, and chips, and watched the Green Bay Packers destroy the Washington Redskins.

The second event was to be the most successful event of the whole week. The brothers felt that Casino Night At The Phi Tau House has always been a successful rush event in previous years, and that it was a must to have it. Casino Night was a blast for both brothers and rushees, and this night seemed to sell many of the rushees that attended. A total of 28 rushees showed up to this event and enjoyed the "gambling" and pizza.

Bowling Night fell on a Wednesday. Balls rolled, pins crashed, and by the end of the night, 25 rushees attended the event and enjoyed the free bowling at Oak Tree Lanes. By this time of rush week, it became quite clear that this quarter's pledge class was going to exceed expectations.

Thursday night's event was dubbed as a gamble at first but undoubtedly paid off by the end of the night. The night consisted of two events. It began with Alumni Info Night at the house from 7 to 11 PM. Afterwards, the event shifted to the Ontario Ice Rink for broom hockey. Since broom hockey had never been an event in previous rush weeks, the brothers did not know how successful it would be. But all doubts were soon erased and fun was surely had by all. Since the rushees had already made up their minds by this time of the week, the

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## The Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity 2001-2002 Delta Tau Chapter Officers

### Executive board

President	Justin Reyes
Vice President	Erik Nutzmann
V.P. of Alumni Relations	Jeff Wheater
Treasurer	Tony Sciarra
House Manager	Jimmy Riordan
Programming Director	Stephen Lennartz
Membership Orientation Officer	Mike Steben
Recruitment Chairman	Mariano Lagdameo
Secretary	Adam Brandos

### Appointed Officers

Assistant Alumni Chairman	Gurinder Dhaliwal
Assistant M.O.O.	Joshua Soeten
Assistant Recruitment Chairman	Dee Hojjati
Athletics Chairman	Shant Bekmezian
Brotherhood Chairman	Vacant
Development Chairman	Mark Engerbretson
Greek Week Chairman	Vacant
House Manager II	Jason Susag
Publicity Chairman	Tom Slama
Ritual Chairman	Brett Thomas
Scholarship Chairman	Jason Wagner
Sergeant at Arms	Vacant
Sorority Relations Chairman	Scott Heydenfeldt
Webmaster	Navid Mansourian

## Baby Boy Born to "Monk"

*By Erik K. Griffin, Bk*

Travis Smith and fiancé Melissa recently celebrated bringing yet another Smith into the world. The couple had their first child, a baby boy, Thursday, October 11 in the city of Glendora at Foothill Presbyterian. Dustin Thomas Smith weighed in at 6 lbs and 3 oz, and measuring a lengthy 21 inches (this child is destined for pro basketball).

While "Dustin" was simply a name the couple liked and could agree on, "Thomas" was taken from the Godfather, Tom Slama, who is one of Travis' pledge brothers (Bv). They currently reside in Diamond Bar. Our best wishes go out to the new family.●

# President's Letter

Dearest Alumni,

As the summer winds down, we have begun preparing for a year of epic proportions. On May 25<sup>th</sup> of last year we lost the Poly Gold Award leaving the Delta Tau chapter empty handed and brokenhearted. Poly Gold goes to the strongest fraternity at Cal Poly each year, an award that this chapter has won the last 4 years in a row. This would have been the 5<sup>th</sup>. As bad as that night seemed at the time, it has become the driving force of what we hope will bring this chapter to the next level. Last year we "rested on our laurels" and figured that we had the award in the bag. What we now realize is that nothing is going to be given to us, and that we must and will earn everything we get.

Motivation among members is high and the desire is there. Hopefully we can get some awesome things done this year and live up to the legacy you have left behind. We are heading into the Fall quarter having recruited 6 new Associate Members over the Summer. The actives hope to double that number and begin the Membership Orientation Program with 12-15 Associates. There are 30 members in the fraternity right now, but after Fall this chapter has the potential to be at 40 strong members! We are still ironing out the calendar for the Fraternity and the M.O. Program which will be available to you as soon as it is complete.

I look forward to seeing you guys throughout the year, and as always, please get in touch with me if you have any questions or concerns.

In Phi, Kappa, Tau, and AKΣ,

Justin Reyes, Beta Lambda '98  
Delta Tau President  
Email: deltataupres@hotmail.com



## Upcoming Events

- 10/20: Big-Bro/Little-Bro Retreat – Camping At Joshua Tree
- 10/21: "Firsts"
- 10/26: Halloween Party – at the Phi Tau House
- 11/2: "Dinner is served"
- 11/4: "Seconds"
- 11/16: End Of Pledging – Beta Pi pledge class, Fall 2001
- 11/17: Semi-Formal – call the house for details
- 12/8: Brotherhood Night

**FKT**  
**National**  
**Convention**  
**2001**  
 New Orleans  
 August 1-4  
 At the  
 Omni Royal  
 Orleans  
 More to come....

# More Alumni In The News

*Cory Wilson: Continued from page 2.....*

a writer's club in Long Beach. And other than Mike Ziegler who had to scan the hard copies after losing all of the files on his computer, the AKS Bastards e-mail group are the only others who have read the 30 chapter odyssey. Wilson notes that his only other "serious" writing project was the AKS History Book. For the time being, he is seeking feedback from various groups, at which time revisions will be made and copies will tentatively be sent to publishers. Check your local Barnes & Noble in the future for *Wild Flowers*.

### Don Kennard: .....*Father Again*

Don and the misses had a new addition to the Kennard family. On May 31 of this year, Andrew James Kennard was born weighing in at healthy 8 lbs and 11 oz. "Fortunately he gets his looks from his mother, although he does have my hairdo," says Don. This is their second child. We all wish the best for little Andrew and the Kennard family. I'm sure proper introductions will be made at the Eddie Ryan Golf Tournament this November.

### Jeff Lesser: .....*Recent marriage of the "Bait King"*

And don't forget to congratulate Jeff on his recent marriage to Karen. The two tied the knot at the Huntington Beach Marina June 30th of this year and will be living in Maryland where Jeff is working. We hope to see Jeff this December at Brotherhood Night (hint, hint).

### -----Upcoming Bachelor Parties-----

#### Harry Oh:

Harry Oh will be tying the knot later next year. Mrs. Oh-to-be is Elizabeth McCarthy. The two plan to make it official some time in 2003. The engagement is still rather new, but they have been dating for over a year. More details to follow as we learn more.....

#### Nat King:

Nat King is also due marry in September of next year in New Jersey.

#### Brian Lininger:

Brian Lininger has made it official with girlfriend Jennifer Sides.

### -----Upcoming Baby Showers-----

#### Jim Lusk:

Details are scarce, but word has it that '97-'98 Chapter President Jim Lusk's wife is "with child." Jim and wife Stacy married not too long ago and are doing fine. More details to come.

### -----What's News With You?-----

#### And if we missed you: .....*here's what you do.....*

Get mad, get pissed, get on the phone and give us hell. Tell us all the details and we will be happy to include your great news in the next issue of the Kellogg Spirit. We can't print it unless you give us the scoop. Contact Jeff Wheater ASAP to make the next deadline.....