



BETA KNOWS RUSH!

Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at Ohio Wesleyan University – Spring 1991



*The Brothers of
Beta Theta Pi
Welcome You to
Ohio Wesleyan*

Dear Friends,

The next two weeks are exciting for you. Rush is a great way to meet new people and learn about an area of life that you are considering for your next three and a half years while on campus.

Greek life goes a bit beyond your college careers though. In choosing a fraternity, you are putting yourself in a position to follow in the footsteps of outstanding men in both your chapter and your national fraternity. You come in contact with these men at reunions and at conventions. You read about them in the Beta Theta Pi magazine and in various national newspapers. You may choose to contact some members after college as you look for jobs or make decisions on graduate school. We at Theta Chapter are proud to read about our alumni and their accomplishments in all publications.

During these next two weeks you will be confronted with one of your most challenging questions: Where will I pledge? In answering, keep an open mind to all fraternities, narrow down your choices and then scrutinize them. Find the best place for yourself. See where you feel comfortable and where you will develop the most skills and become well rounded. Remember, though, that your decision is for a lifetime.

Good luck, have fun and GO GREEK!

*Stuart Feldman
Rush Chairman*

Greetings from Beta's President

By Kevin McDonnell

Ohio Wesleyan's chapter of Beta Theta Pi is an outstanding fraternity with a rich tradition of undergraduate diversity. Since our return to campus in the fall of 1987, we have worked hard to be open to all aspects of the University. It's an incredible experience to have brothers who come from so many different walks of life.

For most fraternities, rush is challenging and interesting because the rushees are so diverse. At Beta, we feel the key to choosing the best men is to give each person a chance to prove himself. One should never choose a book by its cover. Every one of the 23 men in this house has proven himself worthy of being a Beta in one way or another.

Being an individual is a terrific quality, but it is not the only criterion that we are looking for. In the past, rush was in the fall which made it necessary to view rushees individually. Spring rush has given us the entire fall to meet many of you and to get a feel for what you are all about. Many of you may have already developed close bonds with fellow freshmen and would like to join a fraternity with your friends. For this reason, Beta is concerned with viewing you as both an individual and as a member of a group. We readily welcome a group of friends who we feel can strengthen this chapter.

Beta is small, but it still has as much pride and character as any house on the hill. I do, however, believe that there is a certain amount of strength in numbers, and this is a year when our house is looking to increase its numbers by a significant amount. The infrastructure has been laid for a very strong chapter. As president and a senior, I've worked hard to see that this chapter succeeds in its goal for prominence as an Ohio Wesleyan fraternity. I want nothing more than to leave this house in good hands. The hands are yours, the future of OWU. The opportunities here are amazing. Just do it!



The use of the computer room is one way brothers improve academically.

Academics Rank High at Beta

By Matt Howison, Scholarship Chairman

As scholarship chairman of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, I can attest to the fact that we are an academically oriented house. We emphasize scholarship just as much as our various social and athletic activities. Although we are strong in academics, we are constantly striving for improvement. A number of incentive and study programs encourage all of us to perform academically. Incentives are provided for both those who excel and those few who could use some improvement.

A recently established scholarship incentive involves the disbursement of equal monetary awards for exceptional performance, including awards for the highest GPA and awards based on improvement. All of the awards are on a semester-by-semester basis.

The improvement awards are especially helpful to those who strive to raise their academic standings.

Beta Theta Pi also offers a variety of study programs. Study tables are used both for pledges and actives. The



A familiar sight in the Beta house.

pledge study tables ensure the pledges an opportunity to study during the exciting pledgship period. The actives also form study groups among members with similar interests. Brothers who share classes frequently consult each other and arrange study times.

Our latest academic performance indicates that Beta Theta Pi will continue to be strong in academics. For example, our house GPA was above 2.7 last semester. Furthermore, our future looks even brighter because our new initiates are especially strong. All signs point to an outstanding future for Beta Theta Pi scholarship.

Athletically Inclined? Beta Can Help

By Mike Colson

Collegiate athletics, even on the Division III level, is a considerable time constraint on your schedule. In order to survive, that is, to succeed in both your sport and your studies, you must give a great deal of attention to time management. I know - I have lettered on Ohio Wesleyan's cross country and track teams for the past three and a half years. Practice consumes every afternoon, and meets take away half of the weekend. Often you have to make a decision between getting the sleep that your body needs and studying more for a test the next day. There's no way around it; being a scholar-athlete is hard.

It may seem, then, that pledging a fraternity would be a waste of time, a frivolity that takes time away from your already tough schedule. But this isn't the case. At Beta, we have a scholarship program which assures that every pledge gets the time he needs to study. Our program is structured around our pledges' needs, so there will be no conflicts with athletic practices or competitions.

Besides the help of a scholarship program, the athlete who joins Beta also enjoys the advantage of strong brotherhood. In my years of being a collegiate athlete, I have seen no greater support than that which I have received from fellow Betas. These are guys that care about you, want to see you win, and put in the most effort that they can to cheer you on. Make no mistake about it, it helps.

These are the advantages that an independent athlete will miss. He will not have an external scholarship program especially constructed to serve his needs, nor will he find that core of support, those screaming Betas, who are there just to see you excel. As an athlete, I can assure you that going Beta will be nothing but positive. Just do it!

Beta Theta Pi ~ A Real Pioneer



By Erik Mitchell, Secretary

Beta Theta Pi was founded on September 8, 1839, by eight men from Miami University, giving the fraternity the distinction of being the first to originate west of the Allegheny Mountains. (Beta also has the distinction of being the first to have a fraternity west of the Mississippi.) Since then, Beta has pioneered many other firsts which other fraternities would follow. This includes the making of our constitution public.

Though Beta has many things to be proud of, we have faced a couple of dark hours in our past. The Civil War represented Beta Theta Pi's greatest crisis and thus is called our darkest hour. Beta had nine chapters south of the Mason-Dixon line, and, soon after the start of the war, all communications between the Northern and Southern chapters were severed. Due to the great strengths and loyalty of the fraternity members, all the Southern chapters were revived shortly after the end of the war, and the spirit of Beta survived.

Our chapter, the Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi, was founded in 1855 by eight men. It was the first fraternity at Ohio Wesleyan. We were recently recolonized; we have won several academic awards and have rebuilt the house on a solid foundation of brotherhood. We are continuing to progress by increasing the size of our membership and the role we have at Ohio Wesleyan and the Delaware community.

JUST DO IT!



Donation of time to the community is important to the brothers.

Community Service: An Extension of Brotherhood

By King Anderson, Philanthropy Chairman

Philanthropy is an integral part of any successful Greek organization. Making an active effort to promote human welfare in society and providing aid for the needy gives one a feeling of self-worth and provides an opportunity for house unity. For the small amount of time one can spend doing community service, many people benefit a great deal. As philanthropist, it is my job to contact an agency or persons in need of volunteer work to be done and merge this need with the desires and availability of the brothers.

In the past, Beta has benefited a great deal from community service opportunities. Last fall we worked to restore the Delaware Cultural Arts Center in town. We met many nice people and had the chance to be a part of an extremely successful and permanent center for community involvement. We did everything from raking leaves and moving furniture to serving food to the needy at a Christmas party. To make someone's day by giving a

little food or even a little smile gives you a warm feeling inside. A more worldly benefit was being able to hold our last two winter formals at this beautiful dwelling.

On an annual basis, we have manned the red kettles for the Salvation Army in front of the local retail stores throughout the city to solicit funds for the needy of Delaware County. Ringing the bells for a few hours in December is definitely a worthwhile project that will be around for years to come. This past fall, the brothers helped in distributing emergency food to residents through People In Need, Inc. (P.I.N.). Another project with P.I.N. is their Christmas Clearing House - to ensure that each child in Delaware County has Christmas gifts under the tree. The house has also helped by distributing literature (posters and flyers) for the Delaware Housing Coalition, Delaware Metro-Parks, the Association for Retarded Citizens and Delaware Area Recovery Resources.

Many future projects are on line for second semester, when the pledges also get the opportunity to participate. This is an excellent chance for pledge unity and also for the pledges to get to know the brothers better. For example, several possibilities are open for projects with the Central Ohio Chapter of the National Arthritis Foundation in Columbus. Whether it be raising money to donate for a needy cause or doing work around town, Beta has and always will be out there doing our part to help provide goodwill to fellow men.

Social Aspects of Fraternity Life Revealed

By Gardiner Lawrence, Social Chairman

Since our reinstatement on campus, Beta Theta Pi has leaped forward in the social aspects of fraternity life. Starting from scratch is extremely difficult, yet the brothers of the Theta Chapter have continually come up with new and interesting ideas for social functions. Our Miami Triad Party has been a big hit for the past two years.

Although most people think of big parties when the topic of social events come up, the brothers at Beta try to tie our parties to a cause. Some parties at Beta help out the less fortunate in Delaware by raising money either by selling shirts or tumblers. The brothers of Beta so appreciated Delaware Community Arts Center's allowing us to hold our formal there that the brothers spend some of their extra time fixing up this unique and beautiful building, both inside and out.

Social life at Beta Theta Pi is just one aspect that brings the brothers closer together. Even though the social side of fraternity life has always been important at Beta, we like to tie it in with other aspects of fraternity life to create well-rounded individuals and brothers who are proud to be Betas.

Beta Theta Pi Fraternity: Called "Home" By the Best

By Brien M. Donovan

Up until May 14, 1990, I was considered an undergraduate member of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. To be more specific, an undergraduate member of the Theta Chapter. I began to think of the prestigious list of alumni that I had just joined, the numerous senators and state representatives who at one time may have held an executive position in their own chapters. The Greek college athletes who became professional athletes, the brothers who worked their way through school and then as alumni went on to own or run major corporations. I then began to think of the specific alumni that I first learned of as a pledge: State Representative Richard A. Gephart, tennis pro Stan Smith, William J. Bowerman (founder of Nike), and Theta Chapter's very own George Conradas (director of international marketing for IBM). At this point, I realized how great an honor it is to call myself an alumnus along with these fine gentlemen, something that I believe that each and every one of us will cherish in the years to come. I know I will.

Our Active Brothers are Anxious to Meet You:

Name	Class	Hometown	Major
Kingsley Anderson	Soph.	Shaker Heights, Ohio	Undecided
Mike Colson	Sr.	Silver Spring, Md.	English
Scott Ellis	Sr.	Huntington, N.Y.	Politics & Government
Stuart Feldman	Sr.	Harrison, N.Y.	Economics/Pre-Law
John Flayderman	Jr.	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	Economics
Matt Howison	Jr.	Ostrender, Ohio	Accounting
David Jurich	Sr.	Green Brook, N.J.	Psychology
Kirk Keller	Sr.	York, Pa.	History
Donald King	Jr.	Wilton, Conn.	History
Paul Klatt	Soph.	Granville, Ohio	History
Gardiner Lawrence	Jr.	Barrington, R.I.	History
David Lit	Jr.	Huntingdon Valley, Pa.	Accounting
Kevin McDonnell	Sr.	McLean, Va.	History
Jonathan Miller	Jr.	East Greenwich, R.I.	Pre-Med
Matthew Morris	Jr.	New York, N.Y.	History
Eric Nelson	Jr.	Delaware, Ohio	Zoology
Erik Mitchell	Sr.	Upper Arlington, Ohio	Accounting
David Russell	Soph.	Riverside, R.I.	Black World Studies/Zoology
Jim Stilwell	Sr.	Logan, Ohio	Politics & Government



MATT HURLEY



BRIAN KARAM



JAMES STILLWELL



ROGER WARD



KEVIN McDONNELL



KIRK KELLER



TODD BENHAME



ROBERT HENRY



PATRICK SEASH



BRIAN DONDORA

Beta Theta Pi

THETA CHAPTER

1989



1990



TREVOR ANDARY



BRIAN RUBIN



SCOTT ELLIS



MICHAEL COLSON



ERIK MITCHELL



DAVID JIRCH

Ohio Wesleyan University



JOHN FLAYDERMAN



DONALD KING



DAVID LIT



GARDINER LAWRENCE



DAVID LIT



DAVID JURICH



SARATHA



KATHERINE SHELTON



MATTHEW MORRIS



PAUL KLATT



DAVID RUSSELL



JAMES SALCOTT



MATT HOWISON



TERRY CARTER



KINGSLEY ANDERSON



ERIC NELSON



JONATHAN MILLER

Beta, because life is too short for mediocrity.