

What's Greek This Week

"What's Greek This Week" is coordinated by Adrienne Schermer & Guy Reschenthaler, with help from Rob Wynne

a supplement to the Behrend Beacon • March 28, 2003

Red and buff: Delta Chi salutes its brother in Special Forces

During these turbulent times in our nation's history, it is important for everyone to remember that despite individual opinions about war in Iraq, several proud individuals are risking their lives to carry out President's goals in advancing freedom.

The majority of the individuals that are fighting for our nation are members of our generation. The possibility that a close friend or relative may die during service in operations in the Middle East is a reality that is beginning to hit close to home.

Ronald Koss pledged Delta Chi in the fall of 2001 as a member of our Omega

class. He has since served on E-Board in our chapter and for IFC. His career in the military has gone into his fifth year. He has taken part in extensive training over those five years, including Scout School at Fort Knox in '99, Airborne School at Fort Benning, GA, and Leadership Camp at Fort Louis, Wash.

He was scheduled for Special Forces training at Ranger School later this year.

Koss has had constant communications with his commanding officer in recent weeks, including the weekend before the first strikes on targets in Iraq, when he received a "warning order," a standard pre-deployment order.

Koss isn't sure on the possibility of being sent to the Middle East, but most of his infantry battalion has been called up. His ranking in the Army is Cavalry Scout platoon leader, where he specializes in reconnaissance. If he were to be sent to the Middle East, it would be into enemy territory.

Koss could also be ordered to patrol high risk targets for attacks in the U.S., such as nuclear power plants. He has been paying close attention to the situation in Iraq. He believes he should serve his duty not only to his country, but fellow soldiers and friends who have already been called up and sent over to fight. Although he wants to fulfill

his duties, his main goal in life right now is to graduate college.

Our entire chapter watched the presidential address with Koss, as the commander-in-chief announced that the American-lead offensive had begun. We all watched with nervousness looming that we may see our brother called up for duty, and sent to Iraq, where he may have to give the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

We all love and salute our brother, and salute all of our Armed Forces for the services they have given to our country.

Behrend Greeks: Heads Up!

This Greek page is dedicated to Behrend Greeks. The Beacon and editors of this page rely on each Greek organization to submit articles and materials for publication. If your fraternity or sorority is not being equally represented, then you must submit stories, articles, announcements, and other literature to be published on this page. Thank you.

—The Beacon

Greeks plan alumni weekend activities

This summer, the Greeks will help with Behrend's Alumni Weekend by hosting events throughout the weekend.

They are planning on holding a Casino Night on June 20 to raise money for a boy named Elliot. Elliot is the son of a Theta Phi Alpha founding sister who has a brain tumor.

The Greeks plan to have local businesses and businesses of Behrend Greek alumni set-up a table for their businesses with the entry fee, all going to help Elliot. They will also solicit donations at the door and 50/50 raffles to help out.

Other plans include a tour of the fraternity houses, a picnic, and volleyball or dodge ball tournaments.

Katie Leary, an Alpha Sigma Alpha sister, is chairing the Greek Alumni weekend with the help of Maria Madigan, Kevin Moore, and a representative from each sorority and fraternity.

The Greeks hope to continue this for years to come and hope that it will help get more Greek alumni back to see Behrend during the weekend. The goal is for the alumni to have fun and also help out a young sick boy.

If you would like to make a donation or know a business that might want to have a table at the Casino night, please contact Katie Leary at katieleary@psu.edu or Maria Madigan at mam317@psu.edu. The Greek alumni will be back in strong force during the weekend.

TKEs and ASAs 'plunge' into local community through creative fundraisers

by Guy Reschenthaler
contributing writer

Greeks love to have fun. But at the same time, we like to give back to our community and support others. Two Greek organizations that are heavily involved in philanthropic events are the TKEs and ASAs.

The brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon are very active in the community. The TKEs organized the JDF Walk a few years ago when one of their alumni passed away from diabetes. The walk raises money for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and is held annually in the fall.

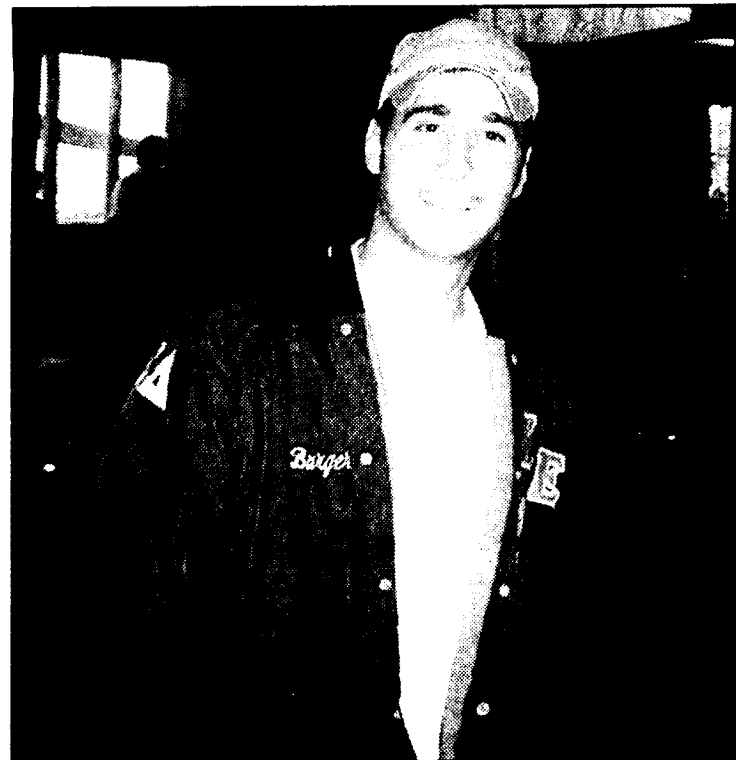
The fraternity also organizes the Barrel Roll every year. The brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon roll a barrel across campus for 24 hours and receive financial pledges. The donations then are given to the Second Harvest Food Bank. Each year, TKE raised hundreds for this charity.

In the spring, Tau Kappa Epsilon sponsors a Safe Sex booth. For one day, outside Bruno's, the brothers hand out contraceptives and provide facts and information about STDs and forms of safe sex.

This year, the brotherhood organized the Ice Plunge (see cover story). The brothers raised more than \$2,000 for the Ronald Reagan Alzheimer's Foundation. Including the Ice Plunge, the TKE brothers took part in and helped with this year's celebration of Women's History Month. It is fair to say that TKE is the community's best friend.

Sororities also help the community. The ASA sisters host many events and partake in many programs. The sisters volunteer at the Special Olympics each year. ASAs also host the annual Date Auction to raise money for the Special Olympics. Last year the sisterhood raised more than \$700.

ASAs also raise money and volunteer in the S. June Smith Center. The Center was developed by an ASA sister for disabled children. The



Ryan Sunseri, president of the TKE fraternity.

Behrend chapter helps support its fellow sister and the cause for which she worked extensively.

Along with helping the disabled, the sisters help juveniles with diabetes in the JDF Walk. The sisters have participated in this walk every year and have raised hundreds for the JDF. The sisters also go to local schools and read to kids. The ASAs dress up in outfits and costumes and make learning fun. They have read to more than 1,500 kids just in the last year.

The TKEs and ASAs are two Greek organizations doing their part to give back to the community. The Greek community is one of the most active in the community and raises thousands each year

for charities. We challenge all other Behrend organizations to do the same.

ATTENTION SENIORS

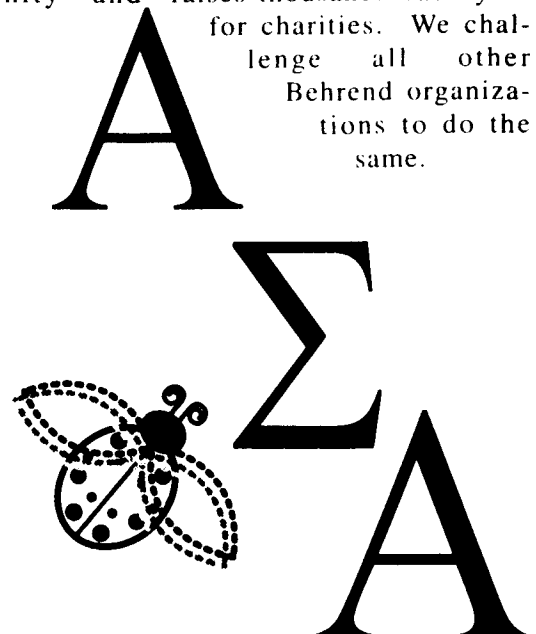
SENIOR SALUTE DAYS

- PURCHASE YOUR CAP & GOWN
- ORDER YOUR CLASS RING
- ORDER COMMENCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PICK UP TICKETS FOR THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
- STOP BY THE SENIOR CLASS GIFT TABLE TO SEE HOW YOU CAN MAKE THE PENN STATE LION STATUE A REALITY!

WHEN: MONDAY, MARCH 31---10AM - 6PM
TUESDAY, APRIL 1---9AM - 3PM

WHERE: REED WINTERGARDEN

(FOR MORE INFO-STOP BY THE BOOKSTORE)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO