

THE FRONT RHO

ALPHA EPSILON PI, BETA RHO CHAPTER



Greetings From the Master

Ian Nappier, Pi '10



The Spring semester is always bittersweet.

Pledging typically defines the semester, and this Spring was no exception.

I am happy to announce that we have welcomed into our brotherhood the thirteen fine young men who make up the Sigma pledge class. They were brought into our brotherhood via the strongest pledge program we have had in some time, guided by the capable and steady hand of our pledgemaster and graduating senior, Caleb Miller. Congratulations to Caleb and all of the Sigmas for making this semester a fine semester indeed.

But what made this semester bittersweet was saying goodbye to our graduating se-

niors. This house truly will not be the same without them. But as we say goodbye to them we also wish them all the good luck that they may reasonably receive. Many of the seniors are choosing to continue their education and put off the real world for another few years, some are headed to jobs in Boston, Providence, New York City or other places in the northeast, and others are headed much farther away.

I, personally, take great solace in the fact that even for those who are headed to the most distant of places, for those who I may not see for one year, two years, five years, or even more, it is the bonds of brotherhood which bind us and grant me the belief, nay, the conviction that we will meet again and it shall be as if no time has passed at all, for we are forever brothers. But mostly, I hope we stay in contact, frequently whether it be in person or in correspondence. I'll miss all of you. To the parents and the alumni, the state of the brotherhood is strong, and I hope all is well.

This issue of the Front Rho is dedicated to Scott Franco, Eta '04. Brother, may you rest in peace.

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Lieutenant Master's Report

Joel Cohen, Pi '10

This semester it was my pleasure to serve as Lieutenant Master. Over the course of the semester, I was responsible for planning several social events. The first of these events came early in the semester in the form of our annual Superbowl party. With two huge TV's, tons of couches, chairs, and tables stocked with wings, subs, chips, pizza, veggies and soda, this event was both a great tool for rush and a great way to treat our outside friends to a good time.

By far our biggest social event of the semester was our spring formal. After wine and cheese in our lounge, the brothers of AEPi and their guests donned their flippie-floppies and boarded the Harbor Queen for a three-hour cruise of the Naragansett Bay. Taking advantage of the economic downturn, we were able to negotiate a very affordable price for a delightful evening of fine dining, dancing, and constant references to the song "I'm on a Boat." In addition to the great music selected by brother Ian Gray (Sigma '12), we were treated to a fine series of serenade songs by the Xi, Pi, Rho, and Sigma pledge classes. As if this were not enough, the Omicrons chipped in with the sad and pleading tale of an absent-minded brother and his lost brick.



It was also my pleasure this semester to work with our highly capable minor board this semester. Social Chair Danny Hyman and his Deputy Mike Bohl planned a series of great parties for us over the course of the semester. Food chair Evan Lazer and Jewish Affairs chair Adam Yarnell, along with planning assistance from last year's organizer Dan Block, moved mountains to secure funding and food for our annual 2nd night Passover seder. Webmaster Jon Aubitz, with the help of some of our other computer-savvy brothers such as Ben Rome, did a fantastic job revamping the website. Community Service chair Jon Beller, serving a second term in that position, proved a rock at organizing Blood Drives. Athletics chair Danny Scheinerman maintained AEPi's presence in the world of intramural sports, and was desperately unlucky not to come away with an intramural soccer championship to accompany his Brown University diploma.

All in all, it was a great pleasure to sit on the executive board and oversee the minor board. Serving AEPi has been one of the most rewarding things I have done in college, and I look forward to continuing in that vein next semester.



Winter Break Trip to Orlando

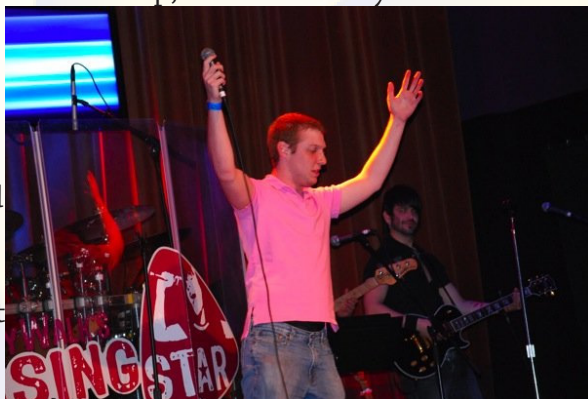
Toby Cohen, Xi '09

For winter break this year, Adam Robbins (Xi '09), Adam Lewin (Omicron '09), and Jason Ziplow (Pi '10) decided to join me on a quest to relive my childhood by going to Universal Studios Orlando. Our trip was filled with “that’s what she said”, silly hats, lots of singing, Storm Force, and for the most part, consisted of us acting like a group of rowdy 12 year olds. As Robbins’s plethora of photos indicates, it will be hard to succinctly describe this trip, but I will do my best.

The trip actually begins in Miami, with Robbins and I at a University of Miami basketball game which was on pace to end exactly when we needed to pick up Lewin from the airport. Lewin’s flight ended up being delayed, and we ended up wasting enough time such that we didn’t start the 35 minute drive to the airport until after Lewin had landed. I think we told him there was traffic, but actually Robbins and I were playing video games at GameWorks (as I said, we all acted about 10 years younger on this trip).

Our first full day in Orlando was exhausting. We arrived at the main park a few minutes after it opened, and zipped our way through the crowds of families so that we could get to the most popular rides at the back of the park before any significant lines formed. Little did we know that post New Year’s day Universal is shockingly empty, and when there was any sort of a line, our handy “flash pass” allowed us to skip it anyway.

The highlight of our first day was without a doubt the Fear Factor Live show. Robbins and I auditioned, and after I dominated a game of Simon Says, I was subsequently cut after they asked us to do our 30



second intro. (My answer to “Why am I going to win today?” was not up to snuff). Robbins on the other hand was one of the six selected to participate. After holding on to a pull up bar 40 ft in the air, successfully retrieving bean bags from a tank full of eels, and catching dead octopi thrown to him, Robbins eventually lost in the final round when his inability to spot flags on a ladder severely cost him. (For a more detailed description, see http://www.facebook.com/photos.php?&id=1009375&s=18&hash=18f6117fcfc2c7c0a154c0043d6fa89f#/note.php?note_id=44401747345)

The next day we went to the Islands of Adventure, where we truly embraced our inner child by spending at least a half hour climbing through the rope jungle in Jurassic Park, another half hour at the visitors center answering dinosaur trivia, and finally, doing nearly every attraction in Dr. Seuss Land (in which there are no straight lines in any of the structures). The highlight of day 2 was actually the evening, when we discovered RisingStar Karaoke, a karaoke bar in which you perform on stage with a live band and full light show. After a lot



of goading from Lewin, I decided to sign up to perform “Low” by Flo Rida. Jason, Robbins, and I had put in our cards at around 10:45pm, and soon it was 12:30am, and none of us had been called up yet. At around 1am, Lewin wanted to leave, but after all of his goading earlier, I demanded that we stay either until closing, or until one of us got to go. Then, at around 1:15, the screen flashes “On deck, Jason Z”. While Jason is performing “I Believe in a Thing Called Love”, the screen starts flashing “On deck, Toby C.” It’s close to 1:30 by the time I get on stage, and during Ziplow’s performance, a large crowd had formed around the stage.

The energy level at RisingStar is indescribable. One section of the crowd is chanting my name, another has their hands raised towards the stage hoping I might grant them the privilege of touching me, a man tells Robbins, “Dude, your friend is AWESOME!”

The final day in Orlando we spent at Wet N Wild water park, which was even emptier than Universal Studios. There is no such thing as a “flash pass” at the water park, but we still managed to do the entire park 3 times, going on certain rides as many as 6 times. The top two rides at the park were The Storm, whose experience can best be described as what being flushed down a toilet probably feels like, and Disco H2O, which featured all 4 of us in a tube flying around a water filled indoor discotheque complete with music, lights, and of course, a disco ball. We concluded the day with a game of 2 on 2 volleyball that would have made Maverick and Goose jealous, and ended the night back at RisingStar for round 2 where Ziplow performed “I Kissed a Girl”, I performed “Fight for your Right” and Robbins sang “Let’s See how Far We’ve Come”.

This trip was especially incredible because it reminded me of how much better things are when you’re doing them with your brothers. With our busy lives at Brown, we often don’t get to spend as much time with each other as we’d like. On this 4 day trip, the 4 of us were together the entire time, with nothing to do but enjoy each other’s company while at the parks. While the attractions are fun, what I remember and enjoyed the most were the discussions about each ride afterwards, the conversations at meals, the silly hat photo shoot that spanned all the gift shops, the karaoke experience I would not have had without Lewin’s peer pressure, and most of all how much closer the 4 of us became after spending every waking minute for 4 days with each other. I have been to Universal nearly a dozen times before this, and without a doubt, this will rank as my favorite visit.

Social Report



Danny Hyman, Rho '11

The Front Rho has recently received an eyewitness account of what is believed to be an Alpha Epsilon Pi social gathering. The witness, who wishes to remain unidentified, reports that the function in question was “totally off the hook, I mean it was ffin’ crazy.”

He continues, “it was so ff’in crazy that I don’t remember anything...the whole night was a complete blur.”

When asked if he remembered any details, he responded, “I’m 60%, no 70% sure it was one of you guys’ parties. No wait it was one of you guys’ fo sho’.”

“I’m not sure, but I think there were mad females. You know, girl females. Like, attractive girl females. The place was packed. Maybe. Say, I think there was a celebrity there too. It wasn’t Kanye, but that you know that guy that kinda looks like Kanye? Yeah, it was definitely that guy. I think.”

The anonymous partygoer went on establishing the level of insanity: “Man, I had so much fun that I don’t remember what party I’m talking about.”

Well there you have it. The AEPi epic social tradition thrives in to tomorrow and beyond. Be proud o’great alumni, your legacy lives.

***EDITOR’S NOTE:** The above commentary is meant for entertainment purposes only and should not be regarded as factual. While the party in question was thoroughly enjoyable, it remained securely fastened to the hook at all times. Risk management meeting adjourned.

Environment for a Cure

Jeremy Ader, Sigma '12

Shortly after being elected pledge community service chair, Devin Cohen '09 took me outside on the porch and outlined to me the details of Environment for a Cure - the charity which last year raised over \$19,000 for the Pediatric Oncology Center at Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence. After describing the donation process and the logistics of the Silent auction and Raffle very quickly, Devin asked me if I had any questions. With no idea of where to even begin, I stared at him with a blank face as he said "Good, it's your baby now."

To say I was nervous of the task ahead would be an understatement-but my nerves didn't last too long. The minute I began to ask for help, I realized that I was surrounded by over 50 soon to be brothers who were committed not only to supporting me in this task, but committed to the task itself. Everybody recognized the challenge of raising money for charity in such difficult economic times and recognized the level of work that would have to go into meeting this challenge. Brothers and Pledges came together, put in hours and hours of work, sending out emails to all our friends and family, soliciting every single store on Thayer Street for donations

for the silent auction, covering the campus in posters and sitting countless shifts at the raffle and auction.

Due to rain, the silent auction was moved from Wriston Quad to inside Marcy lounge, but brothers and pledges came together once again to meet this challenge by soliciting every single person who entered the mail room and the dining hall, as this years silent auction raised \$1400, \$200 more than last year's. From April 17th until the 21st, we raffled off a Signed Joe Namath Jersey, a Nintendo Wii and a Colorware iPod Touch, raising over \$900. And while BP is extremely proud of our efforts this past spring, we realize that none of this would be possible without very, very generous donations from local and corporate businesses, donations from friends and family and our matching do-

nor, all who helped bring this years total to just under \$21,000. This total not only beat last year's total, but also allowed us to completely fill the Pediatric Oncology Center's wish list which included 20 videogames, 50 movies, a Wii funcenter, a fishtank and dynavox equipment which allows patients who cannot speak, to communicate to their physician. With the economy hopefully on the rise soon, and a group of brothers who truly understand what it means not only to be part of our own community, but part of the greater Providence community as well, we simply cannot wait to see what 2010 has in store.



A Letter from the Pledgemaster

Caleb Miller, Xi '09

I remember when I asked my Pledgemaster, Tal Itzkovich, what I should expect from being pledgemaster. "Its constant work, but afterwards, you'll wonder where all the time went", he replied and then referenced some of the more trying times he faced as my pledgemaster. At that time, I had no idea how right he was. Few things in life had prepared me for the awesome responsibility of trying to integrate 13 guys into a tight-knit unit of 40 brothers while professing to be an expert on brotherhood. Far from knowing all there is to know from the start, I strongly believe that the Sigma class taught me more than I could ever teach them.

And when the ten weeks were up, it was my turn to graduate and say goodbye to a fraternity I wasn't ready to leave.

The program started, as all of them do, with several small groups of freshman with no idea what to expect. Some of them had rushed heavily, while others joined because of their friends or other perks. However, somewhere between the huge time commitments we scheduled and the endless memorization, the pledge class stopped functioning as several independent groups and quick-



ly started acting like a unit. Their willingness to be open with each other, sharing secrets and embarrassing moments with people they had known for less than a week, and helping one another so readily was astonishing and more than I could have ever hoped for. While each pledge does require a personal approach from the pledge committee, I was ecstatic to realize that the Sigmas took it upon themselves to teach one another about themselves and what they felt constituted a strong, fraternal bond. This meant that some pledges would rush to sympathize with the situations and opinions of others, while others spent the beginning of every meeting on a phone, making sure their pledge-brothers were on-time. By the time we got to the camping trip towards the end of pledging, I had no doubt that the Beta Rho chapter, with the help of the Sigmas, was going to be the strongest it had ever been.

After the process was done and we inducted the new brothers, I came to understand a number of things about pledging I had not know before. Firstly, there is no one right way to lead the pledge program. If anything, a number of approaches are needed to help each pledge understand what they're getting into, their responsibilities, and why they should value these bonds. Sometimes this means being touchy-feely, sometimes it means laying down the law. Secondly, being honest with the pledges is the best thing you can do. While the program does include some tricks and surprises, being candid and open with all the pledges, from the start, is the best way to develop a good relationship. Plus, most of them are smarter than you'd expect, so they'll know if you're lying. Finally, the subtle aspects of the program are the most important ones. While big speeches and activities make up the bulk of the program, the sideline conversations and time spent joking around are what make the program valuable, and work. Thank you to all of my pledges and the key assistant Pledgemasters that made the process go as smoothly as it did. I couldn't have asked for a better pledge class.



In Loving Memory of Scott Franco, Eta '04

Lee Wilson , Epsilon '02

From the minute he stepped on stage as a tapdancing and singing janitor during the Orientation Talent Show, I knew that Scott was someone that I had to meet. His charisma and love for the arts was undeniable; his talent unfathomable. As soon as he joined AEPi, we became quick friends and our bond grew stronger as the years progressed. Throughout the course of our friendship, Scott shared with me many things. I remember sitting in his room watching him as he composed songs, listening to him as he riffed on his guitar or keyboard and then there was Scott's voice - an instrument that could only be bestowed by God. However, these were the lesser of Scott's gifts that he shared with me and with those in his orbit. Those who knew Scott could attest to his unwavering compassion, his wholehearted love for his fellow man and his devotion to helping the less fortunate and making the world a better place in his own way.

I wish I could have seen Scott one last time - to tell him just how much his friendship meant to me. From the way he always addressed me as "bro" to his use of the phrase "right on" to the cheerful lilt in his voice...there are so many things I will miss about Scott. I wish he lived long enough to see all of his dreams fulfilled. I honestly don't think there was enough hours in the day, enough days in the week, enough weeks in the year, enough years in a lifetime for Scott to truly accomplish all that he set out to accomplish. But, in the time that he was on this earth, he did the one thing that eclipses any unfinished masterpiece or any charitable work: he showed me what it means to not give a damn what anyone thinks as long as you are strong in your convictions.

Thank you Scott for letting me part of your world. I know you are at peace...well, that is, until God decides its time for you to conduct his heavenly choir. Until then, rest well, bro.

Spring '09 Officers

Master	Ian Nappier, Pi '10
Lieutenant Master	Joel Cohen, Pi '10
Pledgemaster	Caleb Miller, Xi '09
Rush Chair	Jeff Lisiecki, Rho '11
Scribe	Jason Ziplow, Pi '10
Exchequer	Jack Mizerack, Rho '11
Sentinel	Paul Zhu, Rho '11
Brother-At-Large	Sam Holzman, Rho '11
House Manager	Will Miller, Rho '11
Immediate Past Master	Troy Shapiro, Pi '10

Fall '09 Officers

Master	Joel Cohen, Pi '10
Lieutenant Master	Dan Block, Pi '10
Scribe	Will Miller, Rho '11
Exchequer	Jeff Lisiecki, Rho '11
Sentinel	Troy Shapiro, Pi '10
Brother-At-Large	Sam Winograd, Rho '11
House Manager	Adam Yarnell, Pi '10
Immediate Past Master	Ian Nappier, Pi '10

This edition of the Front Rho brought to you by
Scribe Jason Ziplow, Pi '10

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