

The Back Bay Beta

Beta Upsilon Chapter

Beta Theta Pi Fraternity • Massachusetts Institute of Technology

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

NOVEMBER 1992

President Predicts "Another Great Year" For The Chapter

Another school year has begun: This should prove to be another great year for the Beta Upsilon Chapter. The semester started with a work week run by Frank Leibly '93 and Jim Meneghini '94. The most ambitious project undertaken was the completion of a new weight room in the basement of the annex, leaving the library for use solely as a chapter room. As a result of this and the numerous other projects ventured during work week, the house was in fantastic shape during rush.

Rush once again went extremely well for the Beta house, garnering us 11 outstanding young men. Such a successful rush is especially impressive when one realizes that the MIT Greek system in general had a very poor year. Kudos are due to Rush Chairman Jay Coulson '94 for his hard work and excellent leadership.

Neighbor relations continue to go well. There have been no problems to speak of, and one neighbor was especially pleased with the gardening work a few of the Betas did for her. Community service is as important as always. One of the first events scheduled this semester is the annual haunted house at the Margaret Fuller House in Cambridge.

Another highlight since the last issue of *The Back Bay Beta* was the marriage of Will Scruggs '92 to Denee Goodhope. Approximate-

ly half of the house was in attendance at the ceremony and festivities in Joplin, Missouri. Five Beta Theta Pi chapters were represented by those present at the celebration. Good luck, kids!

The house is looking great, and we encourage all Betas to stop by, say hello, and meet the new pledges.

Erik Abernathy '93

Work Week Finishes On Time

During work week 1992, Betas gathered together to prepare the main house for rush. All five floors received cosmetic attention, and a number of projects were accomplished. The efforts of many Betas day and night made the work week a big success, leaving the house in top shape for rush.

Rooms that were repainted completely include lounge west (4RL), third front right and left, third rear right, second front right, and the pantry. The floors in fourth rear, third front left, the library, and the three landings were recoated with polyurethane. The common areas had remained in fair shape during the year, so they only required touch-up work. The front lawn also survived the year, making it

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HELP WANTED

by the Alumni Association

As several officers of the alumni association approach their 70th birthdays, it seems appropriate (as well as good management) to involve some of the younger and more dynamic brothers in alumni association business and management.

Working with the chapter, and its fine, dedicated, and accomplished young men, is a very enjoyable and rewarding experience. The time involved is minimal. We typically meet with the chapter once or twice a year to plan the "wish list" upgrading of the house and to remind our youngest brothers of the importance of good neighborhood relations. The problems are minimal and in most cases are handled by the very capable chapter officers.

We hope to hear from anyone who would like to participate in any capacity in this most worthwhile and enjoyable endeavor. Please call or write: Bob Danner, 508/490-1117 (office), 617/235-7814 (home), 6 Bradford Rd., Wellesley Hills, MA 02181.

Apart from the aging of the alumni officers, Beta affairs continue in excellent shape on all fronts.

Yours in -kai-,
Bob Danner '47



The main house on a picture-perfect summer day.

Many Betas Take To The Field

The fall season has, as usual, seen many Betas take to the field, pool, or river for action in MIT varsity athletics. Betas contributed in six different sports this fall, and a total of 17 Betas will be making us proud in the fall and winter sports seasons.

Neil Best '95 has been one of the few highlights in a currently disappointing season for the MIT varsity football team. As the starting left corner tackle, Neil has been the most consistent contributor in the Beaver offensive line this season.

Godard Abel '93 once again is rowing for the MIT varsity crew team this fall. The team competed for an excellent showing at the Head of the Ohio regatta earlier this semester and is looking forward to the upcoming Head of the Charles regatta.

Brian Divasta '95 has cracked into the starting lineup on the MIT varsity soccer team this fall. Brian's speed and defensive abilities gained him the starting position of left fullback on an improved MIT soccer team. Earlier this term, the team succeeded in defeating nationally ranked Babson College for the first time in recent memory. David Lockwood '96 has been doing his part on the JV squad. He has played well and has proven himself to be a threat to move up to varsity next season.

In the pool Javier Nazario '95 is starting for the nationally eighth-ranked MIT water polo team. This is Javier's second year as a starter, and he is currently one of MIT's best players on both the offensive and defensive ends of the pool. Later this winter Javier will be joined in the pool by Christian Hamer '94 and Eric Mudama '96, this time for the MIT swimming team. Last year Christian was hampered by a nagging shoulder injury, but he still easily qualified for New England championships. This year we're all rooting him on as he goes for nationals.

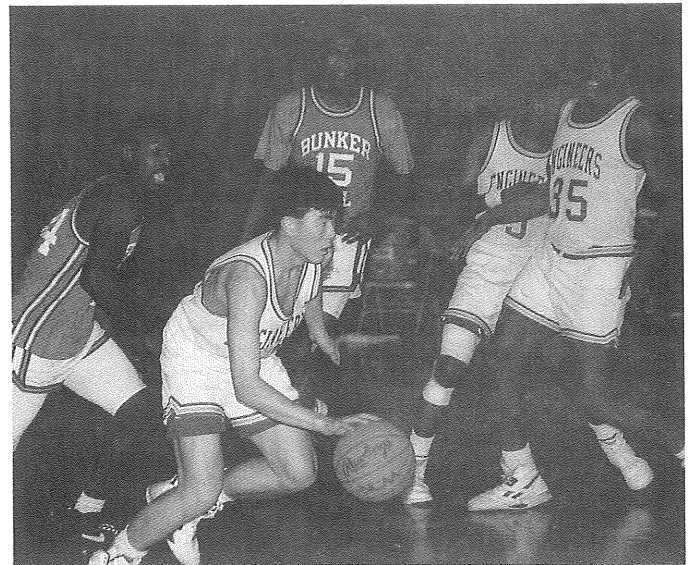
On the diamond Ed Sprague '96 has been catching for the MIT varsity baseball team. Come spring Ed will be competing for a permanent spot in the roster. Also this fall Kevin Frye '94 has shown his athletic prowess and physical toughness as a starter for the MIT rugby team.

Previewing this winter season, Nikki Caruthers '95 was elected captain of the varsity basketball team. Only a sophomore, Nikki earns Beta the distinction of leading the MIT hoops squad for the sixth straight year. Joining him on the court will be returning starting guard Randy Hyun '95 and newcomer Bruce Krysiac '95.

Randy West '93 will be captaining the MIT wrestling team this year. Randy missed much of last season with a knee injury, and he is eager to return to the mats. Hyung Chang '95 and Wes Williams '96 will be joining Randy on the wrestling team this winter.

Returning as setter for the MIT varsity volleyball team will be Rob Ullman '94. Alan Cockern will be throwing this winter for the MIT varsity indoor track and field team. All this, along with the continued heavy participation in intramurals, has made this a very active fall for many Betas.

Yours in -kai-,
Paul O'Brien '95
Athletic Chairman



Randy Hyun '95 goes all out at an MIT varsity basketball game.

ALUMNI NEWS

"I attended ALDEN CUSHMAN's ('24) 'great' 90th birthday party and my own 90th on April 29th," reports DAVID EVANS '24. "Cushman and Evans have a fine time playing bridge and talking about 1920-'24 times at a great Beta chapter—called the 'Steamrollers' by the other fraternities." Dave tells us that he has nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, and that brother Cushman has 34 grandchildren and a dozen great-grandchildren. He also writes that he watched BILL KOCH '62 on television, sailing the *America 3* to victory at San Diego, and "enjoyed every moment of it." Write to Dave at 647 Weed St., New Canaan, CT 06840.

Contact RICHARD H. SANDERS '34 at 110 Cache Cay Dr., Vero Beach, FL 32963-1212.

The never-idle GEORGE R. PFLASTERER '51 reports to us from 17540 Holidia Dr., Morgan Hill, CA 95037. "After 41 years with General Electric, I retired in March of 1992. In April of 1992 I started work at the Electric Power Research Institute in Palo Alto. After 35 years in the nuclear power field, I'm trying my hand at fossil-fired plant R & D." Reading the November 1991 newsletter about HANK QUIGLEY '50, and the 40th Reunion news by HERB VOELCKER '51, made "Russ" resolve to attend the 45th—"Hope all those guys show up then."

HERBERT B. VOELCKER '51 of 205 Valley Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850, reports that he will take a sabbatical from his professorial duties at Cornell during the 1992-'93 academic year. "Herb" takes this time "to write, do some foreign travel, and work with my graduate students."

A neurologist/epileptologist at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, A. JAMES ROWAN '57 pens that he has been married to Rita ("a wonderful lady") for 15 years. "Arbe" and his wife make their home at 415 E. 52nd St., Apt. 11B-B, New York, NY 10022. They have spent 10 years restoring a 1792 manor house on 126 acres in the Hudson Valley, in Greenville, New York. "It is a pristine Georgian home built by Augustine Prevost, an in-law of Aaron Burr who was an advocate before the Continental Congress. Augustine was a lieutenant colonel in the British army whose father had been deeded 1,000+ acres in the New World for services to the Crown. It is called Hush Hush

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THE BACK BAY BETA

Published regularly by the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at MIT. News contributions, address changes, and photos are always welcome and should be sent to Beta Theta Pi at MIT, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 575, Cambridge "A," MA 02139-0575. Photos will be returned after use in the newsletter.

153rd General Convention Brings Colony Status To URI

The 153rd General Convention of Beta Theta Pi was held this summer in Washington, DC. As usual, the fraternity put on a good program enjoyed by everyone. Actives attending with me were Bruce Krysiak '95 (sophomore delegate), Frank Leibly '93, Christian Hamer '94, Ethan Close '95, Neil Best '95, and Hyung Chang '95.

All members of the Beta Upsilon Chapter enjoyed interacting with other Betas from around the continent and exchanged many songs and stories. All of our old friends from Bishops, McGill, Columbia, and URI were there, as well as some new friends from places such as Hampton-Sydney and the University of Hawaii.

Without a doubt, the most exciting portion of the weekend was the granting of new charters. New charters are always great because of the influx of new blood into Beta's broad domain. This year was especially exciting because of the consideration of the University of Rhode Island Colony, sponsored by MIT.

The University of Rhode Island was granted colony status when the current seniors were freshmen. MIT was chosen to be its sponsoring chapter because of its proximity to Kingston and its excellence as a chapter. Thanks to the hard work of all the URI men, and the help of Mark Cooper '91, Jay Watkins '90, Jim Kalamas '91, and Will Scruggs '92, the first URI pledge class was a huge success.

Two and a half years later, the URI colony is perhaps the strongest in all of Beta. After a brief speech by District Chief Will Bagbey, URI was unanimously granted its charter. President Rick Jensen '92 gave an excellent acceptance speech, and there was much rejoicing. The moment was also special because Brian Boardman, roll number 873 MIT, 1 URI, was able to take time off from his busy schedule to see his hard work and the work of his brothers come to fruition.

Speaking on behalf of the entire Beta Upsilon Chapter, I congratulate the URI chapter. These men have done a lot, and we are all proud to call them brothers and friends.

Yours in -kai-,
Erik Abernathy '93

Work Week Finishes

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unnecessary to re-sod this year.

One of the bigger projects this year involved constructing scaffolding in the back stairwell in order to drywall the ceiling of the shaft that is the floor of fourth rear right. After completing the drywall, the entire staircase and walls were repainted. In the new pub, a bench and footrail were installed along the east wall. The bench can hold up to 40 people, although it seats only 10 comfortably. Also in the pub, a large TV was mounted on the wall opposite the new bench.

Another major project during work week involved removing the old bar in the annex pub and installing a complete set of weightlifting equipment. The weight equipment was moved from the library to this new weight room, and then the library ceiling was repainted. A final touch to the library was the addition of couches, carpet, and a table. With the annex basement remade as a weightlifting center, the library is now used only for chapter meetings, socializing, and even, occasionally, studying. Work week finished on time, for the most part, though final touches lingered until rush. Thanks to all the valiant Beta efforts throughout the week, the house was in great shape for rush and is ready for another year of Beta living.

Yours in -kai-,
Jim Meneghini '94
House Manager

Chair Reports Successful Rush

We were very concerned about rush this year. After our incredibly successful rush last year, the IFC issued sanctions against our house. As a result, this year we were not allowed to telephone or send mail to freshmen or begin to host summer rush events until August. Despite this challenge, we were able to work hard during the remainder of the summer and have another outstanding rush. Because of our effort, 11 psyched freshmen pledged our house this fall. Two pledges, Seth Close (brother of Ethan Close '95) and Nathan Boyd (son of Robert Boyd, Idaho '67), are Beta legacies. Incidentally, alumni had a great influence in Nathan's decision to pledge Beta. Nathan was interviewed for MIT by John Bartholomew '86 and was taken to dinner this summer by Mike McDermott '91 and Mike Nadolny '89.

This year's pledge class is:

Alexander Zacharov
Ed Sprague
Nathan Boyd
Eric Mudama
Wesley Williams
Jacob Grota
David Lockwood
Michael Nuckles
Jim Casey
Marwan Kazimi
Seth Close

White Plains, NY
Laporte, CO
Portland, OR
Palo Alto, CA
Sanford, FL
Larchmont, NY
Newton, MA
Chillicothe, TX
Medford, MA
Newton, MA
Braintree, MA

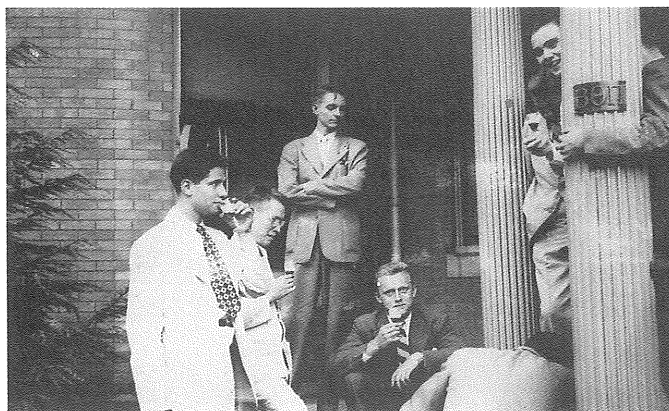
We attribute our success to our small but effective summer rush. In three weeks, we held 15 summer rush parties, and of our 11 pledges, nine had personally met brothers of the house prior to the beginning of rush. The other two had spoken on the phone extensively with members of the house over the summer. We thank all the alumni who were able to help out during rush itself.

To those recent alumni who were unable to make it back for rush, we missed you, and hope to see you for the Christmas and alumni parties, and possibly during next year's rush.

Something alumni may be interested in doing that could help out for rush in future years would be to become educational counselors for MIT. These are alumni who help MIT interview prospective students for admission. The more Betas who are ECs, the more prospective rush recommendations, and opportunities for pre-frosh become available to the house. Also, MIT is always in need of ECs from many diverse parts of the country. If you are interested in becoming an educational counselor, contact the MIT alumni association for more information.

I trust that, with continued alumni support, we will keep having successful rushes for years to come.

Yours in -kai-,
Jay Coulson '94, Rush Chair



Tom Markey, Donald Kahn, Spud Loesch, and Dan Norton enjoy a moment of camaraderie with brothers on the steps of the house.

...more ALUMNI NEWS for your perusal...

(Augustine's term), and all are invited to share its splendors!"

LAWRENCE A. KING '66 reports his new address as 1701 E. 12th St., Apt. 17 V West, Cleveland, OH 44114.

"It took two years, but we finally dissolved our corporation," reports TIMOTHY M. BRADLEY '71. "It feels great not to have a partner and all the extra federal forms to fill out." He has renovated an old ice house as his new office. "I guess I did some unique things, because builders like giving clients tours through it!" College tuition is "rearing its ugly head," as his 17-year-old son will be a senior. Tim's wife, son, and daughter are involved with local dinner theater. "If you are ever in Kauai, give us a call at 808/332-8485." You can write to 3675 Lohe Rd., Kalaheo, Kauai, HI 96471.

DOMINIC P. CAMARDELLA '72 (1404 Sterling Ave., Carpinteria, CA 93013) and his wife, Joan, celebrated 20 years of marriage in May. A lot of Beta brothers celebrated their wedding back in '72. Dom just coproduced a record album with flamenco guitarist Ottmar Liebert. Ottmar and Dom were to be on the *Jay Leno Show* on June 25, 1992. "Also, check out the two albums, *Borrasca* (nominated for a Grammy Award this past fall) and *Solo para-ti* with Carlos Santana." Dom reports a get-together on the West coast with PAUL HOCHFELD '72, STEVEN JOVANOVICH '73, and ARTHUR KILMURRAY '72, and he has been in touch with DAVE PETERSON '70, CHARLES THOMPSON '73, JOEL HEMMELSTEIN '71, and B.J. DAVIES '75.

Having found a career position in oceanography, MARK S. SWENSON '78 will live and work on Key Biscayne, Florida, which is just offshore of Miami. "I have put a difficult marriage behind me and am definitely on the upswing. I invite brothers to contact me at 251 Galen Dr., Apt. #305 E, Key Biscayne, FL 33149."

A globetrotting RAYMOND F. BRUNSBURG '86 has quit his job of five years working for Solvay as a chemical engineer in Europe (Belgium, Italy, France), and has decided "to spend the next

few years travelling around the world. Principal destinations are Scandinavia, Africa, Nepal, and the South Pacific. The grand departure is set for the end of the year. Until then, I'll be rounding off my third and final triathlon season this summer with competitions in Nice and Moscow." Ray sporadically contacts BOB STRUBLE '85, SNEHAL PATEL '85, and JIM DANNA '84, and is happy to report that all are doing well. "I'd be happy to hear from fellow contemporary Betas, especially those from my pledge class. Send all postcards, letters, checks, and money orders to my French address before the end of the year, in care of 'The Dog,' 37 rue de Nancy, 57430 Sarralbe, FRANCE."

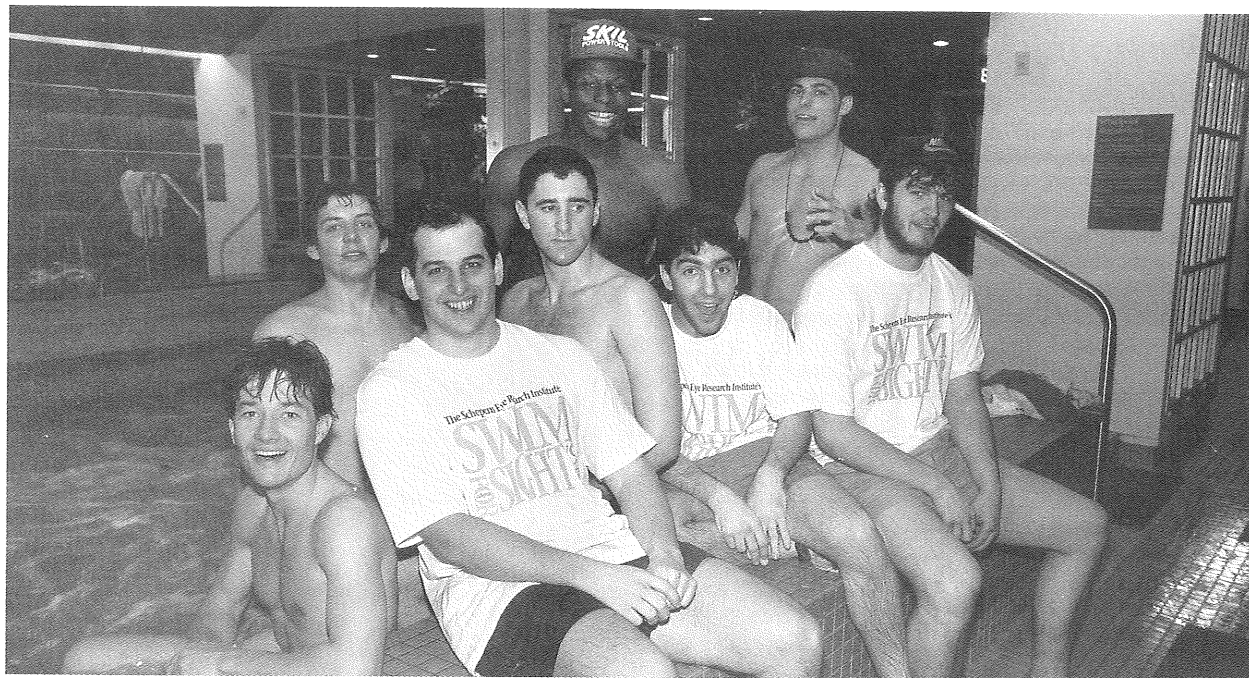
ROBERT E. MENTLE '88 has "finally gotten my first full-time, permanent job, after 26 years," as an electrical engineer with Applied Physics Lab/Johns Hopkins University in Laurel, Maryland. "Marley" is living four blocks from the new stadium and invites all to drop by at 121 S. Fremont Ave., Apt. 432, Baltimore, MD 21201.

With plans for motorcycle and marriage licenses this summer, JOHN J. SCHWAGER '88 reported plans for a September 1992 wedding. "I'm planning on seeing BOB STRUBLE '85 and TODD WILSON '88 take the plunge out of bachelorhood before I do, so I can see if they like it." "Schwags" is now working as a senior manufacturing engineer for MRC Bearings in Jamestown, New York. Write to John at 6601 Stevens Rd., Panama, NY 14767.

DECEASED

We regret to inform you of the death of the following alumni:

WILLIAM N. FLANDERS '13, February 25, 1975
ALEXANDER F. LEONHARDT '41, March 10, 1992
ROBERT SANDERS '31, May 31, 1992
FREDERICK W. WILLCUTT '27, November 24, 1991
MARION LOREN WOOD '40, October 3, 1991



Several brothers helping out at the "swim-for-sight" swimathon. Back Row: Alan Cockern '95, Will Scruggs '92.
Middle row: Chris Shotts '93, Andrew Heitner '92, Michael Miller '95, Randy West '93. Front row: Todd Simson '92, Michael Bowers '92.