

# The Back Bay Beta

Beta Upsilon Chapter

Beta Theta Pi Fraternity • Massachusetts Institute of Technology

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 1993

## IRDF Needs Your Help

Many years ago, the institute established the IRDF (Independent Residence Development Fund) as a resource to help the independent living groups, including the fraternities.

The IRDF is starting a several million dollar fund-raising program specifically to help with the current safety upgrade program that is being requested of all independent living groups, including the Beta.

We now have a \$60,000 mortgage with the IRDF at 3 percent interest. The cost of our safety upgrades to an institute-prescribed level, which is above the standard building codes, is approximately \$40,000. We expect to borrow half of that from the IRDF at 3 percent, and we expect to pay the other half from our reserves.

So, when you make your tax-deductible gift to MIT, please make it for the IRDF. This, of course, is separate from your dues/gift to the Beta Upsilon Association.

Bob Danner

508/490-1117 (phone) • 503/490-1743 (FAX)

### Thank You

*We would like to thank Donald P. Kahn '46 for his letter about his time as a social chair here at Beta. Keep the letters coming—active alumni correspondence is part of an active house.*

## President Reviews Semester

The spring term began with a very successful pledge work week at the Beta house. House Manager Ethan Close '95 made sure that things went smoothly as the freshmen made numerous improvements to the annex. By the end of the week, the freshmen were a little tired but very proud of their accomplishments, as were the other members of the house.

The fall term ended with another great Christmas party put on by the pledge class. As I write, we are all looking forward to the annual alumni party to be held April 24. Also later this term, we plan to have a reception for America's Cup winner Bill Koch '62.

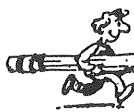
I am pleased to report to you the initiation of 11 fine, new men into the Beta Upsilon Chapter on March 13, 1993. These men have worked diligently all year, and we welcome them to the chapter.

This past summer, the 153rd General Convention granted our University of Rhode Island colony its charter as the Epsilon Chi Chapter of Beta Theta Pi. Their installation banquet was held April 3 in Newport, Rhode Island. We are all very proud of this new chapter, and we were on hand for the installation ceremony and banquet.

Congratulations and good luck to Dave DellaGrote '91 and Alex Virgilio '92. They are both to be married in the coming months. Dave will tie the knot in Florida this May, while Alex will marry his college sweetheart in Missouri in July. Best wishes to both couples.

We at Beta Upsilon are looking forward to another successful rush under the guidance of Rush Chairs Kevin Frye '94 and Ben Jordan '95. As always, alumni support is greatly appreciated both during rush week and over the summer.

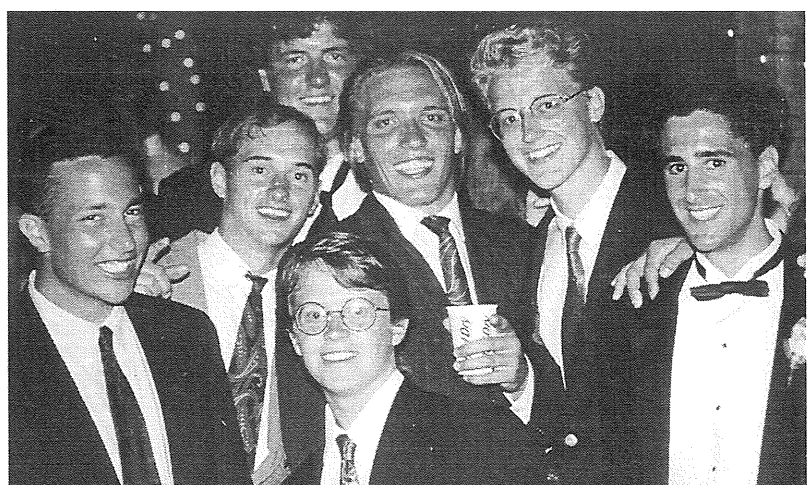
Christian Hamer '94, Chapter President



## WE NEED YOUR STORIES

Alumni! If you have interesting stories or reminiscences about your time here at Beta that you would like to share with us, we would love to hear from you. Too often the alumni newsletter is solely about current happenings around the house. I know those of us who are currently active here enjoy reading about the Beta of other years. We would like to start a column dedicated to our past. Please send any such letters (perhaps including copies of old pictures) in care of the alumni secretary.

Yours in -kai-,  
Michael Schmanske '94



*"While every loyal heart rejoices."*

## Beta Athletes Persevere No Matter What The Circumstances

As always, the Beta house is quite active in athletics, with brothers competing in a wide range of both varsity and intramural sports.

During the winter season, there was much success, but in some cases it was accompanied by adversity. Several Beta performances were unfortunately hampered by injuries. Randy West '93, captain of the wrestling team, was forced to lead his team from the sidelines as an injury to his elbow prevented him from seeing action much of the

### House Manager Reports

The house remained in excellent condition during the fall semester. Besides some small purchases for minor repairs, the only big-ticket item was a new dryer. Lundermac also did a substantial amount of *pro bono* work to keep the washing machine in perfect working order for most of the semester.

Pledge work week was a compete success. The roof railing of the annex was stripped and repainted by diligent pledges Mike Nuckles, Jim Casey, and Dave Lockwood. The decrepit back staircase of the annex was also sanded, repaired, and repainted with the unified effort of an eager pledge class. Major contributors to the staircase project were Nathan Boyd, Ed Sprague, Marwan Kazimi, and, in his debut as a painter, Alex Zakharov. Sanding, painting, and carpeting of the annex's front stairs were done under the direction of Wesley Williams and Jacob Grotta, both putting in the extra effort to get the job done right. Many other improvements were made to the house as the pledge class grew to see the house as their place to keep functional and beautiful.

Also this semester, planning has begun for a major contracting job. In order to satisfy a newly established MIT building code, \$40,000 will be borrowed and put toward updating the fire prevention systems and means of egress. As I write, and if all goes well, construction will begin before March comes to a close.

Lastly, to update the unending battle against the elements, storm windows are in the process of being produced in order to replace those that are missing or broken. My hope is that we will face next winter with a constant flow of heat in both the main house and the annex.

Ethan Close '95  
House Manager

season. The chronic shoulder problems that derailed junior Christian Hamer's chances at All-America recognition last swimming season continued to plague him again this year. Finally, multiple shoulder separations required that basketball captain Nikki Caruthers '95 undergo surgery toward the end of the season. Despite their misfortune, these Betas are looking toward next year, when their injuries should be put behind them. In the midst of these injuries, though, Randy Hyun '95 (basketball), Jim Casey '96 (indoor track), and Godard Abel '93 (crew) made valuable contributions to their teams.

Godard is looking forward to a successful spring crew season. Upon returning from Christmas break, the team escaped the miserable January weather of Boston by spending two weeks in Florida. Highlighting the trip was a victory over the University of Miami. Jim Casey is continuing to run around in circles this spring with the MIT track team by running distance events. Jim will also be running the Boston Marathon on Patriot's Day with Alan Cockern '95. Hyung Chang '95 is playing lacrosse again and is quite excited about the possibility of being elected captain next year.

On the diamond, three Beta freshmen represent MIT in baseball—Nathan Boyd, Marwan Kazimi, and me. Based on the level of play during the fall season, we are predicting a very competitive spring. Also, the team is making a trip to Florida over spring break and will be co-hosting a tournament at Fenway Park in April.

The wild world of IMs is still a popular diversion at Beta. The A-league basketball team enjoyed an especially successful season, advancing to post-season play. This spring has Betas competing on multiple teams in volleyball and softball, and also in octathlon.

Overall, athletics continue to be a very enjoyable part of life here at Beta.

Ed Sprague '96, Athletic Chairman



Alumnus Steve Hao '92 pitches in during an intramural match.

Beta Theta Pi

At MIT

ALUMNI NEWS

DALE F. MORGAN '38 of 16 Bay St., Charlestown, RI 02813, writes, "Janet and I enjoyed a visit with Louise and IRA LOHMAN '38 in November in their delightful new home in Cupertino, California. Ira is installing a photoprocessing room to produce more of their beautiful scenic artwork/pictures, taken during their extensive travels. We were on our way to Hong Kong and Guilin, China, with a tour sponsored by MIT. Last spring we spent three weeks in the Provence area of France. In the two trips we experienced the heights of current technology (the TGV train in France and Hong Kong and bold skyscrapers) and some pretty old stuff (Chinese sculpture and Roman ruins)—all very interesting."

"At a recent football game," pens WALTER L. HELMREICH JR. '40, "I met George Steinbrenner, the son of the late HENRY G. STEINBRENNER '27. We had a short review of his father's accomplishments at MIT, and I thanked him for his family's contributions to MIT. Recently, I borrowed the 1942 50th reunion book (it is beautiful) and was pleased to read biographies of DONN BARBER, JOHN CRANDALL, and JOHN LACY. There were remembrances of BILL HORTON, DICK HUGHES, and DAN HULETT. I wish that I could have read the biographies of CHARLES CRESAP, EARLE FOOTE, DICK RICHARDS, PAUL SOMMER, and JOHN TAYLOR. I plead

with the brothers of 1943 and later to, please, send in your biographies for your 50th reunion book. Even if you don't attend the reunion, the information is pleasing to your classmates." Correspondence for Walter can be sent to 4 Fair Oaks Parkway, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Brother WALTER E. BORDEN III '45 of 105 Alder Circle, St. Simons Island, GA 31522, spent a week of summer '92 "on the Allagosh Waterway on a work project for the Sierra Club. The last time I canoed it was over 50 years ago. My wife and I spent six weeks in Namibia and South Africa recently—half with a bus tour and the other half on our own, mostly in Krugge Park. I spent three days walking and camping with armed rangers in Urufalozi Park. We experienced close encounters with both white and black rhinos and water buffalo, but no lions or elephants. I just completed helping to build my seventh house for Habitat for Humanity. This one was built in 10 days, from a pad to move-in condition."

A retired consulting civil engineer, LOUIS J. LEE '52 reports, "My wife, Louise, and I have moved to Florida to enjoy an active leisure life of traveling, playing golf and other sports, and meeting new friends. Anyone in the area, please stop by (at 2116 New Bedford Dr., Sun City Center, FL 33573) and say hello!"

## Philanthropically Speaking...

This past semester, the Beta Upsilon Chapter showed that community service requires hard work and commitment, but it is also a fun and memorable experience. We began our volunteering early by working with MIT in City Days, a program that takes elementary school students and introduces them to the world of science. Also this year, seven of our members had the opportunity to work with the Boston Celtics when they helped run a special youth clinic for elementary-aged children. All of the volunteers received autographed T-shirts, as well as invaluable experience. We are hoping to repeat this opportunity again next year with the Boston Bruins.

When Halloween came around this year, we again found ourselves at the Margaret Fuller House for underprivileged children, building the local haunted house. Many of the brothers spent the entire day working hard, and their effort and imagination payed off well. We improved on last year's effort with the likes of a hanging zombie, a living scarecrow, and superbly carved jack-o-lanterns. Finally, the pledges topped off the semester working at ChariToys. They contributed nearly 200 hours helping to sell, organize, assemble, and demonstrate the toys. The organization funds the Shepens Eye Research Institute. We are happy to see that our pledges are well on their way to becoming a great asset to the chapter and this organization. This popular organization is extremely grateful for Beta's assistance, and we will be continuing our work there for many years to come.

This spring semester, we already have a full line of service opportunities. At the MIT fund-raising event, our house had a very strong representation present. Kudos go to Seth Close, who received the second-highest amount of donations throughout the week. On the agenda is Swim for Sight, another popular event that also funds the Shepens Eye Research Institute. In addition to our annual assistance running the event this year, Christian Hamer, Javier Nazario, and Eric Mudama will be swimming. Hoop-a-thon, March of Dimes, and blood drives are still to come later this semester. This term should be extremely effective philanthropically, as well as a lot of fun.

Yours in -kai-,  
Hyung Chang '95



Front row: Javier Nazario '95, Steven Levis '94, and Jim Falter '95.  
Rear row: Michael Collins '95 and Jim Casey '96.

## 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.

## Gearing Up For Fall Rush

Once again, we are gearing up for another rush. As rush co-chairmen, we'd like to remind everyone that the success of the hectic fall rush weekend depends on a foundation of hard work over the summer.

Like last summer, we are planning an extensive schedule of rush events, large and small, covering as much of the United States as possible. This is a good opportunity for prospective pledges to meet brothers as well as alumni. It's critical work, but the stress is lessened by the fact that a good time is had by all.

Time and again our alumni have proven to be a boon to our rush efforts. Contributions in the past have included sending recommendations of incoming freshmen, going to dinner with brothers, attending rush parties, hosting rush parties (expenses are paid by the rush budget), and visiting the house during the actual rush weekend in the fall. Having alumni present adds a richness to the rush experience for freshmen, while giving alumni a glimpse of potential future Betas.

If you would be interested in any of the activities listed above, please drop either one of us a note. While a schedule for our summer plans will not be drawn up until we receive the freshmen phone numbers and addresses, we'd like to know when you'd be available to help facilitate the process. A tentative schedule will then be mailed at a later date.

In the meantime, we would enjoy any tales of your rush that you might have for us. Also, any general advice or referrals would be appreciated.

Yours in -kai-,  
Kevin Frye '94  
Ben Jordan '95  
Rush Co-Chairmen

## Beta Introduces New Members

As the worst of the blizzard's fury pounded against the glass doors and windows of the chapter room, 11 newly initiated members signed the rolls of the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi. As a chapter, we are very proud to introduce the following newly initiated brothers.

973 Wesley Williams	979 Nathan Douglas Thalman Boyd
974 Seth Andrew Close	980 Alexander Zacharov
975 Edwin Leonard Sprague	981 David Farias Lockwood
976 Marwan M. Kazimi	982 Michael Roy Nuckles
977 James William Casey	983 Eric Danforth Mudama
978 Jacob Grota	

On Saturday, March 13, the initiation of these men marked the successful completion of one of the most enjoyable and rewarding pledging periods we've seen as a chapter in years. Initiation week activities began just hours after the pledge class finished the last of the chapter's requirements for initiation by shoveling all the snow off the Harvard bridge (for community service hours).

As the class pledge trainer, I owe many thanks to this past year's rush chairman, Jay Coulson, for bringing such promising potential initiates into the chapter. Working with the pledge class as they learned about the fraternity and became integrated within the house has made my senior year a very special one, and it is already apparent that the time spent as pledge trainer has paid off. These new 11 brothers have once again brought new life and spirit into the brotherhood and will assuredly continue to leave their mark on the fraternity for years to come. Many congratulations are in order to these remarkable new men of the fraternity.

As the last few inches of snow fell to the ground and the celebration came to the end, the only regret felt was a tinge of sentiment. Just one week before, these new initiates would have been out on the bridge, removing the many inches of snow that we would now be forced to trample through on our way to classes in the morning.

Frank Leibly

## Beta Theta Pi

## At MIT

## ALUMNI NEWS

"I am still involved with exploring the planets of the solar system by robotic spacecraft," writes RICHARD L. HORTTOR '62, an engineer/manager at Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. "Part of my duties involve recruiting at Rensselaer Polytechnic and at MIT. Occasionally I meet a brother from 119, though I haven't succeeded in getting anyone hired. (JPL's loss, I think!) MEADE WYMAN '62, KEITH GLICK '62, and I ski in Colorado every year. Recently I saw GREG BROWN '62. He lives in Seattle, Washington, and is a cardiologist. I also see MIKE HARRIS '63 in Washington, DC, from time to time. My sad job is to inform you that my closest friend at school, RICHARD M. HACKER '62, was killed in a plane crash on September 30, 1992, near Seattle. He was with his girlfriend and another couple at the time—all were killed. Richard and his girlfriend had taken leave earlier in the year to sail to and from New Zealand in a 35-foot sailboat (Wow!). He leaves behind a former wife, Darlene (Robbins), and two daughters, Sally and Jennifer." Get in touch with Dick at 1270 Lida St., Pasadena, CA 91103.

Pens entrepreneur WILLIAM G. ROESELER '65, "Just got back from Hawaii with HARRY LEE '57, BILL KOCH '62, and JIM DRAPER '62, after helping Bill defend the America's Cup. Founded KiteSki to popularize a new way of sailing, using high-performance kites for sails and ordinary water skis instead of a conventional hull. The concept is older than Ben Franklin, but you should borrow the video from Dr. Draper to get up to date." Touch base with "Garbage Man" at 955 Harbor Island Dr., #145, San Diego, CA 92101.

A research physicist for TRIUMF, JOEL G. ROGERS '65 writes, "I have lived and worked in Vancouver, British Columbia, for almost 20 years. It was wonderful visiting Molly (Hoberman) Anderson and BILL ROESELER '65 in Seattle for the marriage of their oldest son, Charles. Molly's house on Lake Washington, where the wedding took place, is the same one I visited them at in 1971, when I fell in love with the Northwest. Soon after that visit, my family of four moved to Vancouver, where we all still live (though, alas, we are no longer nuclear). Betas in the neighborhood are welcome to call me at 604/736-9964." Or write to "Jay" at 2460 W. 12th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6K 2P1, CANADA.

"Our company has survived the recession," pens WILLIAM T. STEWART '69, a business executive for Stewart Glapat, "and materials handling equipment should have a good 1993. I became an educational counselor for MIT, which I enjoy. I am deeply involved in our local public schools, trying to improve them in numerous ways. Family, piano playing, and golf continue to be my interests, along with business and civic activities." You can find "Stew" at 2775 Martin Rd., Zanesville, OH 43701.

EDWARD W. RICH '72 updates us: "I have just been named corporate treasurer of Dow Corning Corporation, so my family and I will be moving back to Midland, Michigan (P.O. Box 529, Midland, MI 48640). We have a daughter, a son, and one on the way."

The new address for BRUCE H. COTTMAN '79 is 60 Canterbury Rd., Cambridge, MA 02154. Bruce writes, "This is the first news I have sent in for *The Back Bay Beta*. The highlights over the last 14 years are: a PhD in physics in '85, married Sara Alvear in '87, and have three daughters (Sara, Jessica, and Rebecca). Sara is a software engineer at Hewlett Packard. I am president of I-Kinetics. Also during this time, I founded two companies. Symbiotics, Inc., was started in 1986 to develop distributed artificial intelligence software. In 1991, I formed I-Kinetics, Inc., which researches and markets software for enterprise distributed computing (i.e. networking software). As of late, we have been developing software that automates financial trading and market strategies. I-Kinetics is growing rapidly (over 100 percent per year), and we are always looking for the bright and eager. Any of you Betas who would like to work in a small, growing company based in Cambridge, give me a call at 617/661-8181. We are espe-

cially interested in software engineers, physicists, mathematicians, and marketing people." You can also reach Bruce at his home phone: 617/647-1052.

Attorney ALAN L. LAUES '82 keeps busy with his two daughters. He reports, "Joan and I made it up east for DAVE MILICH's ('82) wedding in spring 1992 and saw lots of Betas. STEVE 'the Newt' SILBERBERG '84 moved to Dallas, Texas, this year, so we get together frequently." Drop Alan a line at 4230 Alta Vista Lane, Dallas, TX 75229.

"My wife, Jenifer, and I just moved to Wellesley from Boston," reports JOHN R. CHISHOLM '84 of 51 Longfellow Rd., Wellesley, MA 02181. "I'm still working at a small investment management company, where STEVE 'the Newt' SILBERBERG '84 has been consulting for us (when he's not doing stand-up comedy in Dallas)."

A software engineer for Mentor Graphics Corporation, JOHN K. BARTHOLOMEW '86 is living at 14145 SW Fanno Creek Court, Tigard, OR 97224. "Bart" reports that "my 21-month-old son, Dylan, is proving to be a real handful, but worth every minute of effort! I'm still playing guitar, and just finished writing and producing a music video that aired recently on Portland's cable access TV channel. I've been in touch with MIKE STRAUB '87 and ROBERT 'Bocci' RAMSTAD '90 a lot lately. I was surprised to discover that PHIL ROBINSON '61 works for Mentor Graphics, too. I'd like to hear from other Betas. I can be reached at the above address, or via electronic mail on the Internet at john.bartholomew @ mentor.com."

"This past summer, I married Kimberly Parsley in Vancouver, Washington," writes TODD D. WILSON '88. "A number of Betas attended, including my best man, DAVE KRAMER '88, and JOHN SCHWAGER '88, who was also in the wedding party. Our reception was held on the Sternwheeler Rose, which toured the Willamette River. During the cruise, the Betas serenaded my new wife with a rousing, albeit off-key, version of 'Beta Sweetheart.' After two weeks in Hawaii, we came back to 170 Av. A Huysmans, B-1050 Bruxelles, BELGIUM, which we are calling home during my job assignment as a chemical process engineer at Solvay, SA's technical center. I've been working on a project in Italy, which means occasional trips to an Italian coastal town near Pisa. If any Betas decide to brave the raging French farmers and come to Europe, Kim and I invite you to stop by and join us for some of the famous Belgian beers."

ANDREW T. OBST '90 is a combat engineer in the U.S. Army. In September 1992, he wrote, "I am preparing to leave Korea and return to the USA. I have had an excellent year here, blowing up considerable portions of the Korean landscape and improving foreign relations with the local females. I will return to Minnesota in time for deer season, after which I plan to attend airborne school (again). I should be stationed at Fort Stewart (Savannah, Georgia) around Christmastime. I plan to do some traveling to see DAVE DELLAGROTE '91, and also tear it up with my buddy, Swen, in South Carolina. (He is responsible for most of the arrow holes in the main house—will beat him accordingly)." The last address we have for Andrew is 12727 181st St., St. N., Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047.

## DECEASED

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

JAMES H. BREWSTER III '40, July 21, 1989  
KENNETH G. BUCKLIN '30, May 7, 1991  
RICHARD M. HACKER '62, September 13, 1992  
ARTHUR W. HAINES '54, August 6, 1992  
ERNEST C. HINCK JR. '27, February 1992