

The Back Bay Beta

Beta Upsilon Chapter

Beta Theta Pi Fraternity • Massachusetts Institute of Technology

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

JANUARY 1994

ALUMNI FEATURE... Two Brothers Born To "Argue" About Sports

Starting with this issue of *The Back Bay Beta*, we will include an alumni feature article. In this issue, we are featuring two recent alums, Mike Duffy '92 and Andrew Heitner '92. After graduation, both have continued their education at MIT graduate school, Mike in the center for transportation studies of the department of civil and environmental engineering and Andy working on a research project for Hewlett-Packard through the leaders for manufacturing program and the department of mechanical engineering.

Mike and Andy have kept in close touch with the chapter, coming by for parties and an occasional *Monday Night Football* gathering. Their most recent accomplishment has been their work writing a weekly sports article for *The Tech*, MIT's student newspaper. The sports column, called "Let's Argue," contains anecdotes, unusual sports facts, and trivia galore. It seems that Mike and Andy spend most of their spare time watching ESPN and the Sports Channel! MIT students, and Betas especially, have greatly enjoyed their articles. The sports news they include is a good break from the regular MIT news—the humorous twist gives it definite entertainment value, even for people who aren't necessarily sports fans

(as we know many MIT students aren't).

If you happen to have read the *Boston Globe* a couple of weeks ago, you would've noticed mention of brothers Duffy and Heitner in the sports section under "Sports on Radio and TV." The column read, "Mike Duffy and Andrew Heitner will be making sports broadcasting history when they broadcast the MIT-Nichols football game on Saturday...it has never been done before at MIT." That's right, the "humble scribes," as they call themselves, had the chance to broadcast MIT's Homecoming football game over MIT campus radio. MIT made a large effort to publicize Homecoming this year, and the alumni office got many alums back for the game. Next year promises to be even better.

It didn't hurt things that the Beavers won the game 43-7 over Nichols College. Mike and Andy were great commentators, and they occasionally pulled Betas out of the stands for fan commentaries. About 20 Betas tailgated at the game, and a good time was had by all.

Mike and Andy will finish grad school next spring, so we hope someone in the house will continue the great tradition of excellent MIT sports coverage they've started.

Ben R. Jordan '95
Alumni Secretary

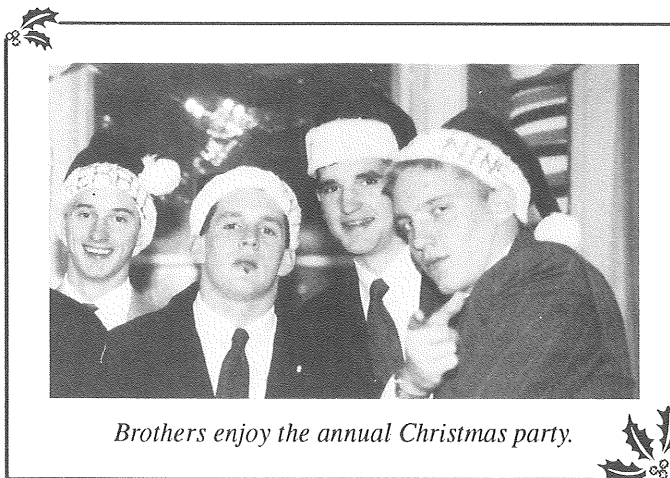
Beta Upsilon Chapter Anticipates Another Good Year

The semester is now in full swing. The Beta Upsilon Chapter is looking forward to another successful year here at MIT, despite some problems because of an incident that occurred early on in the semester. We began the year with an extremely successful work week led by brothers Ethan Close '95 and Jim Meneghini '94. No major repairs were needed, and the chapter was able to devote its time and effort to getting the house ready for rush.

Neighbor relations are at an all-time high right now, and we have been getting no complaints from our neighbors. In addition to this absence of criticism, our philanthropy is off to a tremendous start. Before the semester even began, we participated in an excellent and rewarding event to help inner-city youths. We also continued a Beta tradition by once again running our annual haunted house this All Hallows Eve at the Margaret Fuller House in Cambridge.

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If you have interesting news or would like to write an alumni feature, please feel free to send one in—you know the address!



Brothers enjoy the annual Christmas party.

Sports Involvement Keeps Betas In Line

Sports are often an underrated activity at MIT, but the value of sports has not been overlooked by the members of Beta Theta Pi. The 1993-'94 academic year finds many Betas participating in both varsity and intramural sports.

Leading the MIT Beavers varsity football team to its first winning season ever was Neil Best '95. Unfortunately, the same could not be said for the Beta intramural football team. Led by quarterback Ben Jordan '95, the team demonstrated effort typical of Beta, despite winning only one contest.

Dave Lockwood '96 and I helped the varsity soccer team to a greatly improved record this year and will both return as part of a strong nucleus of players next year. The Beta IM team performed similarly, starting off slow and then finishing strong with the help of Ethan Close '95, Marwan Kazimi '96, and Jim Brad Elder '97.

For the third year in a row, Javier Nazario '95 has helped the Beavers water polo team to a top five NCAA Division III ranking. Look for Javier, Christian Hamer '94, and Peter Berger '97 to make an impact on the varsity swimming team.

Kevin Frye '94 suited up once again for the MIT rugby team, rounding out Beta participation in fall athletics.

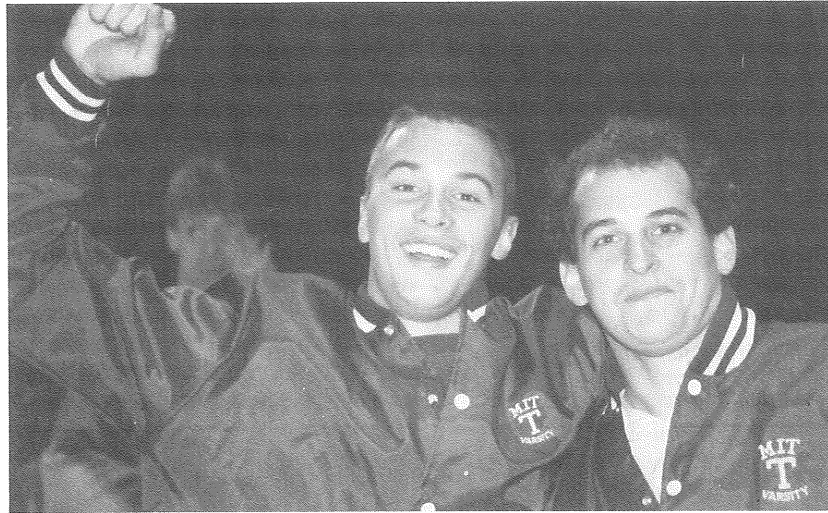
Captain Nikki Caruthers '95 and Randy Hyun '95 will be leading an improved varsity basketball team into battle this year, while Hyung Chang '95, Rob Ullman '94, and Eric Mudama '96 will be trying to live up to the standard set by Ken Chay '91 in varsity lacrosse.

Beta Theta Pi will also be suiting up three IM basketball teams (A, B, and C league), an ice hockey team, a volleyball team, and, as always, a softball team. Leading the basketball

teams will be Dave Alexander '94, Hyung Chang '95, and Bruce Krysiak '95, each captaining the team in their respective leagues. I will provide the offensive punch, while Chris Barchak '94 keeps the opponents honest on the ice this season.

As is evident, Beta Theta Pi continues to be well represented in all levels and areas of competition at MIT.

Brian DiVasta '95
Athletic Chair



Sports are still important at Beta.



Brother Franc Aguirre '91 playing intramural soccer during his days at MIT.

Summer Rush Deemed A Success For Beta Theta Pi

This year's rush went well, as we replaced our five graduating seniors with five fine young men from various parts of the country. We've got the map covered now, and next year we'll be able to have rush parties in places never before touched by the Beta summer rush force. The pledges are:

Peter Berger	Billings, MT
Noah Breslow	Scarsdale, NY
Doug Cunicelli	Miami, FL
Brad Elder	Norman, OK
Jerry Hughes	Douglasville, GA

The pledges started off the year with an excellent showing of excitement for Beta and the chapter. They recently went on their pledge sneak to Montreal (where else?), where they all had a blast. They are making great strides with the pledge pro-

gram under the supervision of Pledge Trainer Christain Hamer '94, and we'll have five new brothers in almost no time. As I write, they are currently organizing the Christmas party, and they will continue the pledge tradition of working at Chari-Toys, a toy store benefiting the Schepens Eye Research Institute, as part of their community service requirement.

We've already elected the rush chairs for next year—Seth Close '96 and Wes Williams '96. We've been discussing rush strategy for next rush, and we will be looking for alumni support once again.

Kevin Frye '94
Ben R. Jordan '95
Rush Chairmen

Beta Upsilon Wins Sisson Award

For the fourth time, the chapter has won the coveted Sisson Award for Chapter Excellence.

Of equal importance is the fact that, over time, Beta Upsilon, with four wins, ranks number 12 in the entire fraternity.

Computer Networking Highlights House Improvements

This year started off with another successful work week prior to rush. Under the guidance of Jim Meneghini, the week went well, with all planned projects being finished on time—a job well done by all. The entertainment system downstairs received a new set of bass speakers and also now has a stereo VCR incorporated into it.


One of the more ambitious projects was the construction of a floor in the old light shaft in the house. The Boston Fire Department decreed the shaft a fire hazard, and a floor was required to meet fire code. Deemed too costly for contractors, the project was undertaken by the brothers, who did an excellent job. The flooring was put in place and is now used as an extension of the fourth-floor closet. In addition to this project, a new loft was put in fourth rear to replace one deemed unacceptable. The house also received the customary coats of paint and a urethaning of the hardwood floors. Everyone worked hard, and the house was in exceptional shape for rush.

The house is on course for progressive improvement and continues to look better each year. The fire alarm system was fixed and is now fully functional, as is the new fire suppression system installed in the kitchen. This year the brothers look forward to continued improvement, and some special projects are under way or are in the planning process. Two new windows, both with fire escape access, are being installed in the annex. Also scheduled is a reconditioning of the annex banister. Plans are also being made to reconstruct a wall in the basement to meet fire code, as well as to rewire the basement rear room.

The computer network connection to MIT's Project Athena is now in place in the house. We plan on having a full complement of in-room connections done by the beginning of next year, along with continued parallel improvements. MIT Information Systems has just agreed to reimburse the cost of extending the network into our annex, thus freeing up much needed funds for the other improvements.

The three new wrenchmen—Jim Meneghini, Wes Williams, and Seth Close—are all doing excellent jobs maintaining and improving the house. If all of the brothers strive to leave this house better than it was when they came in, the house will be an admirable place for Betas in the years to come.

Kevin R. Walsh '95
House Manager



CHARLES M. VEST, PRESIDENT CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139-4317

October 14, 1993

Mr. Robert Ullman
President
Beta Theta Pi
119 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215

Dear Mr. Ullman:

I have just learned that the MIT chapter of Beta Theta Pi was presented the Sisson Award as one of the most outstanding chapters in your general fraternity.

Please convey my congratulations to all the members of Beta Theta Pi for representing MIT in the best possible light. The fraternity has received a great honor, and we at MIT are very proud.


Sincerely yours,

Charles M. Vest
Charles M. Vest

CMV/mrmd

THE BACK BAY BETA

Published regularly by the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at MIT. News contributions, address changes, and photos are 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.



Class of '92 pledges show off their freshly baked cake.

ALUMNI NEWS: Your Beta Brothers Take Time To Write

"I'm trying my hand at plebeian autobiography," reports RICHARD WHITING '26, "which is what they call memoirs by someone who never did anything that amounted to much." To see if you made his book, write to Dick at 870 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017.

You can reach EDWARD W. PEAKES '44 at 11310 Madison, Kansas City, MO 64114.

Now a man of leisure, JOHN D. RIDDELL '53 writes, "I retired this year. My wife, Nancy, died of cancer on October 1, 1989. I remarried a widow from church (Dorothy) on June 1, 1992, and we've both sold our townhouses and have moved into a ranch-style home." Drop John a line at his new address: 1504 Heatherston Court, Naperville, IL 60563.

"I'm working on two new books," pens writer/counselor KARL M. DUFF '57 from 6112 Wynn Jones Rd. E., Port Orchard, WA 98366. "One of the books deals with marriages in trouble, and the other is for teenagers who want to know how premarital sex will affect their marriages and later happiness. I hope to have them out by 1994. Also, my wife and I completed the second section of the Pacific Crest Trail in early May. Unfortunately, while exiting near Palm Springs I was bitten by a rattlesnake. After an hour of self-treatment, I walked out seven miles and got to a hospital. I was out the next morning (running up a nearly \$8,000 bill), but two weeks later I was completely healed and fully functional again."

"Life in academic medicine has its ups and downs," muses GREG B. BROWN '62, a doctor of cardiology at the University of Washington, who resides at 3201 Evergreen Point Rd., Bellevue, WA 98004. "As the federal bureaucracy consumes more of the limited NIH dollars, grants are becoming prohibitively competitive—only about 12 percent of applications are funded. So we must work hard to be good enough. On the up side, I just spent a week on a lecture tour in Germany, Italy, Russia, and Switzerland. My traveling lecture companion was Michael Brown MD, a Nobel laureate. Needless to say, we were treated quite well."

DAVID J. KORKOSZ '62, who is "still a bachelor," has been doing consulting work since he left Sun Microsystems a few years ago. He would love to hear from his brothers, so write to him at 91 Somerset St., Belmont, MA 02178.

"I've been given a promotion," reports JAMES W. GIFFIN '64, chairman, president, and CEO of Old Kent Bank in Brighton, Michigan. "Jackie and I now live on a 125-foot deep glacier lake in a pine wood near Ann Arbor (3276 Briar Hill Rd., Hartland, MI 48353). Doug broke his leg in 44 places while snowboarding over Christmas. This required a six-week hospital stay and five months in a full cast. He's on his way to a complete recovery but will have to delay his Berkeley gradu-

ation (civil engineering) until December 1993."

An aerospace engineer/creative writer, DEVEREUX H. MURPHY JR. '64 writes, "After having spent 15 years of teaching (math, chemistry, physics, and earth science) everything from kindergarten through junior college, I worked for Hughes Aircrafts Missile Systems Group in Tucson. I married in 1977 and divorced in 1988 and remained celibate until I met the one woman who has inspired my writing. I have asked Yvonne for her hand in marriage and will wait for all eternity for her affirmative answer." Send your letters to "Murph" at 4500 College Ave., #319, Alton, IL 62002-5051.

Please make note of the new mailing address for LAWRENCE A. KING '66: 1801 E. 12th St., Apt. 1908, Cleveland, OH 44114.

"Besides managing the family business," explains WILLIAM T. STEWART '69, president and engineer for Stewart Glapat, "I am heavily involved in improving public education. I am considering building and running a school based on ideas to deliver more education for less money. If the voucher system ever becomes widespread, I believe my approach can be quite competitive." For more information, write to "Stew" at 2775 Martin Rd., Zanesville, OH 43701.

Did You Remember To Send In Your Newsform?

"My ophthalmology practice is growing," explains DANIEL J. NADLER '72. "In July we will add a retinal subspecialist to our group. I keep busy coaching my son, Zach's, T-ball team (0 wins, 5 losses). Our three-year-old son, David, has established himself as the neighborhood's best snake charmer. Yesterday, for the second consecutive day, he came home with a three-foot black snake he caught with his bare hands. He said he wanted to take care of it...until the snake peed all over him." For more family anecdotes, write to "Nads" at 471 School St., Sewickley, PA 15143.

EDWARD W. RICH '72 brings us up-to-date on his activities: "After 13-plus years at Dow Chemical (including over four years outside the U.S.), I have moved back to Midland (P.O. Box 529, Midland, MI 48640) to become corporate treasurer of Dow Corning Corporation. This company is a joint venture between Dow Chemical and Corning, Inc., and is a Fortune 500 company in its own right. In addition to running worldwide treasury activities, I am also in charge of the insurance department. We lived here for nine years previously, so this is home, and we are happy to be back."

Community Service Once Again A High Priority For Betas

Betas have always taken great pride in faithful volunteer service to benefit the surrounding community, without regard for any potential recognition. Once again this semester, Betas have been involved in a wide range of service projects, from individual projects to those involving most members of the house. The major events this term are detailed below.

The service year began with the annual City Days event. Cambridge public school children came to the MIT campus to interact with undergraduates in sports and science-related activities. More than half the brothers participated in this event. Betas served in two ways. One group escorted 15 lively fifth-grade students to each of the events, including a discussion of human-powered boats with hands-on experience, a basketball game, a soccer game, and an egg-drop contest. Another crew of Betas spent the day running the basketball event, entertaining four different groups of students.

Next, Betas participated in a community service event to benefit leukemia research. The event was sponsored by Alpha Beta Phi, the Wellesley College community service sorority.

The event was a four-mile walk around the beautiful Wellesley campus, with walkers collecting pledged donations for each mile. This second annual event was a big success, raising \$4,000 for the cause—twice as much as last year's total. This new relationship with ABΦ should result in more joint community service projects in the future.

One of the chapter's biggest projects each year is Beta's annual haunted house at the Margaret Fuller Neighborhood Center in Cambridge. In past years, Betas decorated the house and made preparations entirely on their own. This year, Beta also spent a few hours each day making decorations with the children during the week preceding Halloween, providing an enriching and enjoyable experience for all. And, once again, the event was a resounding success.

As always, Betas will continue to contribute to their community with volunteer work that strengthens relationships with their neighbors.

Christopher M. Barchak '94
Community Service Chairman

In Memoriam

William R. McEwen Jr. '48

We are saddened to report the death of Bill McEwen, the secretary of the alumni association.

Bill was born in Wellsville, New York, and graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire, in 1941. He entered MIT in the class of 1945. He became a member of the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi and later became chapter president. Bill later served the Beta Upsilon Chapter for much of his adult life as secretary of the Beta Upsilon Association.

After service in the Army Air Corps in World War II, Bill returned to MIT, from which he graduated in 1948 with a BS in business and engineering administration.

Bill progressed through the investment division of Employers Liability Assurance Corporation, Ltd. in Boston, to become vice president and manager of its investment division. He held the same position in a successor firm, Commercial Union Insurance Company.

Bill was a longtime resident of Lexington, Massachusetts, but, after retirement from business in 1977, he became a resident of Naples, Florida. He still retained his longtime summer residence in Chatham, Massachusetts.

Besides his wife of 44 years, Priscilla, Bill leaves two daughters, Susan McEwen Turnbill of Jamaica Plains, Massachusetts, and Janet McEwen Boule of Antrim, New Hampshire; a son, Dr. John Duncan McEwen of Chapel Hill, North Carolina; a sister, Jean McEwen Fitzpatrick of Olean, New York; five grandchildren; and four nephews.

Bill will be missed by his family and many friends, as well as his Beta brothers.

Off To Another Good Year

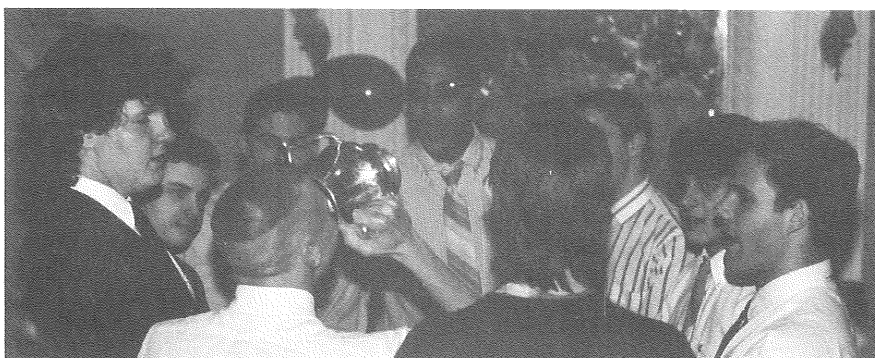
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Alumni relations are great as well, due to two very successful events over the past few years. First, two years ago we held a tribute for Ken Cameron '78, an MIT Beta who captained the space shuttle. Then, this past semester, we had a gathering for Bill Koch '62, who was the skipper for the *America III*, the ship that won last year's America's Cup. We hope to have another tribute in the spring.

Kudos need to be extended to brother Ken Chay '91 who became a tutor-in-residence this past year at what was then the Princeton colony. We were all excited to see the fruition of his efforts when the Princeton Betas were given their charter at the 154th General Convention this past summer.

Things are going well around the house, and we encourage all Betas—young and old—to stop by anytime.

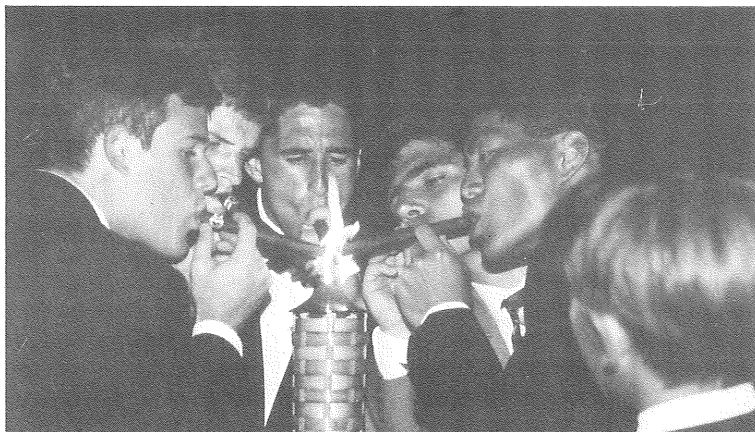
Yours in -kai-,
Robert Ullman '94
Chapter President



The alumni party again proves to be a great time for all.

ALUMNI NEWS:

Your Beta Brothers Take Time To Write



*Brothers share cigars during a trip to Joplin, Missouri,
for Will Scruggs's ('92) wedding.*

"In January 1993 I left my last financial firm (Putnum) and started my own investment management firm," reports J. DAVID WARGO '75. "Wargo & Company specializes in investment management, investment banking, and consulting in the communications industry. I was recently put on the board of Liberty Media Corporation, a CATV systems and programming company, and now spend about 50 percent of my time in Boston and 50 percent in New York City, where I have an apartment (800 5th Ave., #33F, New York, NY 10021). I still keep in touch with MIKE SKILLINGBERG '75 and LAMPROS FATSIS '77." You can also reach Dave at his Boston address of 23 Fayette St., Boston, MA 02116.

"By July 15, 1993, we'll be living in Massachusetts," pens astronomer HERMAN L. MARSHALL '78. "I'm going to work at MIT as a staff scientist in the Center for Space Research. I'll be working on the data analysis system and mission operations for an x-ray astronomy satellite, to be launched in about five years, called AXAF (Advanced X-ray Astrophysics Facility). The drive out to Boston with Eric, who's now two and a half, should prove challenging. I'm looking forward to attending all the alumni parties again!" Herman's new address is 3011 Stearns Hill Rd., Waltham, MA 02154.

RAYMOND F. BRUNSBURG '86 informs us that his new address is 3047 Court St., Claymont, DE 19703.

"This was a great year for skiing with Betas (Taos and Telluride)," exclaims KENDALL R. BRYAN '88. "Congratulations to DAVE KRAMER '88 on the impending birth of his first child. To all my Beta brothers—visit me in the L.A. area!" You can find "Pound's" new home at 1810 Harriman

Lane, Rear House, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

An aerospace engineer, JEFFREY D. BERG '89 is currently employed by the University of California at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. "I'm involved with a project sponsored by the European Space Agency known as X-Ray Multi-Mirror Mission. It is an x-ray observatory to be deployed by ESA to investigate a variety of stellar phenomena and is an entertaining project that appears to be immune to the current 'socializing' of the U.S. fiscal budget. I visited EUGENE 'Clay' LOU '90 in Houston over Memorial Day weekend. It was a festive weekend that mandated the exorbitant consumption of alcohol. For those Betas who are still single, Houston is highlighted by impressive 'scenery.' Anyone who visits the Bay area, please call (510/829-9495)." Jeff's address is 10041 Foxboro Circle, San Ramon, CA 94583.

MICHAEL P. McGOVERN '89 is senior economic analyst for CXS Transportation Company in Jacksonville, Florida. He writes, "In January 1993, I skied in Taos, New Mexico, with KEN BRYAN '88, MIKE NADOLNY '88, CHRIS MORGEN '87, BOB STRUBLE '85 and wife Steph, and, of all people, RAY 'Dog' BRUNSBURG '86. Then, with tasty Taos snow behind us, Ken, Mike, and I went to Telluride, Colorado, in March, where many monstrous moguls were mastered. I've spoken with ANDY OBST '90, who is in Fort Stewart, Georgia. We're planning on venturing into the Okefenokee Swamp in southern Georgia some weekend. Also, I spent a weekend with MIKE 'Weasel' DeCAVALCANTE '87 in May. We spent time at his new place of business, the Climbnasium (indoor rock climbing), in New Kingston, Pennsylvania (just outside Harrisburg)." Find out about "Spike's" other adventures by writing to 11848 Pegasus Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32223.

DANIEL J. O'SHEA '89 reports his new address as 175 E. 96th St., Apt. #15E, New York, NY 10128.

DECEASED

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

ROBERT S. COOK IV '30 on January 12, 1993
JOHN L. JONES '53, August 11, 1993

*Beta Theta Pi mourns their passing
and extends condolences to their family and friends.*