

# The Back Bay Beta

Beta Upsilon Chapter

Beta Theta Pi Fraternity • Massachusetts Institute of Technology

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 1994

## Betas Celebrate Coming Of Spring

After a much-needed Christmas vacation, many Betas returned to the house for the January IAP session. This was a time for some to take classes or work at the institute, but others took the opportunity to catch up on sleep! During the last week of January, House Manager Kevin Walsh '95 oversaw the annual pledge work week. Under brother Walsh's guidance, the pledges made many needed improvements to the annex in order to meet the city's fire safety code.

In March we were visited by brother Tom Babel (Miami '93), our chapter management consultant from the general fraternity. He met individually with the chapter officers and the chapter as a whole and made many helpful suggestions on how to improve the operation of the chapter. He was initially concerned about our social probation that resulted from last fall's incident, but these fears were put to rest after we discussed the circumstances of the case with Neal Dorow, MIT's Greek advisor. Brother Babel encouraged us to apply again this year for the coveted Sisson Award for Chapter Excellence saying that we were certainly deserving of such recognition. I certainly plan on taking his advice, as this award has become an important expression of the chapter's commitment to excellence.

This term we are working to renew and strengthen our ties with other chapters. Early in March, two brothers from the Wabash chapter spent their spring break with us in Boston and living here at the

house. We are expecting a delegation from the Beta Chapter at the University of Kentucky to visit sometime in April. As always, we take pride in our close bond with the newly formed chapter at the University of Rhode Island. Vice President Javier Nazario '95 is making plans for our house trip this term to go to URI just as we did last year. The trip is planned for the day after the alumni party (April 24), at press time, and hope we'll be joined by some recent alums. We expect much rejoicing any time we get together with our former colony in order to form new friendships and renew old ones.

As I write, spring break is coming up, and brothers and pledges are planning numerous adventures around the country. Many will spend the week relaxing on the beaches of Florida, and some may try to attend the installation of the new Zeta Beta Chapter at the University of South Florida on March 26.

I am looking forward to meeting those who attend the alumni party in April. As always, we appreciate alumni visits, so if you are in the Boston area, feel free to stop by and see that Beta at MIT is as strong today as ever!

Yours in \_kai\_,  
Neil A. Best '95  
Chapter President

### *Good Times At Beta Theta Pi*

*Betas always enjoy the spring alumni party.*



*John Sell '91 and Steve Levis '94 enjoy volleyball on a house trip.*



## Enthusiasm Prevails In Intramural Sports

An unparalleled level of enthusiasm was displayed during the spring term this year as Betas took advantage of nearly every intramural sport offered. The level of success is, as of yet, undetermined, but the level of spirit that the house is known for will no doubt play a role in uniting the Betas against their rivals.

The IM hockey season came to an unfortunate end with star player Brian DiVasta '95 sustaining a major flesh wound that required eight stitches on his hand. No worries are necessary, however, as Brian will be back in action after spring break, just in time for the remainder of the IM season.

Water polo promises to be a fun event as Christian Hamer '94 captains a team flowing with talent. Javier Nazario '95 not only serves as coach of the B-league team but also gives clinics to members of any IM team whose water polo skills are lesser developed. His abilities promise to rub off on and help the team.

Also on the calendar is the IM softball season. Captain Ed Sprague '96 says, "I am sure that I can lead our A-league team on to victory." Patriots Day weekend also promises to be a time of success as captain Javier Nazario '95 will be in command of the Beta battalion as they compete in octathlon. The event has already started on a high note as the hockey team beat a tough "next house" squad to give the Betas a quick 120 octathlon points.

Besides a unified house competing at the intramural level, a few Betas and a pledge competed in varsity sports. Christian Hamer '94 made championship finals in swimming at the New England championships and was only a hair and a half away from making it to the national competition. Pledge Pete Berger '97 found time away from



*Trophies still abound in the chapter room.*

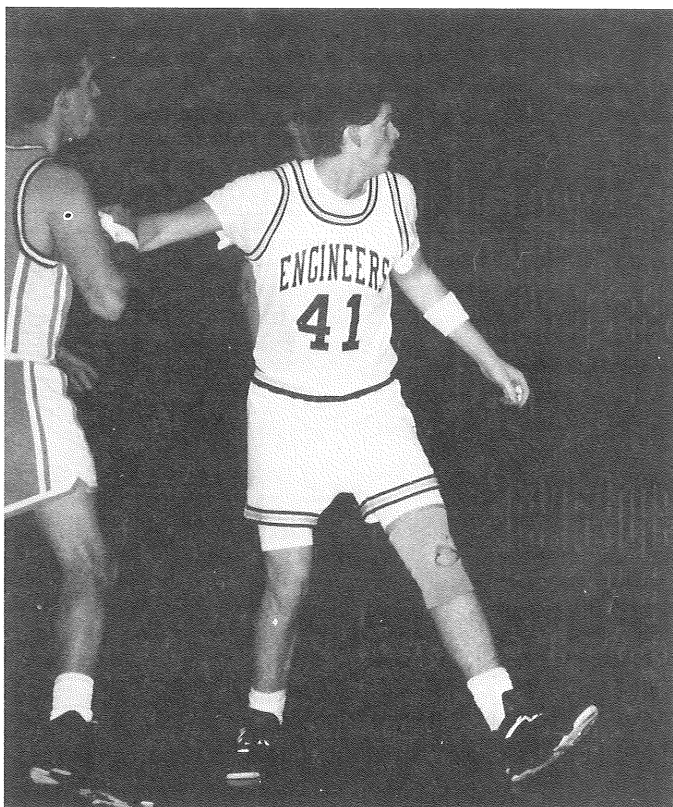
Clara to make a significant contribution to varsity swimming.

On the court, varsity basketball players Nikki Caruthers '95 and Randy Hyun '95 shot the clutch shots for a tough MIT squad. Both are starting guards, and Nikki is captain of the Beaver team. Overall, spring sports look to be promising pathways through which Beta enthusiasm may flow.

Brad Elder '97  
Athletic Chair

### *Glory Days*

*Mike Duffy '92 with the Beavers.*



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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.

## Betas Look Forward To Great Rush

With the cold season behind us, the wonders of a New England spring have arrived to rekindle the joys of college, and, more poignantly, Beta brotherhood. It is at this time, however, when we are most ready to surrender to the warmth and carelessness of spring, that we must begin to think of rush and concentrate daily on achieving success at the end of August.

We would like to encourage alumni who know of prospects to write or call and let us know. Alumni support in this matter is greatly respected and certainly appreciated, as a recommendation from a Beta alum is easily one of the best ways to be sure of a prospect's worth.

Our rush will go well this year, but not without a tremendous amount of hard work from each and every one of us. As well, it is certainly the philosophy of the current rush chairmen that a strong alumni showing can make all the difference. Any and all help with summer rush activities will be greatly appreciated, and we would like to see as many alumni as possible at the end of August to welcome in the class of '98.

Yours in *\_kai\_*,  
Wes Williams '96  
Seth Close '96

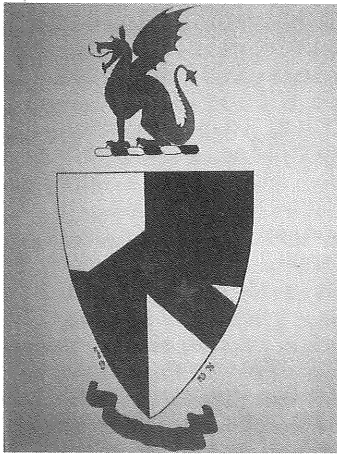
## Betas Display Zeal For Community Service

Once again the members of the Beta Upsilon Chapter are giving of themselves to their community through selfless voluntary service. Charitable organizations and other members of the Boston/Cambridge community enthusiastically enlist the help of Betas, and these groups consistently find themselves rewarded. The house has been fortunate indeed to participate in community service events that are both beneficial to others and fun for all involved.

Prior to this term, we brought 1993 to a close by aiding Toys For Tots, an organization that makes Christmas better for needy, young children. Toy drives sponsored by Toys For Tots are fairly common events around Christmastime, when people are encouraged to donate used or new toys for children who have too little. In December a representative from that organization utilized house members for a shopping expedition to Toys 'R' Us.

### *Pledge Project*

*New addition to the annex staircase from the '96 pledge class.*



They helped her in the purchasing of several hundred dollars worth of new toys, which they subsequently transported in a truck owned by David Samuel '94.

Once the spring term began, volunteer work commenced anew. In February a number of members participated in MIT's alumni association telethon. The yearly telethon gets student volunteers involved in raising funds for the institute, funds that go toward the improvement of student life at and around MIT. Through the encouragement of Alumni Secretary Ben Jordan '95, we raised hundreds of dol-

lars in contributions by calling alumni (from Beta and elsewhere) living across the nation. Ben and Noah Breslow '97 made the greatest number of calls, for which they won praise from the MIT community. Noah also won a free brunch at a Cambridge hotel.

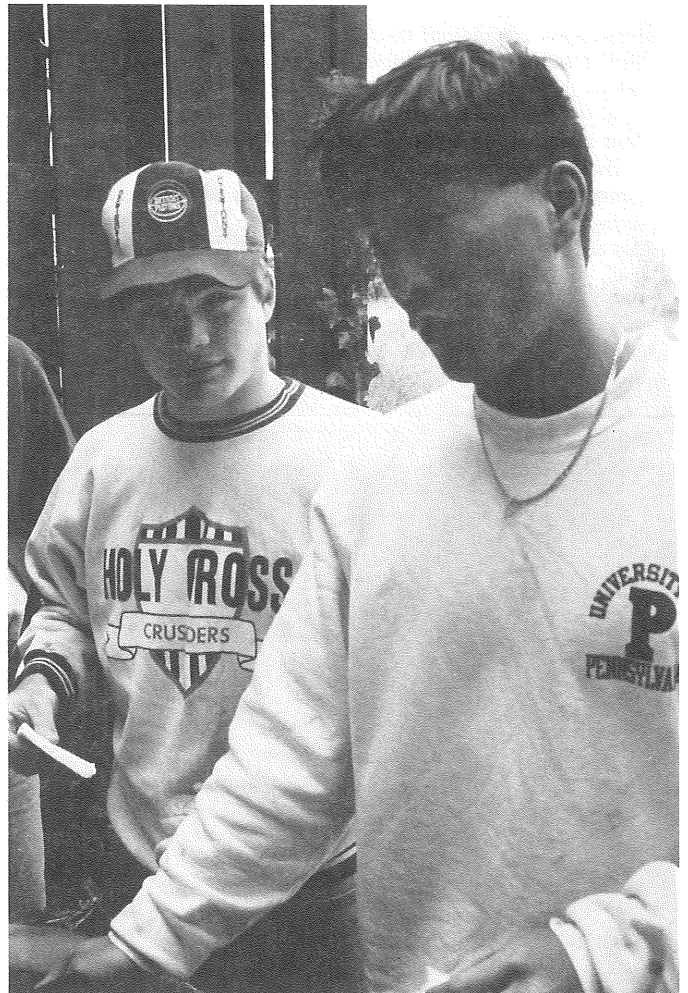
Our most exciting project this term had to be "Swim For Sight '94." Schepens Eye Research Institute sponsors this exciting event to raise money for research to aid the visually impaired. Each year enthusiastic swimmers from all over Massachusetts pledge to swim laps, for which they collect monetary pledges from friends and family. This year people came to swim at Boston College and two other locations, raising around \$80,000 for eye research. Betas helped out by counting the laps of the more intense swimmers, by helping the hydrophiles register to swim, and by collecting a great quantity of checks. Some Betas also enjoyed the pool by swimming for sight themselves. The event, though early in the day, was a pleasure. Special kudos to Jim Casey '96 and Hyung Chang '95, who ran the "BC shuttle," transporting Betas to and from the event.

At press time, a number of exciting projects remain this spring, among them a volunteer effort for the March of Dimes' Boston "Walk For Hunger" in April. Community service remains a valuable part of Beta life and is done with pride.

Jerry Hughes '97  
Community Service Chairman

### *Order Up*

*Steve Hao '92 gives a lesson on flipping burgers.*



## House Enhancements Detailed

The Beta houses continue to undergo improvements and maintenance under the supervision of House Manager Kevin Walsh '95. In January, the pledges had their work week, and many useful projects were undertaken and completed. Most significantly, a wall and the ceiling in basement front annex were torn down and replaced; a kitchenette was placed on the first floor of the annex, with toaster, refrigerator, microwave, and a food sign-out; and considerable repairs were made to the annex back stairs.

Beta has recently become a part of the MIT ResNet network, with an Ethernet hub in the basement of the annex. About five computers are now connected to the hub, through which they are then directly connected to the Internet and MIT's ubiquitous Project Athena. Also, basement rear annex has been revamped with a new, more heat-efficient wall and new wiring.

Unfortunately Beta, as well as some of the other fraternity houses on Bay State Road, has experienced some thefts in the past two months. In response, the locks have been rekeyed and better housing for TV and stereo equipment has been built. Plans for a more extensive security system are being considered.

The end of the term is fast approaching, and summer house managers Doug Cunicelli '97 and I are preparing for a fun and profitable summer here in the bay area. The house will undergo more enhancements as we bring it into shape for rush next fall.

Noah Breslow '97  
Summer House Manager

# ALUMNI NEWS

HARRY F. DAVIS II '48 can be reached at 355 Pommel Gate Crescent, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 5X7, CANADA. Drop "Floyd" a line when you get a chance.

"I have just retired from a most rewarding term of office as district chief of Beta's district XXVIII (McGill, Bishop, and Carleton Universities in Quebec and Ottawa, Canada)," explains WALTER E. H. MASSEY II '51 from 1951 Tupper St., Saughnessy Village, Montreal H3H 1H6 CANADA. "I started as a counselor to McGill's new colony, saw it through to chapterhood, and then saw it rise as one of Beta's best. This was followed by establishing the Bishop's chapter and, immediately after, the chapter at Carleton. It is quite an honor (not to mention a challenge) to share in establishing a whole new district in Beta's great domain. As a founder, the ever-honored memory is one in my heart of time shared, souls enriched, and brotherhood forever. Beta just never stops giving. It's a great cornerstone of life and love eternal. Wooglin forever—what a blessing!" Walt is a self-employed actor/director/lecturer/theater consultant.

A mathematics professor at the University of Central Florida, ROBERT C. BRIGHAM '56 writes, "My wife, Deirdre (Dee), and I had a nice visit with Mary and BOB MacDONALD '56 when they made their obligatory tourist visit to central Florida. Dee is the one making the big news. Six years ago she created Getting Well, an intensive behavioral medicine program, based on the latest research, for those with life-challenging and life-threatening diseases. In the process she became an expert on the subject and has a book, *Imagery for Getting Well*, published by W.W. Norton, which should be out in April 1994. Norton calls it 'the definitive handbook for the behavioral medicine clinician of the '90s.' Needless to say, we're excited by that." Catch up with Bob and congratulate Dee by writing to them at 700 Euclid Ave., Orlando FL 32801.

Pens physicist WARD D. HALVERSON '56, "I am working on flat panel displays at Spire Corporation. We have made bright electroluminescent phosphors by ion implantation. Son Peter survived (is surviving, I should say) the 'rock-and-roll' in Quakey Valley." Ward resides at 25 Hutchingson St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

"We are back in the U.S. after three and a half years in Caracas, Venezuela," reports PAUL M. HAINES JR. '78 from 23335 Millcross Lane, Katy, TX 77494. "We got into a house outside of Houston (in the suburbs) just before Christmas, and the boys (Zachary, 13, and Andrew, 6) have adjusted well. My wife, Suzie, is happy since most of her family is here in Houston. There is a good possibility that we will only be here for a year before being transferred overseas once again. I invite my old buddies to call (713/395-4988) or come and visit while we're here. On the work front, I am still at Schlumberger, with a division called GeoQuest. We are involved in developing and selling interpretation programs on UNIX workstations for the petroleum industry. In Venezuela I was operations manager for Venezuela and Trinidad. Here I am a project leader for marketing and development for one of our newest products. On a personal note, my mother died two years ago after a long battle with cancer. The guys from Griggs Road (Brookline) may remember her from my graduation."

"We had our third baby boy (Ben) last November," exclaims ROGER W. LACY '79. "The boys are great (Mike, 4, and Jon, 3). Joyce is taking a year or more off from her assistant deanship at Widener University to spend more time with the guys. I recently became manager of the preliminary design group, still with the helicopters division, at Boeing." The Lacy clan can be reached at 1125 Dogson Rd., West Chester, PA 19382.

"I'm happy to announce the arrival of our first child, Elizabeth,

on January 7, 1994," writes MARK P. BOUCHARD '84. "Chris and the baby are doing fine. Also, I'm currently finishing my third year of med school at the University of Vermont and am looking forward to my last year, which I hear is a little more laid back. I'm hoping to end up back in Maine in family practice someday. I've recently heard from RICH STEINES '84 and JIM DANNA '84. Both of them are expectant fathers! If anyone's in the Burlington area, give me a call at 802/655-6761." You can write to Mark at 1111A Ethan Allen Ave., Colchester, VT 05446.

DAVID M. KRAMER '88 updates us: "I'm still in graduate school and am working on my dissertation. I recently saw LEI TUNG '86—he's doing well. Congratulations to SCOTT STULL '88 and his companion on the purchase of their vacation condo in Malibu." Touch base with Dave by writing to him at 252 E. 62nd St., #3, New York, NY 10021.

Reporting a new address is MICHAEL P. McGOVERN '89. "Spike" can now be found at 8433 Southside Blvd., Apt. #708, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

"I am an associate with a major Detroit-based firm (Dickinson, Wrightetal)," explains attorney MICHAEL D. RECHTIN JR. '89. "I specialize in real estate law. I see DAN 'Spaz' FRANKEL '89 quite often, since he is a radiology resident at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. I have also hung out with WILL SCRUGGS '92, VIC ANTARMIAN '92, and JIM CURETON '90, who also live in the area. I live with two Michigan State Betas and spend my free time skiing, mountain biking, and brewing my own beer. In September 1993, I visited KEN CHAY '91, JOHN SPRINGSTEEN '91, and TOM AVIV '91—a trip to the Big Apple I won't soon forget (we adopted a Frisbee as a mascot)." For the lowdown on the infamous New York trip, write to "Mad Mike" at 114 Linden Rd., Birmingham, MI 48009.

Contact DANIEL T. MORIARTY '90 at his new address of 119 Pierce Rd., Watertown, MA 02172. Dan finished his master's in nuclear engineering in September 1992 and is currently a candidate for a PhD.

"Just a little news update to keep people informed," pens WILLIAM M. SCRUGGS II '92. "July 10, 1993, was my first wedding anniversary. This happened to coincide with the marriage of ALEX 'Spot' VIRGILIO '92 and my sister, Susan (MIT '93). The ceremony was attended by many Betas and made for an excellent 'second annual three-on-three hoops tournament.' I recently moved into a house north of Detroit, where I have been visited by the likes of MIKE RECTIN '89, MIKE 'No, I really am a coach' DUFFY '92, and VICTOR 'Sir Vix' ANTARMIAN '92. My new address is 125 Foxboro, Rochester Hills, MI 48309. The World Cup Soccer Tournament will come to Detroit in June '94. Anyone with (or without) tickets is welcome to come for the festivities. Several Betas are already planning to come, and all are welcome."

## Where Are They Now?

Erik Abernathy '93.

