

“...not for college days alone.”

PURPLE LINK

Tau Chi Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta at TCU

February 2002

TCU Box 296878
Fort Worth, Texas
76129

Chapter Room
Phone #
817.257.7907

www.tcufiji.org

Upcoming Events

Islander
April 6

**Casino Night—
Pig Dinner**
April 13

Homecoming
October 4-5

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Pig Dinner - Casino Night April 13

Pig Dinner and Casino Night will take place on Saturday, April 13th, 2002 at the City Club in Fort Worth. This is the same location as last year, which proved to be very successful.

We will be having our annual Pig Dinner golf tournament at Whitestone Golf Club. This is a new course with GPS carts and challenging holes, and the greens fee is a 20% discount off of their usual rates. Greens fees are \$50. Please have your money with you at the golf course. Directions: Take I-20 West to 377/Benbrook Highway. Go South on 377/Benbrook Highway. The entrance will be about 2.5 miles on the right. We tee off at 11 a.m.

Pig Dinner will start with a cocktail hour at 6:00pm, dinner and program at 7:00pm, and Casino Night at 10:00pm. The keynote speaker will be Doug Thompson, a Tau Chi alumnus from 1984. He will be talking about his days in the Chapter, as well as highlighting the new Tau Chi Fundraising Campaign. Dinner is \$40 per person and includes your admission to Casino Night. Spouses and dates are more than welcome to attend Pig Dinner and Casino Night.

Tau Chi raised over \$3,500 for Muscular Dystrophy in 2001, and the chapter hopes to blow that number away this year. The response from last year's event was tremendous, and the buzz surrounding this year's Casino Night has everyone anticipating a record attendance. More rooms at City Club will be rented out this year so that everyone can enjoy the event and have the opportunity to play the tables.

Please RSVP for the entire weekend by contacting either Braden Howell ('03) 817-257-3813/mhead73@aol.com or Travis English ('98) 817-801-7676/travis.english@duncan-holdings.com.

The Website

The TCU Fiji website is undergoing massive restructuring. Carl Hansen '90, who originally built the site, has handed the reigns over to Eric Hall '99, who will administer as well as host the new one. If you have any ideas regarding the new

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GRADUATE NEWS!

HOMECOMING 2001

For those of you who did not make it to Homecoming last October, you definitely missed out.

The weekend kicked off on Friday night with an Alumni versus Undergraduate softball tournament. It became obvious quite early that the Alumni have not lost a step since their undergraduate days. The Alumni defeated the Active team, then the Pledge team, and then the Active team once again. To be fair, the second game versus the Actives was fairly close, but the Alumni still prevailed. The softball game received such a strong response that we will probably have two Alumni teams this year.

On Saturday, activities commenced at the House with a barbeque. Many were on hand to enjoy burgers and hot dogs, and many of the children enjoyed the bouncy castle out behind the House. We hope to see more families at the House next year, where we will have the bouncy castle out back once again.

Alumni were taken from the House to the tailgate, where everyone could gather before, during, and after the game. It was good to see alumni from 1984 to 2001 out by the stadium.

Saturday night, Phi Gams and their spouses joined up at Billy Miner's in Downtown Fort Worth for a casual dinner. It was a fitting end to a busy weekend.

Mark your calendars now for Homecoming 2002, which will take place October 4th-6th, 2002.

Locate a Brother

Haven't talked to someone in awhile?

- www.tcufiji.org database: enter the Chapter page and the link is located at the bottom
- switchboard.com or infospace.com
- TCU Alumni Center at 817-257-7803

Dear Tau Chi Alumni,

The Tau Chi Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta has come a long way in its 21 years. In 1980, a small colony received its charter and started an organization that today has 80 undergraduate members, and a graduate membership of over 800 men. For many years, Tau Chi has operated without a significant graduate influence, besides that provided by the Section Chief and an occasional guardian angel. In the recent years, the formation of the Board of Chapter Advisors (BCA) along with an involved Purple Legionnaire has allowed the chapter to make further strides towards excellence. Up until now, the BCA has been comprised of younger alumni, who are able to donate their time and advice, but are not able to make the monetary contributions that can significantly make a difference. That is where the graduate membership can help.



The Phi Gamma Delta Educational Foundation has constructed two specific accounts for the Tau Chi Chapter; the Tau Chi **Scholarship** Account and the **Chapter House Endowment Fund (CHEF)**.

Donations to the **Scholarship** account will go towards building an endowment that will benefit Tau Chi members through scholarships, tutoring and learning facility improvements within the Chapter House. The BCA will designate how the proceeds will be used each year with input from the undergraduate Cabinet, Purple Legionnaire, Section Chief, and alumni. The more the account grows, the more funds can be used to grant scholarships to members, pay for tutors, improve study facilities and more. All donations to this fund are tax deductible.

The **CHEF** fund functions the same as the Scholarship account in where interest from the account can be used for chapter improvements. Donations to this fund are not tax deductible, but are still welcome.

We invite you to join us in this Fundraising campaign, and we hope to see you at Pig Dinner on Saturday, April 13th at the City Club in Fort Worth.

Fraternally,

Doug Thompson ('84)

Travis J. English ('98)
BCA Chairman

GRADUATE NEWS!

- **David Hamilton '85** and family moved to the Tampa area in October. They also welcomed their third child, David Jr. AKA "Hammer", into the world this past fall.
- **Kevin Henry '87** is on the Host Committee for Ekklesia '02 in August in Portland, OR. If you have interest in going, email him at HenryKev@aol.com or check Nationals' website at www.phigam.org.
- According to a Feb. '01 posting on the website's guestbook (sorry for the delay), **Cory McLeod '89** is getting married this April to Anne-Marie Fanguy. He's a VP at Trammell Crow, still enjoys racing, and lives in West Palm Beach, FL.
- Also according to the website guestbook, **Brian Christie '92** was a "computer nerd living in Allen, TX working for Hillwood Development" in March '01.
- **Trip Meade '93**, wife Jenny (TCU '94), and son Andrew moved to Kansas City where he works in the corporate brand group for Sprint.
- **Jon Haufe '96** and **Kevin Donaldson '95** met **David Unger '01** in NYC by pure chance. David asked a random person (Haufe) to take his group's picture along the street and they soon made the connection.
- **Eric Merriman '96** and wife Rebecca (TCU '97) are expecting a baby on July 2.
- **Mike McCown '97** will wed Heather Richardson (TCU '01), a Kappa, on March 2.
- **Eric Charlton '97** has started a men's league soccer team in the Fort Worth area. Check their site at www.scholty.com/erdinger.htm.
- **Mike Indergard '98** and wife Laura (TCU '97) are expecting a baby in September.
- **Chris Haller '98** is engaged to be married to Meredyth Barr (TCU '99) on June 29.
- **Will Huffman '99** is getting married June 22.
- **Michael Alcantar '00** is engaged to Kaila Richards. A November 2 wedding is planned.
- **Kenny Stansberger '00** is engaged to Amanda Braaten (TCU '01). A July 13 wedding in Houston is planned.



Graduate Spotlight John Kiehle '98



John Kiehle was an undergraduate from 1994 to '98. He and his twin, Jim, (and three siblings) are sons of military parents and were born in El Paso, TX. Their family moved around the country each year and eventually settled in Fort Worth during John's and Jim's high school years. They went to Boswell H.S. in north Fort Worth.

John chose TCU because of its proximity to home, its Pre-Med program, and pretty girls. He never planned to join a fraternity but quickly heard about Rush and wanted to check it out. Bodie Freeman '95 and Jon Rickers '96 were influences on him to join Fiji. While an active, John was Historian, Pledge Ed, and Casino Night chair twice. He also was in AFROTC and wanted to be an Air Force doctor but then switched to a Computer Science major and started flight school. He eventually took an entirely different path and finished with a Marketing degree.

John left for L.A. the day after graduation with eleven interviews set up. After they didn't pan out, he took a temp job with Bragman, Nyman, and Cafarelli, a public relations and marketing company. He became a PR exec's assistant there but quickly moved to a junior account executive position. He's now shooting for a senior position. He works with personal and network publicists.

John is engaged to Amanda White (TCU '99), a Delta Gamma, and a September 21 L.A. wedding is planned. Although they love it there, they eventually want to move back to Dallas and start a family. Given time and money, he'd really like to travel to Australia and Europe too. One thing he's learned is "Persistence pays off."

December 2001 Graduates

- **Charlie Gregoire** — Charlie graduated with a Radio-TV-Film degree and is using his degree in the Fort Worth area.
- **Joey Shouse** — Joey also has a RTVF degree and is currently in Austin.

Chapter News!

COMMITTEES

Scholarship— Twenty pledges made their grades this past fall with an average GPA of 2.43. Combined with the active average of 2.94, the Chapter's total average was 2.71. It placed Tau Chi at number five on the Row, a vast improvement from recent eighth or ninth place finishes.

Social— Homecoming with ZTA finished fourth of 15 participating organizations. LAGNAF at Mad Ivans paintball last October was another success. The 2nd Annual Yellow T-shirt party featured live bands. Lastly for the fall, "Video Music Awards" was at Club Ambiance. Islander this spring will be at Possum Kingdom.

House—The Chapter Room has all new furniture, a new pool table cover, new light fixtures, new tables and lamps and a new foosball table on the way. (More at right.)

Intramurals—The basketball A Team and Beer Team both went deep into the playoffs. Flag football went 3-1. The soccer team is top-seeded in the playoffs. The Frats-at-Bat outlook is confident.

Graduate Relations — Our list of Lost Brothers continues to grow. Please help out with finding them. Please refer to past Links on www.tcufraternity.org for a list of Lost Brothers. We want to know!

Rush — Summer river trips to San Marcos, baseball games at The Ballpark, and lake house trips are planned.

Chapter News— Zack Klemo '03 was elected Homecoming King (inset).



President— Matt Nesson '03, 817-257-2403, hornedfrogs22@hotmail.com

Purple Legionnaire— Jeff Owings '94, 817-469-6996, TauChiPL@aol.com

BCA Chair— Travis English '98, 817-926-6801, travis.english@duncan-holdings.com

Graduate Relations— Braden Howell '03, 817-257-3813, mhead73@aol.com

President's Letter

Greetings fellow Fiji Brothers across the nation! For years we have written about how our chapter "looks forward to improved success in the future." While this statement still remains true, we have achieved a certain level of success that exceeds that of any time in the past. Never has our brotherhood been so strong and never has our name been more prevalent on and off campus. Part of this success comes from our newly remodeled Chapter Room. With the help of Fiji alumni, personal donors, and parents we have been able to purchase a complete new set of furniture. In addition, we have replaced the Chapter Room doors, remodeled and painted the downstairs bathroom, purchased new curtains and a new pool table cover, and even bought new light fixtures and a sound system to complement the new décor.

Along with the multitude of material improvements we have made to our House come the improvements in reputation. Part of this comes from an outstanding fall pledge class. With the help of active and graduate brothers we were able to initiate 21 men this fall. In order to ensure this upward march we have taken on five new pledges for the spring semester bringing our spring pledge class up to a total of 11 men.

Our participation in philanthropy events also boosted our reputation on campus. We received fourth place out of 15 organizations in Homecoming this past year. Teamed up with Zeta, we placed in the top three in almost every individual competition. To top things off, our very own Fiji Brother Zack Klemo was named Mr. TCU. In addition to our success in Homecoming, we also placed third in TCU's annual "Light the Campus." First and second place were both awarded to sororities, making us the only fraternity to place in the competition.

Fiji continues to improve academically as well. This year we finished fifth overall for fraternities on campus, moving up two spots from last year. Our active Brother GPA was a 2.94 by having 25 Brothers with a GPA of 3.0 or better, and three Brothers finished the semester with a perfect 4.0.

I would encourage any Graduate Brother to stop by and see the changes Fiji has undergone. With continued support and drive there is no telling what next year's president will be able to write in this letter. I would like to personally thank everyone who has helped us achieve and exceed many of our past goals. Through your support you have all showed us that this brotherhood remains constant throughout all of life and that Fiji is truly not for college days alone.

The Website *continued from page 1*

website, please email Eric at eric_it@hotmail.com or Mike Indergard '98, who is helping Eric as much as possible from Waco, at mikeindo@excite.com. When it's completed, an email will be sent out to inform everyone, graduates and undergraduates alike, of the new website. If you do not receive an email, it's because we don't have your email address! Please email your info either to

Eric or Mike or check back to www.tcufigi.org periodically.

The plan is for the site to include a discussion board for things Fiji- and non-Fiji-related, an interactive family tree, and a searchable Brothers database, just to name a few of the features. It's designed to keep people coming back frequently!

The new pledges

- Andy Humphrey (Dallas) likes to play guitar and listen to punk music
- Julius Eric Junker (Richmond) plays on the club baseball team for TCU
- Thomas Harper (Houston) was a four-time letterman basketball player in high school
- Brian Bell (Houston) played basketball in high school and was on student council
- Robby Libbey (Duncanville, TX) likes to play soccer, plays the drums and also likes punk music

TCU News and FIJI Nationals News

- The TCU football team played in its fourth straight bowl game, the galleryfurniture.com Bowl, which they lost to Texas A&M.
- TCU football also played a part in the BCS Nat'l Champ. game participants, as reported by ESPN. When TCU won its last game versus So. Miss., it boosted Nebraska's schedule strength quotient enough (Neb. beat TCU earlier) to jump Colorado for a Rose Bowl spot.
- Jon, the owner of Jon's Grill, the restaurant on University Drive, died within the last few months.
- The Olympic Torch went through TCU along University Drive in December.
- TCU basketball coach Billy Tubbs is leaving the school. He's been there since 1994 and took the Frogs to the NCAA tournament in '98.
- In addition to TCU's new baseball field, renovated Rickel student rec center, and huge new technology building, there will also be a new graduate student housing complex and an entrepreneurs building.



Undergraduate Spotlight

Matt Nesson '03



Matt Nesson is the Chapter president, elected this past fall as a New Initiate, which, as far as anyone can tell, is the first such occurrence in Tau Chi history.

Matt is from Seeley-Swann, Montana, located somewhat near Missoula. In high school he was on the basketball and track teams and was on the school newspaper staff. He graduated in 1998



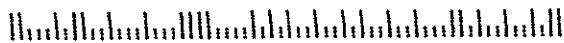
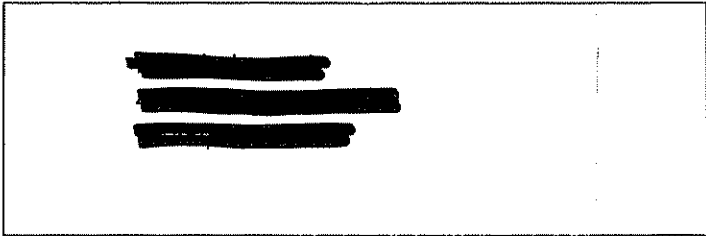
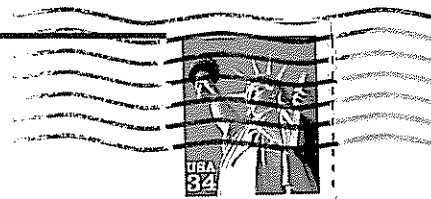
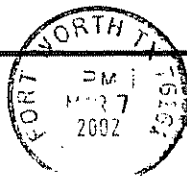
and went to Western Montana University for one year. He then wanted to leave Montana and came to Dallas, where a lot of family lived, to look for another school. He eventually came to TCU in the fall of 2000.

That fall Matt delayed Rush for a semester because of an internship, and to check out all the fraternities first. As Spring Rush approached, then-Rush Chairman Ryan Hahn '03 (now on Cabinet) rushed him really hard, which is the main reason Matt eventually chose FIJI.

This past summer, Matt spent a month in Nepal and Thailand with Volunteers for Peace teaching English and helping with construction projects. He thought about eventually joining the Peace Corps, but after that experience, maybe not.

Matt is an English major with Public Relations minor and wants to eventually work in public relations. He's a movie buff and likes sports and enjoys hiking. Matt said that coming from small-town Montana, he never thought he'd eventually be in Texas, a FIJI president, and already have business world experience. He says, "Destiny isn't planned; life's what you make it."

The Purple Link
Phi Gamma Delta
Tau Chi at TCU
TCU Box 296878
Fort Worth, TX 76129



**See What the Guys
Are Up To!**