

PURPLE LINK

Tau Chi Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta

September 2005

TCU Box 296878
or
Martin Moore Hall
3504 Pond Drive
Fort Worth, Texas
76129
www.tcufiji.org

Upcoming Events

**8th Annual
Yellow T-shirt
Party**
September 24

**Family
Weekend**
October 1-2

Homecoming
October 14-16

Be sure to keep in
touch on the graduate
boards at
www.tcufiji.org!
Or send your updates
to Travis English
(contact info below right)

INSIDE

RUSH REPORT
GRAD. UPDATES
GRAD. SPOTLIGHT
ACTIVE SPOTLIGHT
PLEDGE SPOTLIGHT
ACTIVES' SUMMER
ADVENTURES



HOMECOMING 2005



Friday October 14
12 p.m.

Golf (Alumni and Undergrads are welcome)

Please email Travis English (contact info below) so we can reserve tee times soon. We'll play in Fort Worth and will try to keep the greens fees reasonable.

Friday October 14
9 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Flying Saucer

We have the popular Half Acre hall upstairs reserved for everyone to meet up and have a few drinks to kick off the weekend. Wives/dates are more than welcome.

Saturday October 15
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Tau Chi Softball Game @ Ed Collett Park (4800 W. Vickery)

A rivalry is starting to brew between the alumni and undergrads, and some still question whether Davis Jackson was paid off to throw Game 2 of our Pig Dinner double-header. He, as well as many others, will be able to redeem themselves while enjoying burgers, dogs, and drinks.

Saturday October 15
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Open House @ FIJI Chapter Room

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Greek system at TCU, all Greek organizations will have their chapter rooms open to the public. Come by to look for your composite. Refreshments will be provided.

Saturday October 15
4 p.m.

Football Tailgate

Jason Stephens ('94) has generously offered up his spot (Spot 13 in Lot 3 by the fence) for our tailgate. We plan on having more than enough drinks and food on the grill to go around for adults and children.

Saturday October 15
6 p.m.

TCU vs. New Mexico Football game

Praying for a victory.

KEY CONTACTS

President – Drew Corbett ('06), 817.271.3066, a.s.corbett@tcu.edu
Purple Legionnaire – Travis English ('98), (h) 817.926.6801,
(c) 817.228.1636, travis.english@duncan-holdings.com
Homecoming Chair – Thomas White ('08), 817.308.0697,
t.white@tcu.edu

RUSH REPORT: 30 GUYS!

We have successfully completed rush and are proud to introduce the Pledge Class of 2005 to all the graduates. This is a group of 30 young men, all of whom were voted on individually and were unanimously approved by the active brothers. Though a large number of other rushees showed interest in Tau Chi, we found ourselves in the fortunate position to be exceptionally selective this year. As a result, social grace, exemplary academics and aspirations of campus involvement were expected and required of all new members.

Though the new pledge's respective high schools have a number of different grading scales, we have rounded the average GPA to roughly 3.5, with a number of 4.0 (or higher) students.

Co-Rush Chairs Eric Cannon ('06) and Sean Morgan ('06) were responsible for the majority of coordination. Wade Dollins ('08), son of University of Texas FIJI graduate Rick Dollins, was also a tremendous asset to this summer's activities. Their efforts along with unerring support from the greater chapter made this the most successful and well orchestrated rush in years.

As I am always pleased to share the events of the chapter with the grads, I am exceptionally proud of this accomplishment for Tau Chi.

I hope to see you at this years Homecoming on October 15th.

Fraternally,

Drew Corbett ('06)
Tau Chi President

GRADUATE UPDATES

- **Chris Haller ('98)** and wife Meredyth (Barr, TCU Kappa '99) welcomed their first child, William Baird, into the world on September 12, 2005. Baird (as he'll be called) "will be fishing for snook by the time he's 2."
- **Winston Williams ('00)** and wife Jade (Mullins, TCU Pi Phi '98) welcomed their first child, Winston Jr., also on September 12th.

Note: both families were at the same hospital across the hall from each other, but didn't know it until later.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

- **Sean Morgan** studied in Europe this summer, facilitated three Frog Camps (two in Colorado), worked full-time at the Republic Title of Texas in Fort Worth, and dedicated a large majority of his free time to Rush.
- **John Black** worked for an investment company (RBC Dain Rauscher) and passed his Series 7 exam on the first try. He's actually still working for them and has applied for a full-time job as a financial advisor.
- **Sanjeet Deka** was an executive member of a St. Jude's Hospital philanthropy event, Up Til Dawn. He also spent two weeks hiking in Calgary, Banff, Lake Louis (Canada), and Montana, and was chased by a moose!
- **James Day** was in the same study-abroad program as Sean Morgan, being in Cologne; Djion, France; and Barcelona. He later interned at Amegy Bank of Texas.
- **Drew Corbett** studied in Australia, specifically that nation's politics and history.
- **Kenny Lumadue** attended several fun events as a Marketing Promotions Coordinator for U.S. Smokeless Tobacco.



PLEDGE SPOTLIGHT



Trey Schorgl ('09)

Trey is from Leawood, KS; born and raised there. He has two younger sisters and is the nephew of **Jim Schorgl ('84)**. He attended Rockhurst High School where he played golf, swam, and was in NHS. He also participated in CYO basketball and worked at the Kansas City CC, as well as a valet at the Plaza. Trey is a freshman this year at TCU.

Trey looked at Wake Forest and Ole Miss, but chose TCU because it looked to him like a good combination of fun and a good education. He liked the business school (he is a Finance major and might add Accounting to that too). Actually, originally TCU wasn't one of his choices. Trey had visited TCU during the spring with his uncle on his way back from a visit to Wake Forest, and had stayed with some FIJIs then who obviously helped change Trey's line of thinking! Because of it, Trey eventually became FIJI's first summer lock and is a pledge this semester.

Trey also works 15-20 hours a week at the Colonial. He also participates in softball intramurals and attends the business school's CEO Club meetings.

Next summer, Trey hopes to continue working at the Colonial and attend summer school. Or perhaps he'll work for a relative's insurance company in St. Louis and work on their nearby ranch. Or maybe he'll return home and work at the KCCC and valet. The summer is still a long way off.

Trey says college life has been fun so far but has gotten busier since pledgship has picked up. He says he just needs to stay organized. Trey is also participating in his sixth year of fantasy football.



ACTIVE SPOTLIGHT

Eric Cannon ('06)



Eric Cannon is from a small town about 23 miles west of Austin called Elgin. He was born in Garland, TX, and his family, which includes an older sister, moved there when he was a small child. In high school, Eric played baseball and football, was a class rep, won the LCRA Leadership award, was Homecoming King, and received an accounting award from the Optimists Club of Austin.

Eric graduated in 2002 and went to Northwood University in Cedar Hill, TX, near Dallas, on a baseball scholarship. He transferred to TCU after a year but gave up baseball and its demands at the college level. He chose TCU over SMU and UT; he liked the "small-town people in a bigger city" feeling in Fort Worth.

Eric delayed going through Rush; his initial impression of fraternities was not favorable, but he met Sean Morgan ('06) and through him came to realize he was mistaken. Eric pledged in the spring of 2004. Although not yet an active, Eric helped Sean with Summer Rush 2004, basically serving as an apprentice in preparation for leading it the following summer.

Eric is a Finance and Accounting double-major. During this past summer, in addition to being Rush chair, he worked 40-50 hours a week bookkeeping for Cousins BBQ in Fort Worth.

Eric initiated a new scholarship for Tau Chi in conjunction with the Chapter's Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament: part of the money made is redistributed to FIJI pledges who earn \$500 apiece through good grades.

Eric's legacy was set with this Fall's Rush results: 30 pledges. He helped instill a confidence and swagger that lured Rushees who were considered sure locks from other fraternities. There was an organized summer river trip, from which all rushees became locks, as well as various other parties. They didn't let up any weekends—Persistence was key. FIJI had 21 locks before Formal Rush. They were able to be very selective and were forced to cut 20 guys. Most are from Texas, but others hail from California, Kansas, New Mexico, Colorado, and Missouri. There are the partiers, the student-athletes, the academics, the leaders—all bases covered.

Eric will graduate in December 2006. He wants to work a bit, then return to school for his Masters and become a CPA. He envisions eventually working for himself.

He says if it hadn't been for FIJI, many of his activities would have been much easier to quit. Although his real family isn't far, he feels Tau Chi is his family too and letting up or quitting *anything* would feel as if he were letting down his family.

Eric Cannon - e.w.cannon@tcu.edu



GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

Eric Merriman ('96)



Eric was born in Ohio in 1974. His family, which includes four brothers (all of whom now live in DFW), moved to Dallas when he was five. He attended Richardson High School, where he played football his freshman year, was in the pre-law club, and won awards for Outstanding Business Student and Outstanding Art Student. Outside of school, Eric was heavily involved in water-skiing, participating in informal slalom and jumping competitions. He has always been an avid outdoorsman - fishing and hunting are huge.

Eric chose TCU over SMU and Ole Miss because of its size, location, and because of Fort Worth. He was summer-rushed by several TCU fraternities, but was soon a FIJI summer lock because he felt FIJI was genuinely interested in him and felt he could "plug in" to college life better there. FIJIs influential to his choice were Craig Martin ('94), Sam Coultas ('94), Scott Newman ('94), Pokey Williams ('92), and Davis Chapman ('94), Eric's eventual Big Brother. For FIJI, Eric was an assistant Rush chair, Social chair, Community Service chair, and Risk Manager. He was also the first FIJI in 15 years to win both the Purple Heart award and Best Active. His FIJI Little Brothers were Steve Schroeder ('96) (with whom he went to school back in Richardson) and Bobby Mullins ('99) -- there was a third who deactivated. Eric also participated in Monday at TCU and was an IFC delegate for FIJI for two years.

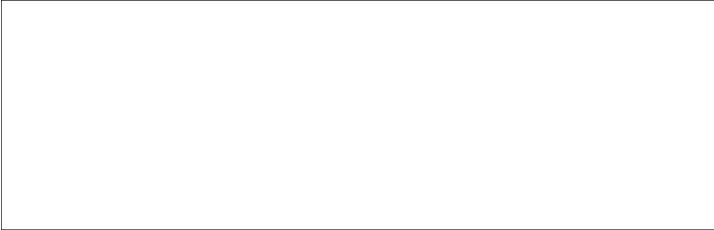
Eric graduated with a Criminal Justice degree in December 1996. He immediately found a job through TCU's placement services with Conway Southern Express, a trucking company in Fort Worth. He married Rebecca Connor (TCU Theta '97) and they moved to Atlanta in July 1997. Conway Southern moved them around to Gadsden, AL; Tupelo, MS; Fort Worth; and Atlanta (four separate times). In all, they've bought six houses. Last April, Eric took a job in Monett, MO, with Rebecca's father's company, Imec, a sheet metal fabricator and machining company. He's in HR and Training and is also a sales manager for them.

Eric and Rebecca have two boys: Wesley, 3, and Harrison, 1. Eric still regularly talks to pledge brothers Jon Haufe ('96) and Mike Todd ('96).

Eric says his Criminal Justice degree didn't really prepare him for the business world (although the diploma itself was necessary), but his involvement in a fraternity - the interaction, the teamwork, and development of his understanding of relationships - is really what he credits to his success.

You can reach Eric at
emerriman@imecmonett.com

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



**Some of the FIJI Graduates
Attending Homecoming 2005**

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Jim Schorgl ('84) | Travis English ('98) |
| Mike Connor ('85) | Chris Haller ('98) |
| Ron White ('85) | Mike Indergard ('98) |
| Carl Hansen ('90) | Bill Vassar ('99) |
| Ron Duncan ('91) | Jeff Anderson ('01) |
| Rich Rogers ('92) | Chris Price ('02) |
| Jason Stephens ('94) | Chuck Cramer ('02) |
| Andy Warford ('94) | Scott McDougal ('03) |
| Jay Scott ('94) | Brennan Simi ('04) |
| Bodie Freeman ('95) | Davis Jackson ('04) |
| Eric Merriman ('96) | Clark Oatman ('05) |
| Carl Stansberger ('98) | Scott Espensen ('05) |