

The Muse

MU CHAPTER OF SIGMA PI FRATERNITY - CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ITHACA, NEW YORK

SPRING 2006

Mu Chapter Continues To Achieve Excellence

Coming back from my relaxing winter break for the start of a new spring semester has been quite a challenging and amazing step forward in my life, as I have taken over the role of sage. The chapter remains strong and focused on maintaining a brotherhood that is defined by close friendships and leadership. I am truly proud to sit here today and have the opportunity to represent these outstanding men through another year that is sure to be filled with hardships and rewards.



Trevor White '07

This past academic year presented new opportunities and experiences for our undergraduate Pi-Men, both in the campus and local community. To name a few of our past and present leaders: Alex Deyle '06, stepping down from his position as IFC president, leaves behind a stronger and more organized Greek system; Joshua Katcher '06, who remains a student

trustee, was very involved in helping select David Skorton as the university's next worthy president; Lance Fraenkel '07, following in Mu Chapter's tradition, assumed the tremendously important position of VP Judicial for the IFC; Giorgio Piccoli '07 now serves as president of SHAG (Sexual Health Awareness Group); and David Gelinis '07 has taken over the reigns of Michael Taylor '05 in becoming an Ithaca city councilman.

Beyond the great individual achievements of our young men is an overarching goal of the fraternity to maintain and strengthen philanthropic service. In the past year, we have become involved with the Boys and Girls Club of Ithaca, as well as participated in fundraisers for the Brittle Bone Foundation and the Red Cross. We are constantly thinking of new and exciting ways to engage our chapter in community service roles that will continue to be beneficial for each member

as well as the greater community at large.

As Mu Chapter's newly elected sage, I would like to follow in the path of respect and character that has been laid down by our previous president, Craig Dewey '06. I believe that our chapter is known throughout Cornell's administration and campus as a brotherhood of generous and noble young men. Character is the key to our strength, and we will strive to make sure that it never becomes lost. Following a successful rush period, Mu Chapter selected 25 young men who we believe will all adhere to Sigma Pi's ideals and create a voice among us. I understand the responsibilities of managing such an organization, and I look forward to accomplishing our goals in this upcoming year with incredible excitement.

Fraternally,
Trevor White '07
Sage



Reunion planned for Homecoming Week-end, October 13-15. For those of you who did not make the first reunion in the fall of 2003, this is a chance to catch this popular Pi-Man band with what we hope is the best Homecoming attendance yet! At the previous party, about 40-50 Pi men from the '70s showed up to catch a three-hour set of classic rock. The undergrads had a big surprise when these "old dudes" blew them away.

Zoltan's members include Tom Garr '76, Peter Phillips '75, Reber Carroll '75, Sandy Kraker '74, Curt Bolak, and Mark Cunningham (ad hoc Pi Man). All the undergrads surprised the band in the last set by seeming to know every lyric from their classic repertoire. Because the band members come from such distant cities as Los Angeles, Phoenix, Atlanta, and New York City, you can imagine the logistics of preparing a full night's gig...

All the more reason to support this function and the band's effort. Save the Homecoming dates and enjoy Cornell football, classic rock, and the best alumni gathering ever at the Pi house!

A Sage Bids Farewell

As the outgoing Sage and soon-to-be graduate, I wanted to thank every brother of Sigma Pi. The time I spent here was at once challenging and rewarding, and I could not think of a better group of men to lead. We accomplished a lot in all aspects of fraternity life, ranging from social to brotherhood to cultural events, and in doing so, further developed our character as individuals and as a brotherhood.

I want to say thanks and good luck to the seniors, and that I look forward to the many incredible things that lie ahead of us.

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Brothers Focus On Philanthropy

Continuing Sigma Pi's long-standing tradition of creative philanthropy, Mu Chapter had another successfully altruistic semester this fall. The brothers of Sigma Pi and the sisters of Sigma Delta Tau combined forces to throw ΣΔΤ Π (EAT Π), a pie-eating contest on November 17, 2005, to raise money for the American Red Cross. Sponsorship of the event came from Napster, which donated 12 MP3 players to eight winners (four male, four female) and four lucky door-prize winners. Over 25 teams entered the four-person relay contest, raising over \$1,000. The Sigma Pi executive board, with a time of four large pies in just under two minutes, won the male division.

Earlier in the semester, a car wash with the ladies of Alpha Epsilon Phi raised over \$600 for Hurricane Katrina Relief, a quarter of which came from generous alumni who were at the Pi house celebrating Dolly's birthday. The car wash took place on a beautiful Saturday in September when

students, faculty, and Greeks all brought their cars down to 730 University Avenue to be washed. The following weekend, we hosted a Friday night party with a cover charge that went to the Red Cross's Katrina relief efforts.

In philanthropy news for the spring semester, preliminary planning for the annual *Murder Mystery Night* has commenced, a night when brothers and their dates solve a mystery acted out by brothers, pledges, and sorority sisters alike. Additionally, after last year's successful partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Ithaca, we are organizing another Easter egg hunt that is planned for April. If you have ideas for events or general questions about Mu Chapter's philanthropy work, please e-mail either Josh Lewis at jhl38@cornell.edu or Sam Rosen at sir4@cornell.edu.

Fraternally,
Jason Brown '08
Philanthropy Chair



Jeremy Kraker, Craig Dewey '06, Jason Brown, Rich Larin '07, and Ben Shlansky '07 (clockwise from top) cheer on teammate Trevor White '07 in the EAT Π pie-eating contest.

A Sage Bids Farewell

(continued from page one)

To the underclassmen, I know that you will carry on the ideals of Sigma Pi, and I want you to make sure that you enjoy everything and soak up as much as possible.

And to our alumni, I want to say thanks for your incredible support, for it distinguishes us from other organizations and it makes me proud to have such a

strong network of brothers and friends. I am very happy leaving the affairs of the fraternity in the hands of our new sage, Trevor White '07, and the new executive council, and I am confident in the success Sigma Pi will continue to achieve.

Fraternally,
Craig Dewey '06



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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Career Seminar With Alumni Is Big Success

On Thursday, February 2, 19 undergraduates journeyed from Ithaca to New York City for Mu Chapter's third annual career seminar, hosted by Jarrett Wait '80. The two-day event, which included alumni from more than 10 different firms across several industries, was again a tremendous success, as undergraduates developed relationships with eagerly helpful alumni and honed career interests with their invaluable advice. Much of the event was funded by Creating Chapters of Excellence, a Cornell-run program that awards grants to the school's best performing Greek chapters.

The weekend began early Thursday morning as a caravan of tired undergrads left the Pi house at 7:00 a.m. and departed for New York. After situating ourselves in one of Lehman's beautiful multi-purpose function rooms with a stunning view of the city and receiving a warm welcome from Mr. Wait, whose dedication and generosity afforded such a comfortable setting, the undergrads were schooled in crafting resumes and conducting interviews from two of Lehman's human resources vice presidents.

After the tutorial, the undergrads moved to a lounge for a brief reception with alumni. It was here that most of the undergraduates realized the potential that the weekend held, as 19 relatively unaccomplished kids had the wisdom and insight of a group of incredibly successful professionals at their command solely because those alumni were generous enough to help us. After an hour of getting to know everyone, we moved to a dining room and enjoyed dinner. The most valuable and educational part of the day, dinner culminated with each alumnus giving his best advice for the ambitious, inexperienced undergraduate brothers gathered around them.

While Thursday was long and tiring, it further whet the appetite of the undergraduates for more learning and advice from the alumni. With such a wealth of experience in several different fields among the alumni, and with ranging interests within undergraduates, the group dynamic lent itself to several breakout

sessions Friday. With specialty sessions in investment banking, hosted by Mr. Wait, media and law, hosted by Steven Hobbs '80, manufacturing, hosted by James Keene '57, human resources, hosted by Brett Winson '78, hotel management, hosted by Brian Finneran '81, and entrepreneurship, small business, and franchising, hosted by Alan Douglas, each undergraduate had a program tailor-made for his interests. The largest group stayed with Lehman Brothers and enjoyed presentations by representatives from each of the company's core functions, giving the undergraduates a holistic look at the company and its different capacities.

While the seminar ended Friday afternoon, the relationships formed over those two days have persisted and will, we hope, continue to be mutually beneficial. Events like career weekend are valuable in many ways, not least of which is educating undergrads about prospective occupations. But much more than that relatively simple function, they bridge the gap between the currently active brothers and the alumni, whose dedication to Sigma Pi never ceases to impress and whose desire to help the undergraduates cannot be lauded enough. And it allows unique relationships to form between very different generations, sparked only by the common bond of Sigma Pi, Mu Chapter.

Thanks to the efforts of all the alumni who made career week possible, especially Jarrett Wait, without whom the event would have never been possible, the 19 undergraduates left New York City with a better idea of what they wanted to do occupationally and with new relationships that will undoubtedly help them achieve those future goals.

If you are interested in participating in next year's career seminar or have questions regarding the event, please contact DJ Mauch at dam57@cornell.edu.

Fraternally,
DJ Mauch '08
Alumni Secretary



Brothers at the career seminar.



Trevor White '07 enjoys the seminar with another Sigma Pi brother at Lehman Brothers headquarters.

The Muse

is published regularly by the Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity at Cornell University for its members and friends. News contributions and pictures are welcome and should be sent to Sigma Pi Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.

Crested Butte Extravaganza

While there have been several *Muse* articles in the past detailing brothers' travels and vacations, nothing can compare to the treat seven undergraduate brothers received this winter break. It is a little known fact that Alumni President Jim Keene '57 owns a house in Crested Butte, Colorado, but showing his consideration and kindness, Jim invited the undergraduates to spend a week with him at his home there. We also had the pleasure to have the treasurer of the alumni executive board, Jim Palmer '60, come and spend a majority of the vacation with us. Undergraduates who attended were Alex Deyle '06, Craig Dewey '06, Jeremy Kraker '07, Alex Ballantine '06, Matt



Weaver '06, Richard Larin '07, and Jordan Turner '06.

Our days started with our waking up to the delicious smell of breakfast being cooked for us by our alumni hosts, and then after eating, heading over to Crested Butte Mountain Resort for a day of incredible skiing. Upon returning, we would find refreshments and snacks waiting for us next to the hot tub, so we relaxed in complete luxury after an amazing workout on the slopes. While we were relaxing, our executive chefs would be preparing a meal that would rival one from any top restaurant. Jim Keene graduated with a degree in electrical engineering, but after enjoying a week of his delicious cooking, I would argue it should have been a degree in the culinary arts.

After dinner, the obligatory board game session began, and our alumni displayed their wisdom by completely dominating the undergraduates in Trivial Pursuit, genius edition, but fell short to the younger brothers when making sculptures from clay in Cranium. Our nights would normally culminate with a trip to Crested Butte's downtown area, filled with a surprising variety of nightlife. The six days went by way too fast, as the trip was outstanding in every single way possible. The undergraduates would once more like to thank our gracious hosts for the incredible hospitality and kindness shown to us by our alumni.

Fraternally,
Richard Larin '07

Right to left: Rich Larin '07, Matt Weaver '06, Jordan Turner '06, Jim Keene '57, Jim Palmer '60, Craig Dewey '06, Alex Deyle '06, Alex Ballantine '06, Jeremy Kraker '07.

ALUMNI MAILBAG



Earle R. Elmer Jr. '35 (erelmer@verizon.net) sends greetings from his new address of 6366 Forest Ave., Elkridge, MD 21075. He writes, "I'm doing fairly well for a 92-year-old. I've moved into assisted living and I'm enjoying my residency here."

ΣΠ • ΣΠ • ΣΠ

Get in touch with Michael R. Sfat '43 at 1035 South 7th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220. His e-mail address is lhaupt@biotechresources.com.

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Fred O. Jensen '54 (110 Lake Shore Dr., Chatham, MA 02633) sends news that Doug Parker '56 recently published an excellent biography of Ogden Nash titled, *Ogden Nash: The Life and Work of America's Laureate of Light Verse*. Fred's

e-mail address is fredjensen@comcast.net.

ΣΠ • ΣΠ • ΣΠ

Robert W. Stevens '59 recently moved to 3444 Wilkinson Woods Dr., Sarasota, FL 34231-8663. Drop him an e-mail at rwstevens@worldnet.att.net.

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"I'm living on Fidalgo Island," reports Manfred W. Hoffman '60, "the first of the San Juan Islands, and enjoying life in the far northwest. The grandkids opted for college life in Texas (University of Texas-Austin, University of Texas-Dallas, and Southern Methodist University). I am part-time retired and part-time consultant on organizational development issues. If you are ever taking a ferry to the San Juans, stop by; I live two minutes from the ferry termi-

nal." Snail mail reaches Manny at P.O. Box 2040, Anacortes, WA 98221; e-mail at bhoff2@verizon.net.

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Please note this new address for J. David Snyder '63: 2120 Springs Pl., Longmont, CO 80504.

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"I have not been in touch with any brothers for a long time," muses George T. Marsh '65, "but my roommate and brother, Tom Hager '65, stopped by. I wasn't home, but I did contact him via phone and had a nice conversation with him. He lives out in Arkport, New York, on a gentleman's farm and runs his own engineering company. Then this spring, I

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House Shines During Spring Rush

As the newly elected rush chairs this fall, Josh Katcher '06 and I took it upon ourselves to bring new intensity to a process that has traditionally gone very well for us. With a strong act to follow, we knew it was going to take dedication and creativity to showcase our house and brotherhood to all prospective members during the fall semester. We continued with many of the past traditions while putting a few new additions into the Sigma Pi rush repertoire. These efforts, combined with fantastic brotherhood support, turned this year's rush into one of the most successful programs Sigma Pi has run in recent history.

Some of the new events we pioneered were bringing prospective guys down to the Glenwood Pines with us for Thursday brotherhood dinner to showcase the sprit and tenor of an average night with the men of Sigma Pi. We also made a strong effort to turn our Thanksgiving dinner into a pre-rush event by bringing down all of the great guys we had met during the fall. Throughout the fall, our strategy was to give our house the best exposure possible to men on campus of all different walks of life so we could draw the best possible members. It also gave us the opportunity to meet and evaluate a lot of guys before rush week actually started.

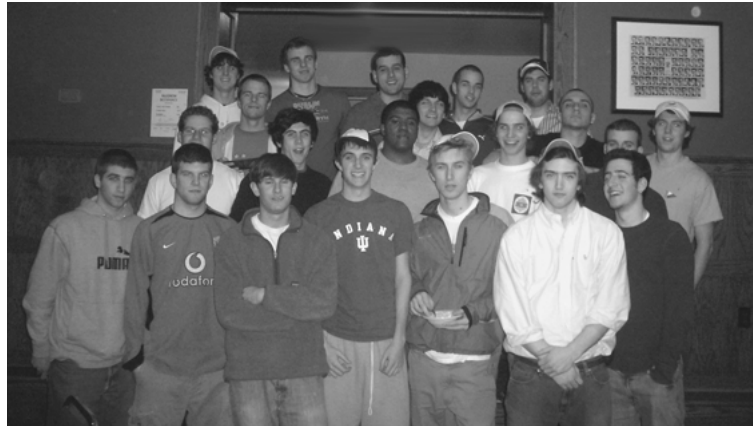
All of these fall events culminated with our spring rush week, during which our house truly shined. The brothers returned early to get to know the all the men who came through the house for

the continuation of our brotherhood into the next future. After a long week of careful deliberation, we cut the numbers from 200 kids on the first day to a select group and dropped our bids on Sunday to our top choices in the entire school. We had 25 new members sign with Sigma Pi this year, making our house one of the largest and most diverse on campus. We are all excited to welcome these new and talented guys to the Sigma Pi tradition.

Each of the new pledges has done quite well with the pledge process so far. In addition to learning about the history of the house, getting to each other and each current brother, and attending weekly meetings, the pledges have also treated some brothers to some special trips. In early February, they took Pledge Educator Josh Katcher to Syracuse to watch the Orangemen play Louisville in college basketball. A few weeks later, they planned and financed a trip for President Trevor White and one of their

pledge brothers to Paris. So far, everything the new pledge class has done has further reassured us that all of our rush efforts have yielded a fantastic class that promises to make a stronger brotherhood in the coming years.

Fraternally,
 Tim Horsburgh '08
 Rush Chair



We few, we happy few: The pledge class of 2006.

NEW MEMBER ROSTER

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>School/Major</u>	<u>NetID</u>
Paul Kevin Brown	Liverpool, NY	Industrial Labor Relations	pkb6@cornell.edu
Jeremy David Campbell	Toronto, Canada	Sociology	jdc66@cornell.edu
Matt Wayland Caris	Chicago, IL	Economics	mwc33@cornell.edu
William Andrew Ciszewski	Webster, NY	Economics, History	wac24@cornell.edu
Sam George Elchert	Los Altos, CA	Arts and Sciences (undecided)	sge5@cornell.edu
Dave Michael Elman	Pittsford, NY	Applied Economics and Management	dme29@cornell.edu
Brian W. Grossi	Floral Park, NY	Policy Analysis and Management	bwg9@cornell.edu
Danny Joseph Holzwanger	Staten Island, NY	Biology	djh67@cornell.edu
Matt Adam Klein	Newton, MA	Hotel Administration	mak97@cornell.edu
Nate Elliot Kully	Kirkland, WA	Applied Economics and Management	nek7@cornell.edu
Alex Harris LeClair	Altamont, NY	Policy Analysis and Management	ahl36@cornell.edu
Gabe Brooks Long	Little Compton, RI	Arts and Sciences (undecided)	gbl8@cornell.edu
Anthony Carl Majette	New York City	Industrial Labor Relations	acm65@cornell.edu
Sam Gordon Miller-Little	Shaker Heights, OH	Government	sgm24@cornell.edu
Evan Wolfe Neu	Pittsburgh, PA	Industrial Labor Relations	ewn4@cornell.edu
Robert John Olivieri	Elma (Buffalo), NY	Industrial Labor Relations	rjo27@cornell.edu
Michael Edward Perrin	Dallas, TX	Economics, Government	mep66@cornell.edu
Jeremy Joshua Phillips	Newton, MA	Biological Sciences	jjp42@cornell.edu
Andrew Richard Podolin	Annapolis, MD	History	arp45@cornell.edu
Eddie Brandon Rabinowitz	New City, NY	Hotel Administration	ebr29@cornell.edu
Aaron Paul Shiber-Knowles	Oakland, CA	Philosophy, Music	aps53@cornell.edu
Jake Joseph Slowik	Lafayette, NY	Industrial Labor Relations	jjs99@cornell.edu
Robert Samuel White	Staten Island, NY	Biological Sciences	rsw33@cornell.edu
Nathaniel Albert Wiess	Harvard, MA	History	naw38@cornell.edu
Chris Patrick Hilbert	Westchester, PA	Engineering (undecided)	cph24@cornell.edu

ALUMNI MAILBAG



(continued from page four)

made contact with **John Sherwood '66**. Some of us were looking to go hunting in Montana, and I remembered seeing in the Muse that John ran an outfitting business. A call to him confirmed that, and now I may go there for a hunt. As for myself, I owned and ran a bus company until 1993, when I sold it and retired. Since then, my wife, Linda, and I have traveled a lot. Now my passion is playing tennis. On a trip through the Catskills, I stopped in Cobleskill and looked up **Pete Enders '64**. He was doing fine, enjoying his children and grandchildren. I have two girls, one married and living locally, and the other single and residing in Burlington, Vermont. Life is grand." Stay in touch with George at 9214 Butler Rd., Sauquoit, NY 13456. Send him e-mail at lbmarsh@dreamscape.com.

ΣΠ • ΣΠ • ΣΠ

"My wife, Carol O'Laughlin, and I celebrated our 28-year anniversary last October," writes **C. Edward Kemp '68**. "This coming summer, our older daughter, Lyndsey, will be getting married on September 1. She is a retail consultant at Bloomingdale's in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. Our younger daughter, Julia, is graduating from Savannah College of Arts & Design on June 3 in product design. If Sigma Pi alums are visiting the Cape, stop by to reminisce!" Ed's contact info is 3 King Horn Dr., Falmouth, MA 42540; eds330@aol.com.

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Say hello to **Whitney Garlinghouse '71** at 16 Bank Lane, Essex, CT 06426.

E-mail reaches him at wgarlinghouse@usa.net.

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Robert A. Bernstein '77 recently moved to 8 Bayview Ave., Beacon, NY 12508. Send him e-mail at rb@bernsteindesign.com.

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"All is terrific with me and my family," reports **Michael Reiner '78**. "Sarah, our oldest daughter, has graduated from Ithaca College and joined the real world of TV production as production manager for Windfall Productions (sports programming for ESPN, ABC, etc.). Our younger daughter, Leah, is an aspiring fashion designer and is in London at the London School of Fashion. Erica and I went with her to help her get 'established' and had a 'pint or two.'" Mike is the owner of Resource International. Find out more from him at 48 Lawrence Pkwy., Tenafly, NJ 07670; mreiner@r-inc.com.

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Wayne S. Buder '79 (60 Keats Dr., Mill Valley, CA 94941) writes, "**Curt Quantz '79** joined me for a great evening last month when **Chris Olie '79** came to San Francisco for business. The three of us had a great time 'telling lies' about the old days. CQ and I had a great weekend up in Tahoe with our families."

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Michael Feiertag '83 can be reached at his new address: 762 Siesta Dr.,

Sarasota, FL 34242. Send him e-mail at mfeiertag@comcast.net.

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Marc Warm '93, who works at Credit Suisse First Boston, and his wife, Meredith (who was house sweetheart in 1992), had their second daughter, Hudson Paige, on September 2, 2005. Send congratulations to them at 40 Spring Lane, Chappaqua, NY 10514.

ΣΠ • ΣΠ • ΣΠ

"I got married to Kelly Dansby on September 17, 2005," announces **John Scagnelli '02**. "I will be graduating from the University of Miami School of Medicine in May, and I will be enrolled in a residency in neurology at The University of Rochester/Strong Memorial Hospital." While John is moving this spring, you can stay in touch with him via e-mail: jscagnelli@gmail.com.

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A financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, **David R. Short '05** resides at 101 Briny Ave., #2507, Pompano Beach, FL 33062. Drop him an e-mail at davidrobertshort@yahoo.com.

DECEASED

We regret to report the deaths of:

Andrew Hanley '53

Walter Davis '58

Paul J. Connell '73

CORNELL PREPARES FOR REUNION 2006

Cornell University will host its annual reunion weekend from June 8-11. The university will have special events for the class of 1981, which will enjoy its 25th reunion, and all alumni are encouraged to attend. Because so many members of the class of 1981 were present at the birthday celebration for Dolly, the house will not be hosting any special events during Cornell's reunion. However, the house will be open Friday and Saturday afternoon for brothers to walk through and enjoy. For more information on the many events that Cornell is planning, please visit: www.alumni.cornell.edu/reunion.