

THE CHAPTER

A Publication of the Interfraternity, National Pan-Hellenic, and Panhellenic Councils at Vanderbilt University

Chapter Participation wins Greek Week 2007 *by Laura Kim*

With the new implementation of tri-council circles, Greek Week 2007 was a success this year. Rather than the traditional IFC, NPHC, and Panhellenic pairs, chapters were split into one of five groups, and in each circle was an even distribution of chapters from different councils. The primary goals for Greek Week this year were to promote tri-council unity and a positive image of Greek life to the rest of the Vanderbilt Community.

The week started off with Trivia Night on Tuesday, when over a hundred Greeks from all teams came to compete in pop culture and Greek trivia. The Red Circle took first place. Trivia Night was followed by the Faculty Appreciation Breakfast on Wednesday morning when a representative from each chapter delivered bagels and cream cheese to various academic departments.

Wednesday afternoon, 75 members of

the Greek Community boarded two buses and headed to three different service sites. Twelve students went to the Habitat for Humanity HomeStore to clean up and reorganize donated materials, while 24 students went to Lower Murrell Elementary School and painted murals in the silent rooms and



bathrooms. The remaining volunteers lent a hand at Feed the Children, where they boxed care packages for families around the United States.

Thursday's lip sync also went smoothly, and Tom, the owner of Quizno's on Vanderbilt's campus, hosted the event. The Orange team

won the event with their version of the hits Wannabe and Soldier Boy, while other teams also showed exciting performances of Jump On It, Build Me Up Buttercup, and Thriller.

The Greek week Concert on Friday had a larger audience showing than any concert in the past! Country music recording artist, Pat Green headlined with an opening by The Dirt Drifters. The winning tri-council Circle was announced, and the Yellow Circle took the title. A large part of winning Greek Week was participation, and the Yellow Circle consistently had all seven chapters of its team participate throughout the week! Overall, Greek Week 2007 met its goal of encouraging tri-council camaraderie through activities that required team work, and also representing a positive image of Greek Life through service and cooperation. ♦

Order of Omega gains momentum in second year *by Dana Kitzes*

Order of Omega is a national Greek honor society that recognizes fraternity men and women who have attained a high standard of leadership both in and out of the classroom. The organization strives to create an atmosphere where ideas and issues can be openly discussed across Greek lines and brings together faculty, alumni and students on the basis of mutual interest, understanding and helpfulness.

Vanderbilt's chapter has implemented several programs focusing on career search, resume building skills, and internship opportunities. Last year, Order of Omega brought Brad Karsh, a dynamic and informative speaker, to talk to students about how to use your Greek organization to aid you in the job search process as well as other future endeavors.

Order of Omega invites eligible Greek members to join the organization in early spring, and initiation of new members occurs in late spring. Joining our chapter allows high achieving Greek members to use each other and the programs as resources for maintaining a high standard of academic and leadership skills and inspiring others to strive for similar conspicuous attainment. ♦

Annual NPHC Week promotes Greek Life to campus community

by Chukwudi Onyemeku

This year the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) held their annual week of events to kick off the new school year. It began with Greek Mystique (an informational showing all the fraternities and sororities of the council) and culminated in a party at the student life center.

The major goal of the NPHC this year is to foster more inter-council unity as well as close the gap between Greek life and the larger campus. The Council collaborated with other organizations on campus, the Association of Vanderbilt Black Alumni and the Black Student Alliance for the dedication of one of the new buildings at The Commons, the Walter

R. Murray House. The dedication honors the first African American to serve on the Board of Trust and one of the founders of the Association of Vanderbilt Black Alumni.

The council, along with many IFC and Panhellenic chapters, as well as many other campus groups, all co-sponsored the first All American Block Party this year, which benefited the Soldiers' Angels.

Other notable events that took place during this week were "Movie Night" at the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center (BCC) catered by P.F Chang's. The annual "Music on Rand" showcases NPHC members' strolls,

each unique to their organization and a signature stroll that is unique to the NPHC council. And finally, the week also featured a church service with members of the council meeting up with other student on campus to head to Mt. Zion

The week was very successful in accomplishing the goal the NPHC set out to complete — holding unique events and developing closer relations with both the other Greek councils as well as the non-Greek organizations on campus. ♦

Chapters Honored at National Conventions

by Tanner Marcantel

Each summer thousands of fraternity and sorority members gather for their National Conventions. Undergraduates and alumni use this time to discuss business, rekindle old friendships, and even form new ones with members from across the country. They also honor their excelling chapters with various awards.

The Vanderbilt sororities did an excellent job of representing our institution this summer. Kappa Kappa Gamma received the Chapter of the Year award for their Province. Alpha Delta Pi was honored with a Diamond 4-Point Award for overall chapter excellence, as well as Excellence Awards in the areas of recruitment, Panhellenic relations, finance, scholarship, and membership education. Pi Beta Phi received top honors as one of twelve chapters in the nation to achieve Overall Chapter Excellence. Alpha Omicron Pi walked away with their SHEAF Performance Award for Foundation Support and

Excellence Awards in leadership, recruitment and scholarship. The women of Kappa Delta were honored with awards for their philanthropic work and community relations. One of their sisters, Brittany Perkins, was awarded the Collegiate Community Service Award for her contributions to society. Alpha Chi Omega received two awards for their scholarship performance; the Intellectual Development Award and Academic Excellence.

The men swept up at their summer conventions as well. Alpha Tau Omega received excellence awards in the areas of scholarship, recruitment, and charitable giving. Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity was also honored for their excellence in the area of recruitment. Kappa Alpha Order received the Samuel Zenas Ammen Award for Chapter Excellence, placed third for outstanding philanthropic giving to the MDA, and an excellence award for upholding their Ritual and traditions.

The men of Lambda Chi Alpha took top honors for their community service work, and Sigma Phi Epsilon received their fraternity's Wheelhouse Award for Academic Excellence. Sigma Chi was honored with the BASH Significant Improvement Award, and one of their seniors, Derek Byzenski, received the coveted Balfour Award for Outstanding Sigma Chi Seniors.

Vanderbilt University is fortunate to have many of its fraternities and sororities receive such recognition on a national level. "I am thrilled to see our chapters recognized for all their hard work and dedication to the positive advancement of Fraternity and Sorority Life," stated Kristin Torrey, Director of Greek Life. "It really speaks to the caliber of students we have here at Vanderbilt and their commitment to adding value to our community."

Congratulations to all our chapters! ♦

First All American Block Party raises money for ‘Soldiers Angels’

by Glen Bartley

On September 7, the first ever All-American Block Party was held to commemorate September 11, 2001 and raise money for the nonprofit organization Soldier’s Angels. Twenty-three campus organizations including VSG, NPHC, and twenty fraternities and sororities cosponsored the event. Ticket and t-shirt sales helped raise over \$9,000, all of which was donated to the charity. Due to its size, the Block Party was held on Kensington Avenue between the Kappa Alpha and Phi Kappa Psi fraternity houses. Attendees were able to enjoy live music by popular country duo Blue County, Nashville Star winner Chris Young, and professional singer/songwriter Will Bowen.

Some lucky attendees even received free airline tickets from American Airlines, and a football autographed by Vince Young.

It’s been six years since the world changing events of September 11th, 2001. Since then, our military has been perpetually overseas. Glen Bartley, President of Kappa Alpha says, “As members of the Vanderbilt community, it is easy to immerse ourselves in work and social life; it is easy to forget that there are currently men and women putting their lives on the line every day in the Middle East to ensure our freedom.” He also says that, “The brothers and sisters of the Greek Community refuse to let another year go by without offering some kind of help.”

The goal of the All-American Block Party is to support those military personnel who are voluntarily serving our nation, and to help those military families who have suffered due to the war and let them all know that we have not forgotten about them. The organizers of this event hope that it will become an annual event, and look forward to next year.

Soldier’s Angels is a nonprofit organization which is dedicated to sending soldiers letters and care packages. To learn more go to www.soldiersangels.com. ♦

Annual Blue & White Weekend a big success!

by Kirstie Kwarteng

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. held their annual Blue and White Weekend this year during the first week of classes. The weekend, themed “Mardi Gras—let the good times roll,” drew excellent attendance at events from fellow students, especially members of Zeta’s and Sigma’s tri-council circles.

The two organizations began the weekend of fun with Meet the Royal Family, an event open to the entire campus. “It was an opportunity for people to come out and find out about our organizations as well as see the close bond we share” said Chukwudi Onyemekwu, President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

The weekend also included a fish fry and a BBQ hosted by Zeta Phi Beta and the BCC, also co-sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The weekend culminated with a Slow Grind hosted by Zeta and Sigma, held in the new NPHC fraternity house. ♦



Order of Omega

Did you know?...

The career center isn’t just about finding a job after graduation! They have resources to help all of your goals, including getting an internship!

Check out www.vanderbilt.edu/career to get started!

Panhellenic Sorority Benefits

- Delta Gamma, Sept. 16
- Kappa Delta, Sept. 23
- Chi Omega, Sept. 27
- Alpha Chi Omega, Oct. 5
- Alpha Delta Pi, Oct. 7
- Alpha Omicron Pi, Oct. 16
- Kappa Alpha Theta, Oct. 28
- Kappa Kappa Gamma, Oct. 31
- Pi Beta Phi, Nov. 1
- Delta Delta Delta, Nov. 11

Second Annual Kickoff Cookoff raises \$15000 for local charity *by Wyatt Smith*

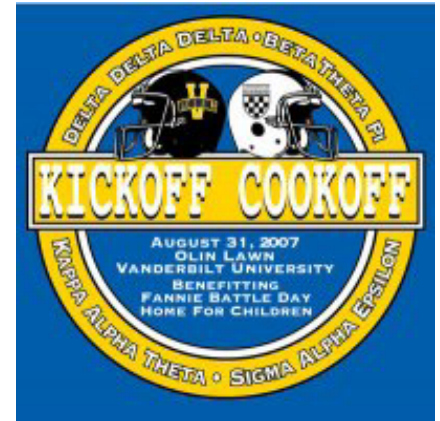
On August 31, the Kickoff Cookoff showed the Vanderbilt community how effective collaboration between campus organizations can be when working towards a great cause. Hosted by Kappa Alpha Theta, Delta Delta Delta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Beta Theta Pi, and the Vandy Fanatics, the second annual Kickoff Cookoff featured sponsorships from student organizations across campus and many restaurants from the Nashville area. Over 1,050 people attended the event, raising nearly \$15,000 for the Fannie Battle Day Home for Children.

Held on Olin Lawn on the afternoon before Vanderbilt's season opening football game against the Richmond Spiders, Kickoff Cookoff 2007 featured competitions between area barbecue and chicken restaurants to determine who had the best tailgating food in Nashville. As presenting sponsors of the event, each donated food for over 100 people. Those participating were Corky's, Calhoun's, Famous Dave's, Pig and Pie, and Judge Bean's barbecue restaurants and Bojangles, Otter's, McDougal's, and Wing Basket chicken restaurants. To round out the corporate sponsors, Pepsi, the Princeton Review, and Vanderbilt Dining graciously donated soft drinks and bottled water for the event. Additionally, Cheeseburger Charley's and the Vandy Fanatics grilled hamburgers for event attendees, allowing everyone plenty of food options and the opportunity to enjoy the tailgating atmosphere on the eve of football season.

As people from the Vanderbilt community sampled the delicious food from restaurants all over Nashville, they were treated to performances from some of Vanderbilt's most impressive student entertainers, including the Swingin' Doves, the Dodecs, and the El Dorados. Also featured on stage were the VU cheerleaders and Sweet Sixteen basketball team, who excited the crowd and built enthusiasm for the start to another great year in Commodore athletics. Officer Don Dennis of the Vanderbilt Police Department served as emcee of the event, which also included appearances by Interim Chancellor Nick Zeppos and the "Quizno's guy".

Greek organizations on campus added to the atmosphere with a pie bake-off and watermelon eating contest. Following judging by the basketball team, Kappa Alpha Theta was named as having the best pie at the event, and Zeta Beta Tau dominated its competition to bring home first prize in the watermelon eating contest. In total, 24 student organizations from all areas of campus, participated as sponsors in this year's Kickoff Cookoff event, showing everyone the excitement of the Vanderbilt community to join together in working towards such a great cause.


After the excitement of the contests had passed, everyone waited in anticipation to learn who had been voted as the winners of the barbecue and chicken competitions. Following the tabulation of votes from event attendees, Pig and



Pie and McDougal's Chicken Coop were named as having the best tailgating food in Nashville. As a result of winning the competitions, the restaurants became the preferred barbecue and chicken providers for the host organizations for the coming year.

In only its second year, Kickoff Cookoff experienced tremendous growth in revenue generation and event attendance from its inaugural event. The rise in nearly 400 attendees allowed for an increase from \$9,000 to \$15,000 in event revenue, resulting in the Kickoff Cookoff 2007 being heralded as one of the best philanthropy events of the year. "I think the fact that we were able to join with so many new organizations across Vanderbilt really allowed us to truly make this into a campus-wide event," said event co-organizer Wyatt Smith of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. "Vandy Fanatics brought a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and energy to the project," added another co-organizer, Lauren Page Black of Kappa Alpha Theta. "We look forward to growing more and having an even greater impact on our community in the future." ♦

NPHC presents



STOMP FEST

Thursday, October 11 7:00 pm

Memorial Gymnasium