

The Red & White



OMICRON XI FRATERNITY

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www.omicronxi.org

A Look back at Pledge (by a Pledge)



By Jon Noack '12

Greetings Brothers of Omicron Xi! As one of the newest actives of the brotherhood I want to thank each of you for shaping this fraternity into what it is today. Although I'm just recovering from pledge and the length of my membership is quite limited, even now I can honestly say that the Okies have changed my life. As you all have experienced, I'm sure, pledge week pushed me to my limits and then tossed me right over that cliff. However, through it, I learned more about the guys in the fraternity, my fellow pledges, and myself than I ever imagined I could.

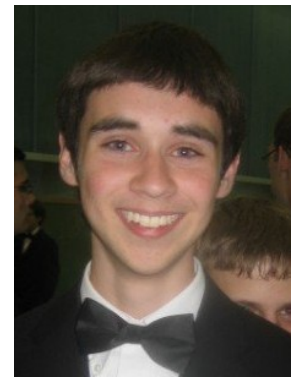
Possibly the biggest challenge we faced as a pledge class was the stress of the week. The strain of balancing schoolwork, pledge activities and sleep broke down any façade we tried to put on and brought out who we really were inside. As each of our true colors were revealed, conflicts arose. However, since we had to operate as a unit we were forced to deal with these head on, rather than skirt around the issues. It is important to realize how non-confrontational and diplomatic I naturally am to fully understand how big of a step this was for me. Never before had I been forced to deal with issues

and work through them under such pressure.

Another lesson, even more important that conflict-resolution, that I gained through pledge was a reliance on the Lord. It was a level of dependence that I hadn't experienced in a long time. While I can't speak for all of my pledge class, I know that every quiet, resting moment of my day (however few there were) was filled with prayers for strength to press on. And if I wasn't praying for strength I was praying for the peace and mental alacrity I would need for the four exams on the final day of pledge. On this side of it I can...

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Okie Spotlight



Craig Carnahan, Senior

FAVORITE FOOD: Tacos!

FAVORITE OKIE: Alex Teal because no matter what he's doing it makes me laugh

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF:

I am majoring in secondary education in mathematics. Like most Okies, I enjoy playing various sports but mostly Frisbee. I have been privileged with the honor of playing for the Proxyz this semester — the most entertaining basketball team ever to grace the courts of D-League. I am one of their leading scorers this season. Aside from sports, I have also been involved in New Life and Children's Theater. I am from Hubbard, Ohio, but I plan on living in the Pittsburgh area after graduation in the spring. I am told that I am cute and possess a very charming smile. Girls like me a lot.

What Grinds My Gears



By Bill Doar '10

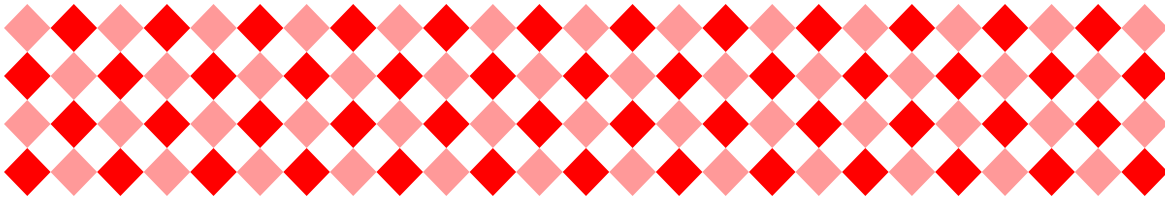
The 15th century Italian philosopher Niccolò Machiavelli once said "I'm not interested in preserving the status quo; I want to overthrow it." As a pure-blooded American from Langhorne, the streets as well as living on third floor Hopeman have

both taught me the necessity of challenging the 'societal norms' to not only survive but thrive. Join me for my first installation this newsletter as I peruse popular news stories and share some all-American insight from my roughly 7,743 days breathing on this place we call Earth.

STORY ONE: Tiger Woods publicly apologizing after three months in silence

HOW IT GRINDS MY GEARS: As an avid golfer with impressive victories over the likes of Travis Miller, Blake Fortier and even the great Tyler Berkey I have grown to appreciate the relentless pursuit of excellence found in Tiger Woods. Every Sunday he competes I can see a lot of myself in his systematic game and to be honest, I respect that. After

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Pledge (continued)

absolutely say that God is faithful. Not only was one of the exams moved until after pledge, but I also stayed awake through all of them AND actually completed every one (although grades are yet to be determined). Yes I know, these may be small victories and were partially aided by Amp energy drinks, but they were answers to prayer nonetheless.

I could go on about the encouragement we received from the actives, the bond that formed between us as pledges, and the pride I gained being a part of this brotherhood. I also have the feeling you all know about that and have experienced it yourself. Let me just close by saying that, as I learned what it meant to be an Okie, I was changed as a person and gained a sense of pride. The letters I wear have history and meaning and every time I put on the red and the white my life becomes a reflection of Omicron Xi, a community I am honored to be a part of.

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General Okie Update

A sincere thank you goes out to the alumni who made it out to traditions this year. We strongly value your support and realize the importance of alumni staying involved in what we do. We're building the legacy you started and we need you to be a part of it.

The Okies start practicing for Greek Sing this week. It will be held on the evening of Saturday, May 1 for those of you who want to check out how hot we are.

In other news, Tim Palma '10, Josh Tobin '10, Evan Addams '10 and Blake Curle '10 recently embarked a quest for the third time to become part of the 1600 club on Mario Kart Wii. They failed.

What Grinds my Gears (continued)

the affairs and scandals I've unfortunately lost all respect for Eldrick and his cheating ways. According to his personal statement released on February 19th he urged fans worldwide to "find room in your heart to one day believe in me again". As a pure blooded American from Langhorne I urge readers to turn from Tiger and block any room in your heart to believe in Tiger. He's an idiot.



The Omicron Xi pledge class of 2010 attempts to look cool and manly by taking off their shirts and flexing together. Also, that is root beer.