

The Red & White



OMICRON XI FRATERNITY

Fall 2009, Volume 1, Issue 2

October 30, 2009

Alumni Update (from an Alumni)



By Dan Croce '08

Upon request of the actives, I consented to make a contribution to this edition of the *Red & White*. The specified guidelines for my input called for something – anything – that Okies would want to read. Being an Okie myself, and having lived not so long ago on the hallowed halls of Hopeman's 3rd floor, I am well aware that if there is one thing Okies do not like to do, it is to read. Okies will display themselves on a homecoming float nearly in the nude, have rap battles at 3am, run 26.2 miles for fun, or go to Sheetz for dinner 9 times a week; they will not, however, *read* of their own free will – making exception, of course,

for Tim Witt. Okies like to have fun, not to read. It is a challenge, then, for me to fulfill my assignment and write something that Okies would actually *want* to read...unless I write about Okies. Since we are well aware that an Okie's favorite thing is other Okies, perhaps we would like to read if the literature was about, well...other Okies.

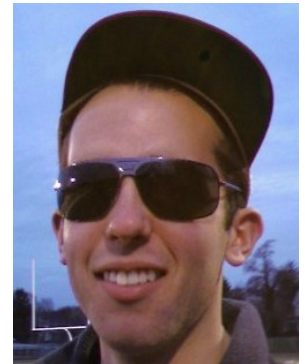
Today, the 29th of October 2009, is my twenty-fourth birthday. In keeping with today's theme, I will rummage my brain for 24 alumni update facts, one for each year of my existence to date. Jim Gunst is still planning

outer space, but now he's doing it for Sears in Chicago. Recently married are Mark Murchie, Brian Campbell, Sean O'Rourke, John Tiernan, Tyler Constable and Mitch Young. Dang, we're droppin' like flies. Nick Comiskey is surfing and skating in Cali, and John Pombo is busy providing internet marketing expertise to clients in Cleveland. Constable (State College), Luke Whipple (Pittsburgh's North Side), and Matt Muetzel (Charlotte, NC via Teach for America) recently started jobs as high school teachers, while O'Rourke (Upper St. Clair) and Tiernan (Erie, with Tim Krahe nearby)

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Okie Spotlight



Bill Doar, Senior

FAVORITE FOOD: Pizza & Jelly Toast

FAVORITE OKIE: Nate Jackson because he has always let me beat him up to boost my confidence whenever we wrestled. He never beat me.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF:

Coming to college I was a young man from Langhorne, PA who was perhaps the most awkward person one could meet. In all my life I had never reused a towel. Through the Omicron Xi fraternity I'd like to believe that I am not the most awkward person ever although my line (Awa, Hunter, Jo. Gallo, McMorro) has that tradition and I am much more normal. Awkwardness aside, I love to play IM sports, hang out with Okies and spread propaganda about Langhorne. Joining the Omicron Xi fraternity was easily one of the best decisions I've ever made.

3rd Annual OkiePalooza



By Tim Palma '10

Each fall, after the tricksters treat and before Buddy the Elf travels to find his dad, the Omicron Xi Fraternity is host to one of Grove City's most highly touted events. As we enter the month of November, we approach the date of

the 3rd annual Okiepalooza. Some have compared the experience to the sheer elation of Christmas morning, while others prefer the comparison to the child-like anticipation of summer vacation. Describing the event, the reputable Blake Curle ('10) blissfully said, "It's the most balling thing ever." On November 13th, friends of Okies from all over campus will journey to 3rd floor

Hopeman to experience the event for themselves.

Two years ago, Okiepalooza originated as a way for Okies to celebrate existing friendships, create new ones, and to fellowship with the many people that have influenced our fraternity. Not unlike many Okie endeavors, the original Okiepalooza had little structure, but was a great success because of the passion Okies

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Jayna Grassel (ΘΑΠ), our new 2009-10 Sweetheart

“THERE IS ONE THING WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN: OKIES DEFINITELY KNOW HOW TO HAVE A GOOD TIME.”



Josh Tobin '10 with a bunch of random kids in India

Homecoming Snapshot



By John Dellape '12

Sophomore year has proven to be a completely different experience than freshmen year. At no point has this been more evident than homecoming weekend. Last year I remember homecoming meaning nothing to me. There were a ton of people on campus I didn't know and my RA's Blake and Craig were gone all day. Homecoming itself had no significance to me whatsoever.

What a difference a

year can make. I remember watching the Okies walk in the parade last year, which I attended mainly to see Dom Versace in his sexy Indian outfit, and wanting to join the brotherhood and walk with the guys next year. This year I was blessed to participate in homecoming as a member of Omicron Xi. The experience was the polar opposite of my freshmen year. While I deeply enjoyed being with all the alumni, my weekend was

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Okies Abroad



By Matt McNicoll '12

One of my favorite films is the Christmas classic *It's A Wonderful Life*. The main guy George Bailey says early on: "I'm shakin' the

dust of this crummy little town off my feet and I'm gonna see the world." I've never lived in a place I would call crummy (though Grove City is certainly little!), but I've always admired the passion

George had for seeing the world. This semester I've been blessed with that opportunity by studying abroad in Nantes, France.

Nantes is the sixth biggest city in France and is home to all things delicious, like crepes and three year old crystallized comte cheese (God's goodness in dairy form). Until recently Nantes was also home to

a large snail population. Two weeks ago they unfortunately took a hit when some friends and I made home-made escar-got. It's a long process involving things like snail quarantine, dissection, and lots of garlic. Unfortunately they are more fun to boil than to eat.

Over Fall break this last week five other Grove City guys and I took off for Scotland. Basically, Scotland is a total-dude country.

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3rd Annual OkiePalooza (continued)

have for fellowship with others. To date, the event follows a bit more organization, but still leaves much up to Okie digression. There are over a dozen rooms on the hall, each of which must select a different theme, making for a smorgas-bord of Okie fun and entertainment. Some themes of note have been fortune-telling

(featuring Luke Whipple '09), miniature golf (Travis Miller, Garrett Cicowitz '11), and finger-painting (Matthew Muetzel '09).

The culmination of the evening's events is the notorious apple bobbing relay. The consequences of participating in the relay are repeatedly uncertain, but pro-

foundly rewarding. As we prepare for the event, we are constantly reminded of how blessed we are to be surrounded by such enjoyable brothers. Whether or not the event is, in fact, "the most balling thing ever," there is one thing we know for certain: Okies definitely know how to have a good time.

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Alumni Update (from an Alumni) (continued)

continue as educational forces to be reckoned with. Mark Lyon-Vaiden (Maryland) is doing top secret things for the NSA, and Ryan Nellenback (Syracuse) is doing school and coaching hoops. Big Tim Halladay is back in Atlanta, while Matt Buckham and Josh Hunter are living the good life in the D.C. region. Here in Pittsburgh, Nate Jackson is engineering for BPMI, Dave McGhee is releasing CDs, Dave D'Angelo is a married engineer, and Billy Rogerson

is dominating the Pittsburgh Fellows Program. AJ The Dilyard is back to school at *the* Ohio State University, Josh Hill's baby girl Autumn is getting cuter by the minute, Nate Keller is soon to be my doctor, Pat Gallagher is sassy as ever, and Steve Abel is extremely married, in a good way. Michael Gallo (law school) and Sam Dobrotka (telecom sales) are in Charlotte, and Tim Witt is nearly Tim Witt, J.D. Vance Awa is back from China, but Japan

might be on his horizon. Rick Dejarnette is doing his thing back in Colorado, and Seth Richards is engaged! Meanwhile, I'm busy being a dude, working for Ernst & Young as a bold knight of the free market, and hopefully learning to fish. Shoot, that was way more than 24, and I definitely left some folks out. Okies, I love you all – keep doing your thing. For the red and white we'll always fight!

“OKIES WILL DISPLAY THEMSELVES ON A HOMECOMING FLOAT NEARLY IN THE NUDE, HAVE RAP BATTLES AT 3AM, RUN 26.2 MILES FOR FUN, OR GO TO SHEETZ FOR DINNER 9 TIMES A WEEK; THEY WILL NOT, HOWEVER, READ OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL – MAKING EXCEPTION, OF COURSE, FOR TIM WITT.”

Okies Abroad (continued)

Camping is legal on almost all public property, so one night we camped in a castle in the highlands and for another we camped by the beach of Loch Lomond where we grilled up haggis over the fire.

It's definitely true that you don't know how good you've got it until that something disappears. I have loved my time here but I'm definitely looking forward to

reuniting with the O Xi boys come January. We should all praise God for what we've been blessed with - the Christian brotherhood we have in the Okies is completely foreign to the French. Practically speaking, the French do not have on-campus housing at their universities, but more importantly, Christ is simply absent. Pray the Grove City students here can be effective witnesses despite the lan-

guage and cultural barriers.

There are four French students coming to Grove City in February. Two of them are Female. Get ready, and memorize the following phrase: “Vous êtes très belle. Allons dans un endroit plus calme.”

Au Revoir,
Matt



Dom Versace '10 enjoys a bath atop the 2009 Okie/Zeta Homecoming Float

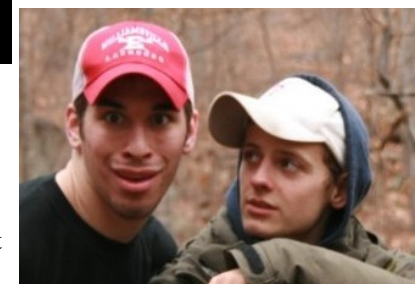
Homecoming Snapshot (continued)

highlighted by my encounter with four alumni in their late 70s. I began talking to them and after several hearing several of their questions realized they wanted to see the hall. I offered to take them up to see their old stomping grounds and they eagerly accepted.

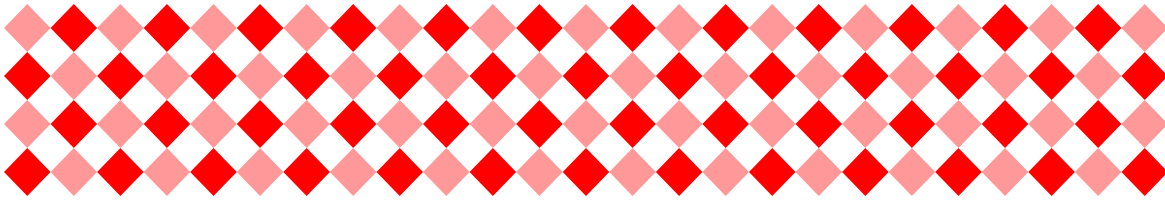
I can honestly say that bringing those four war veteran Okies up to the hall

was one of the greatest experiences of my life. As they looked into all their old rooms, pointed out where their pledge master lived, and noticed several renovations since their time, I began to realize just how awesome being a part of this brotherhood is. I contemplated how different it would be to have not joined a fraternity. I'm not just another Grove City stu-

dent noticing a bunch of strangers on homecoming weekend anymore. I'm now an Okie, sharing a bond with each member of the O Xi that comes back to visit. I'm a part of a community that has meant a tremendous amount to me, one that I love and respect dearly.



Alex Teal '10 and Tim Riley '10 pose for the camera in Shenandoah, Virginia in Spring of 2009



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A special Thank-You goes out to all of the alumni who graced us with their presence at homecoming. The entire day was a success and we enjoyed meeting and getting to know dozens of alumni dating all the way back to the 50's, including several members of the class of '59 and Bruce Smith '58. We sincerely appreciate the time that all of you took to get to know us better and want you to know that we truly value the opportunities we have to reconnect with you. My hope is that this reconnection will not be exclusive to just homecoming, but will be a pattern demonstrated in the Omicron Xi way of life for years to come.

-Dominic Versace '10, Alumni Representative

A Note from the President



By Evan Addams '10

Greetings Alumni,

The brothers of Omicron Xi have recently developed a new lexicon of phrases that we utilize daily to communicate with one another. Most of these sayings are fully in jest, and we have fun joking around, pitching different accents and tones with our words. Here are some examples of those phrases so that when you come to visit us this year, you will be able to communicate:

- Responsibility to be Cool
- My life! (worst day of my life OR best day of my life)
- TCB (takin' care of business)
- CHUCK
- Hustler for Jesus
- Righteous Precedent
- Swaggin

Those are just a few of the lines you would hear Okies shouting out a 3rd floor Hopeman window via megaphone at 3:00 am. Please email us and let us know some of the phrases of your era, and we can compare as to who was more ridiculous.

Thanks for your contributions!

Thank you to those alumni who have contributed financially to the fraternity. Several of you have generously donated money since homecoming, and we want to assure you that your money is being put to good use. Some of our more recent alumni have committed to annual lifetime dues of \$25. We sincerely appreciate these donations, and if you are interested in contributing, please contact one of us... your generosity is much appreciated.



Craig Carnahan '10 (accompanied by 2 lovely Tri-Zetas) on top of the Okie/Zeta 2009 Homecoming Float.